

REMEDICATIONS:
Ecologies
Encounters
Engagements

September
8-9
2023

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ecological-
imperative
.ch

International Conference

Mediating
the Ecological
Imperative

SNSF Sinergia 2021-2024

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Program

September 8th 2023

Kino Rex,
Schwanengasse 9,
3011 Bern

16:00 - 18:00

Film Screening with Susan Schuppli
(Visual Cultures, Goldsmiths
University of London), Listening
to Ice, with an introduction by
Michaela Schäuble and followed by a Q&A

September 9th 2023

University of Bern,
UniS 003, Schanzeneckstrasse 1,
3012 Bern

09:00

Welcome by Vice-Rector Virginia Richter

09:15

Introduction by Peter J. Schneemann,
Gabriele Rippl, and Michaela Schäuble

09:45

Diego Mantoan (Art History, University
of Palermo), Avant-garde, Retro-garde,
Guardrail, and Gardening:
Positioning Ecological Art Movements
of the Early Two-Thousands,
Moderator: Peter J. Schneemann

10:30

Coffee break

11:00

Gabriele Dürbeck (Literary and Cultural
Studies, University of Vechta),
Utopian Imaginations in Anthropocene
Literature, Moderator: Gabriele Rippl

11:45

Timo Müller (American Studies, University of Constance), The Environmental Aesthetics of Early Automobility,
Moderator: Gabriele Rippl

12:30

Lunch break

14:00

Valentina Bonifacio (Environmental and Visual Anthropology, Ca' Foscari University of Venice), Sagua'a: Feral Cattle and the Colonization of the Americas,
Moderator: Michaela Schäuble

14:45

Sria Chatterjee (Paul Mellon Center for Studies in British Art, London), Climate & Colonialism: Remediation and the Politics of Visibility,
Moderator: Toni Hildebrandt

15:30

Coffee break

16:00

Susan Schuppli (Visual Cultures, Goldsmiths University of London), Icy Matters,
Moderator: Michaela Schäuble

16:45

Aesthetics of Regeneration -
Lecture Performance of the "Mesocosmos" collective (PhD researchers Andrea Bordoli, Georgina Sánchez Celaya, Jonathan Sarfin, and Magali Wagner with Hannes Zulauf, Grace Denis, Paulina Quintero, and Aldir Polymeris)

18:00

Farewell

The SNF project “Mediating the Ecological Imperative: Formats and Modes of Engagement” is a joint research project from Art History, North American Literatures, and Social Anthropology at the University of Bern. The project focuses primarily on the visual politics of climate change, the role of ecological issues in art and literature, as well as on the social engagement with environmental issues of and in indigenous communities.

As an interdisciplinary team of researchers, we investigate imaginaries of future scenarios by proposing new notions (for example, “eco-ekphrasis,” “eco-ritual performance,” “post-apocalyptic imaginations”) and elaborating on innovative methodological practices (“co-creative filmmaking”). These novel notions and methods draw on four modes of mediation which ground our understanding of our umbrella term, the ecological imperative:

- 1) modes of display,
- 2) modes of materiality,
- 3) modes of temporality, and
- 4) modes of spatialization.

A central component of our research revolves around the problem of “contamination,” and we argue for an ecological imperative “against purity” (Shotwell) in our compromised times. This conference’s point of departure is remediations – understood as different forms of mediations and media formats that comment upon and refashion each other. Our conference aims to foster dialogue on plural perspectives on ecologies, enable diverse encounters and discuss multiple engagements – synergies that thus jointly circumscribe the complex and contested term of the “ecological imperative.”