

BSLS Winter Symposium 2022

The Subterranean Anthropocene: Excavation, Extracting, Uncovering

12 November 2022 — Online via Zoom

Keynote: Dr Ella Mershon (Newcastle University): Fossil Fuels and ‘Fossil Forms’: Geology as Extraction in Charlotte Smith’s *Beachy Head*

9.30-10 (All times are GMT)	Welcome and Opening Remarks	
10-11am	<p>Room 1</p> <p>Panel 1: Plunging Beneath the Surface</p> <p>Jade Corregge (University of Melbourne): Delving into the underwater world: Evolution, Geology and Ecocriticism in Charles Kingsley’s <i>The Water Babies</i> (1863)</p> <p>Athira Unni (Leeds Beckett University): The Subaquatic Feminist Utopia in Manjula Padmanabhan’s <i>The Island of Lost Girls</i></p> <p>Bushra Mahzabeen (University of Warwick): Instability of the Offshore and Invisibility of the Oil Work</p>	<p>Room 2</p> <p>Panel 2: Dirty Politics</p> <p>Richard Fallon (University of Birmingham): Fact and Fantasy inside the Hollow Earth from Symmes to Tarzan</p> <p>Jenny Harper (University of Reading): The ‘Red’ and the ‘Green,’ The Roots that Connect Socialism and Nature</p> <p>Joan Passey (University of Bristol), The Subterranean and the Mining Body in Victorian Gothic Fiction</p>
11-12pm	<p>Room 1</p> <p>Panel 3: Terra Terror</p> <p>Kerry Gorrill (Manchester Metropolitan University): The subterranean and the</p>	<p>Room 2</p> <p>Panel 4: Dirty Wars</p> <p>Isobel Cook (University of Sheffield): Antinuclear activist-poet Pat Arrowsmith and the glass nuclear</p>

	<p>construction of Gothic terror in <i>House of Leaves</i></p> <p>Ruth-Anne Walbank (University of Warwick): Exploring damnable ecologies and subterranean hellscape in the graphic novel, <i>Satania</i></p> <p>Peter Adkins (University of Edinburgh): An English Highway Straight Into Hell: The Oil in British Modernism</p>	<p>'anti-bunker'</p> <p>Lizzie Hibbert (King's College London): 'From furious haste to geological calm': Encounters with Deep Time in Narratives of the Western Front</p> <p>Amal AlRowisan (University of Birmingham): Denise Levertov's 'A Tree Telling of Orpheus': A Narrative of Roots Extraction and Evolving Consciousness</p>
12-1pm	Lunch break	
1-2pm	<p>Room 1</p> <p>Panel 5: Six Feet Under: Death and the Subterranean</p> <p>Laura Brook (University of Edinburgh): 'Coffin'd bones, and funeral stole': Keats's <i>Isabella</i> and the Politics of Bodysnatching</p> <p>Dorka Tamás (University of Exeter): The Anthropogenic 'Unearthing' of Sylvia Plath: From Burials to Roots</p> <p>Adele Guyton (University of Leuven): The Execution of the Earth: Extraction on a Living Planet</p>	<p>Room 2</p> <p>Panel 6: Mining for Meaning</p> <p>Daniel Abdalla (University of Liverpool), "Twice in Her Life does She Find Herself [. . .] Among the Gold-Seekers": Elizabeth Robins and Witnessing the Mines</p> <p>Harriet Thompson (King's College London): Excavation and Extraction: Railway Environments in the British Anthropocene</p> <p>Indigo Gray (University of Sheffield): Posture, evolution and the politics of slime in Emile Zola's <i>Germinal</i></p>
2-3.30pm	<p>Workshop: Placing your Book Project in Literature, Science, and Medicine Studies.</p> <p>The editors of Palgrave Studies in Literature, Science and Medicine will host a 90-minute workshop on proposing a book project to this series. The event will include an overview of the proposal process and advice on what we're looking for in the proposal itself, plus an opportunity to workshop elements of your own book proposal, real or imagined. Anyone at any stage of developing a book proposal (monograph, edition or edited collection) is most welcome to attend. This is an opportunity to think about things like the design of your project, the way you position it in relation to the field, and articulating the significance of your work to nonspecialists. The panel speakers are Prof. Sharon Ruston (Lancaster University), Prof. Jessica Howell (Texas A&M University) and Prof. Alice Jenkins (University of Glasgow).</p>	
3.30-4pm	Break	
4-5pm	<p>Keynote: Dr Ella Mershon (Newcastle University): Fossil Fuels and 'Fossil Forms': Geology as Extraction in Charlotte Smith's <i>Beachy Head</i></p>	