



Le foto sono di Tiziano Fratus
fratus@homoradix.com

Literature, among other arts, such as film, photography, the fine arts, is one of those privileged terrains where Trees enter our field of vision, our epistemic knowledge, our sensorial experience. In literary and artistic productions, Trees are ethically and aesthetically called into question (evoked, invoked, iconized, prized, even attacked), with the aim to identify, describe, or allegorize their singularities and specificities, or to pay homage to their material, literal, cultural, ethnic, and symbolic meaning through a variety of textualities.

The aim of this international and interdisciplinary conference is to discuss with scholars, artists, poets, experts in various fields in order to explore and assess the presence, value, and stance of Trees and Tree-like epistemic structures (arborescence vs rhizome, tree-shaped flows) in the Anthropocene.



Con il contributo di



Con il patrocinio di



Ph. Tiziano Fratus

*Un tronco nodoso / si svolge / in tutte le direzioni / come passi di danza /
dove le braccia / protendono / gradualmente in alto / liberando nel moto /
gli anfratti del corpo.*

Paola Loreto (2002)

TREES IN/AND/AROUND LITERATURE IN THE ANTHROPOCENE



21-22 May 2019

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI TORINO
Sala Lauree di Scienze Umanistiche
Palazzo Nuovo
Via Sant'Ottavio 20 - Torino

21 MAY

9:00 REGISTRATION

9:30 WELCOMING REMARKS

Department Directors:

Prof. Matteo Milani and Prof. Donato Pirovano

Legambiente Director: Fabio Dovana

Scott Obernesser (Johannes Gutenberg University, Germany)

Is a Tree Ever *Just* a Tree? Affect and Ecology in Richard Powers' *The Overstory*

Daniela Fargione (University of Turin)

"What the fuck went wrong with mankind?": Imperiled Biomes, Tree-time and Human Transience in Richard Powers' *The Overstory*

10:00 SPIRITUAL TREES – Chair: Carmen Concilio

Irene De Angelis (University of Turin)

A Portrait of the Poet as a Dendrosopher: Seamus Heaney

Bernard Łukasz Sawicki (Pontifical University of John Paul II, Poland)

Trees as Masters of Monks. Some Observations about the Role of Trees in *The Sayings of the Desert Fathers*

Alberto Baracco (University of Turin)

The Tree that Therefore I am. On the Relationship between Humans and Trees in Italian Cinema

15:30 COFFEE BREAK

16:00 EASTERN TREES – Chair: Paola Della Valle

Giulia Baselica (University of Turin)

Russian Poetry in the First Years of the Twentieth Century: Nikolaj Gumilëv's Palm, an Exotic Tree

Igor Piumetti (University of Turin)

"The Tree of the Motherland" in Andrej Platonov's Tale and Vladimir Petkevič's Animation

Roberto Merlo (University of Turin)

"White Trees, Black Trees". Landscape and Location in the Poetry of George Bacovia

11:00 COFFEE BREAK

11:30 TREES, MEMORY, HUMANS – Chair: Daniela Fargione

Patricia Vieira (Coimbra University, Portugal)

Talking Trees in the Amazon

Anna Orchard (University of Exeter, UK)

Bal Tashchit: Learning to Care for Trees through Children's Literature and Jewish Thought

13:00 LUNCH BREAK

14:30 RICHARD POWERS' TREES – Chair: Cinzia Scarpino

Shannon Lambert (Ghent University, Belgium)

"Mycorrhizal Multiplicities": Mapping Collective Organization in Powers' *The Overstory*

10:50 COFFEE BREAK

11:15 KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

Tiziano Fratus and Paola Loreto

Soultree. A bilingual reading sewed and sown by Paola Loreto and Tiziano Fratus

12:00 TREES IN AMERICAN LITERATURES

Chair: Carmen Concilio

Bahar Gürsel (Middle East Technical University, Turkey)

Tree Stories from Flora J. Cooke's *Nature Myths and Stories*

Stefano Maria Casella (Università Iulm, Italy)

From "La Fraisne" to "Ygdrasil": Metamorphosis and Mythologization of the Ash-Tree in Ezra Pound's Poetry

Cinzia Scarpino (University of Turin)

Leaning Outward. Grace Paley's "Faith in a Tree", Playgrounds, Lilies, Barges, Mothers, Children, and Group Parenting

13:00 LUNCH BREAK

15:00 KEYNOTE SPEAKER (via Skype)

Marlene Creates

(Environmental artist and poet)

15:30 TREES IN ANGLOPHONE LITERATURES

Chair: Irene De Angelis

Emanuela Borgnino (University of Milan, Bicocca, Italy)

and Gaia Cottino (University of Naples, L'Orientale, Italy)

Pacific "Natureculturescapes": The Ohia Lehua and Fa Trees

Paola Della Valle (University of Turin)

Between Ritual and Ecology: Trees in the Indigenous Cultures of Aotearoa New Zealand and the Pacific

Carmen Concilio (University of Turin)

Arbor-essence: Literary Metamorphoses in the

Anglophone World

22 MAY

9:30 TREES IN ART – Chair: Daniela Fargione

Annette Arlander (Stockholm University of the Arts, Sweden)

Performing with Pines and Spruces

Lucrezia Naglieri (Independent art historian and gallery manager, Bari/Berlin)

Are Trees Human? A Contemporary Art Investigation about the Humanization of Nature

Biancamaria Rizzardi (University of Pisa)

"Trees love to toss and sway; they make such happy noises."

Emily Carr's Adventures into the Forest

Silvia Beccaria (Artist, Turin)

Metamorphoses, 2009