

## **The Stories We Tell Ourselves: Reimagining Ecologies**

University of Exeter, Penryn Campus, Cornwall TR10 9FE  
21 – 22 March, 2025

Sponsored by:

Researcher-led Initiative (RLI)  
Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Cornwall (HaSS)  
Centre for Environment, Arts and Humanities (CEAH)  
Environment and Sustainability Institute (ESI)

### **Friday 21 March**

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|---------------|---|
| 9:00          | <b>Registration</b><br><i>ESI Café</i>  |
| 9:30          | <b>Welcome and opening remarks</b><br><i>Richard Trevithick Room, ESI</i><br>Rob Magnuson Smith   |
| 10:00 – 11:00 | <b>Panel 1: Alternative Perspectives with Flora and Topography</b><br><i>Peter Lanyon Lecture 3</i><br>Philippa Johnson, Denise Baden (remote), Nicola Whyte (Chair),<br>Clare Osborne (remote) |
|               | <b>Panel 2: Animal Narratives</b><br><i>Richard Trevithick Room, ESI</i><br>Laura Jean McKay (remote), Rob Magnuson Smith (Chair), Greg<br>Garrard,<br>Anja Rekeszus                            |
| 11:15 – 12:15 | <b>Workshop A: Frontier Technologies and Multimedia Writing</b><br><i>Richard Trevithick Room, ESI</i><br>Matt Watkins, Bede Yolland  |
| 12:30 – 1:30  | <b>Lunch</b><br>ESI Café (vouchers)   |

1:30 – 2:30

**Panel 3: Climate and Extinction Narratives**

*Peter Lanyon Lecture 3*

Ben Smith, Paul Hutchinson, John Wedgwood Clarke (Chair),  
Rachel Grandey

**Panel 4: Falmouth University Voices**

*Richard Trevithick Room, ESI*

Tom Hubmann, Rosie Sherwood, Catarina Fontoura, Mat Osmond  
(Chair)

2:45 – 3:45

**Workshop B: 'Basket' Shark**

*Richard Trevithick Room*

Duncan Cameron

**Workshop B(i): Willow Arts**

*ESI Café*

Adrian Grigg

4:00 – 5:00

**Keynote Speech:** Greg Garrard

Exchange Theatre

5:30

**Dinner**

Verdant Taproom, Penryn TR10 9EP

## Saturday, 22 March

- 9:30                      **Coffee and Registration**  
Sustainability Café
- 10:00 – 11:00           **Panel 5: Multispecies/Posthuman Narratives**  
*Peter Lanyon Lecture 3*  
Jessica J. Lee (Chair), Clara Kleininger-Wanik, Alfie Howard
- Panel 6: Decolonising Narratives**  
*Peter Lanyon Lecture 5*  
Poonam Sharma, Jamie Hampson (Chair), Natalie Pollard, Elżbieta Nieroba
- 11:15 – 12:15           **Workshop C: PG and Future Voices**  
*Sustainability Café*  
Stephanie Hirtenstein, Peter McAllister, Javiera Errázuriz
- Multimedia Special Event**  
Story-sounding with Goldsmith University Centre for Art and Ecology  
*Peter Lanyon Lecture 3*  
Wood Roberdeau, Jol Thoms, Jess Potter
- 12:30 – 1:30            **Lunch**  
Koofi (vouchers)
- 1:30 – 2:30             **Panel 7: Pastoral Song and Ecopoetry**  
*Peter Lanyon Lecture 3*  
Carrie Etter (Chair), Suzanne Conway, Agnieszka Wodzińska
- Panel 8: The Ethics of (Non)Sustainable Storytelling**  
*Peter Lanyon Lecture 5*  
Nazneen Hoque, Javiera Errázuriz, Leslie Maslow, Adrian Markle (Chair)
- 2:45 – 3:45             **Workshop D: Memory Maps**  
*Sustainability Café*  
Wendy McMahon, Nicola Whyte

UPDATED: 22.03.25

4:00 – 5:00      **Keynote Speech:** Philip Marsden  
*Exchange Theatre*

5:30                **Dinner and Readings**  
The Seven Stars Pub, 1 The Moor, Falmouth TR11 3QA

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**Scroll down to view speaker biographies**

## SPEAKER PROFILES

### Baden, Denise

Denise Baden is a Professor of Sustainable Practice at the University of Southampton. She founded the [Green Stories](#) project in 2018 which has resulted in 20 free competitions, several [publications](#), a project with Bafta that addresses the role of [fictional characters in consumer behaviours](#), and a [play](#). She's listed on the [Forbes list of Climate Leaders Changing the Film and TV industry](#). Her fictional works include an eco-themed rom-com '[Habitat Man](#)' and '[No More Fairy Tales: Stories to Save the Planet](#)'. A TV adaptation of her play '[Murder in the Citizens' Jury](#)' was a winner of the 2024 Writing Climate Pitchfest and is being published as a [novel](#).

### Cameron, Duncan

Duncan has been working professionally as an artist and lecturer since graduating in 1993, previously in the FE sector and then at Plymouth University where he worked on a Fine Art practice-led PhD. He now manages the Integrated Foundation Year, IFY, at Falmouth University and leads the Fine Art & Drawing pathway. His research includes exploring the potential for visual creative practices as effective tools for environmental activism. He loves the sea, swimming and diving and ethically collects natural history specimens as part of his sculptural and drawing practice and makes puppets for theatre.

@brokensharkcage on IG and Bluesky

### Clarke, John Wedgwood

John Wedgwood Clarke is Professor of Poetry at the University of Exeter and has a research interest in the relationship between the human species impact on landscapes and the way ecosystems respond. He takes an interdisciplinary approach to project work and often collaborates with other artists and scientists and communities. He regularly leads and collaborates on interdisciplinary projects funded by AHRC, NERC, ACE, Leverhulme, Natural England and others. You can read more about his recently completed project about a mine-waste polluted river [www.redriverpoerty.com](http://www.redriverpoerty.com). He has published three collections of poems, *Ghost Pot* (2013), *Landfill* (2017) and *Boy Thing* (2023). His latest work focuses on the cultural significance of bogs and their ecological complexity.

### Conway, Suzanne

Suzanne Conway is a poet, writer and teacher. She has published articles, essays, reviews, and over thirty poems in magazines and anthologies, including *The Poetry Review*, *The Dark Horse*, *The North*, *The Result Is What You See Today: Poems About Running* (Smith|Doorstop), and elsewhere. She teaches for the Poetry School, the University of Exeter, and her own course, Mining for your Truth. Suzanne is in

the final year of her PhD, and has presented papers on Edward Thomas, Ted Hughes, Philip Larkin and Louis MacNeice. The title of her thesis is: A collection of poems, *The Things I Could Not Say*, informed by the critical study, 'Tantalizing Vagueness': Intimacy and Distance in Edward Thomas's Poetry.

[www.suzanneconway.co.uk](http://www.suzanneconway.co.uk).

### **Delahaye, Nils**

Nils Delahaye studies the ecology of seabirds in Brittany. Unfortunately, their situation is precarious because of our way of life. So he is looking for ways of living by the sea and near the sea that allow a diversity of living beings, including humans, to flourish. Nils is currently doing a master's degree in environmental anthropology at the National Muséum of Natural History in Paris. As part of this, he is in Cornwall to study the Fal Oyster fishery, the last native oyster fishery in England, as the native oyster is threatened with extinction. Another peculiarity is that the use of engines is forbidden and fishing is carried out using sails or oars. By studying the technical, social and economic functioning of this fishery, he is trying to understand the reasons for its persistence and the links between the ways of fishing and the survival of the oyster bed. He also studies the influence of technological limitations on relationships with the environment and labor and is experimenting with a model inspired by the traditional one but reinforced with hazel and metal.

### **Errázuriz, Javiera**

Javiera Errázuriz, Chile. PhD researcher (National Chung Hsing University, Taiwan). I have dedicated myself to researching heritage and cultural practices in relation to their socio-ecosystem. Currently, I am focused on understanding how the film format represents environmental transformations and how this specific medium, through its form and narrative, helps broaden our understanding of changes in different environments and ways of life. My current research examines how coastal wetlands have been portrayed in Taiwanese documentary film and how their transformations, driven by accelerated economic growth, have been narrated.

### **Etter, Carrie**

Carrie Etter has published five collections of poetry, most recently *Grief's Alphabet* (Seren, 2024). Over a thousand of her poems, short stories, essays, and reviews have appeared internationally in such publications as *The Guardian*, *The New Republic*, *The New Statesman*, *The Penguin Book of the Prose Poem*, and *The Times Literary Supplement*. She edited *Infinite Difference: Other Poetries by UK Women Poets* (Shearsman, 2010), Linda Lamus's posthumous collection, *A Crater the Size of Calcutta* (Mulfran, 2015), and Claire Crowther's *Sense and Nonsense: Essays and Interviews* (Shearsman, 2024). Her most recent publication is *Cloudbreak: Haiku and Senryu, 1987-2018* (Red Ceilings Press, January 2025), and

she has recently completed her first novel. She is Senior Lecturer in Creative Writing at the University of Bristol.

### **Fontoura, Catarina**

Catarina Fontoura is a Portuguese artist researcher, currently living and working in West Cornwall. In 2023, she completed her PhD thesis in Environmental Visual Histories from Birkbeck, University of London, specialising in cross-colonial science archives. In 2024, she received a fellowship from the AHRC – Huntington Library Fellowship in Pasadena, California to study archives and cultural responses to the Colorado River, approaching these through an ecocritical lens.

Catarina's artistic practice explores the relation between art, science, story-telling and ecology. She is particularly interested in reconfiguring the land into entangled systems and stories, breaking down human beings into non-human narratives and entities. In 2023 she was awarded the Creative Exchange Award to conduct an art-science project responding to emergence and co-arising in social insect colonies. Her artistic work has been exhibited in Germany, U.S, Mexico, U.K and Portugal.

### **Garrard, Greg**

Dr Greg Garrard is Professor of Environmental Humanities at the University of British Columbia, Okanagan. He is the author of *Ecocriticism* (Routledge, 3<sup>rd</sup> edn.), the editor of *The Oxford Handbook of Ecocriticism* (OUP 2014), and series co-editor of *Environmental Cultures* from Bloomsbury Academic. His research, ranging from environmental fiction to animal studies, ecopedagogy and ecocritical literary theory, has been widely published. He co-authored *Climate Change Skepticism: A Transnational Ecocritical Analysis* (Bloomsbury Academic 2019), with Axel Goodbody, George B. Handley and Stephanie Posthumus, and he is presently concluding a SSHRC-funded research project: 'Kelownaforia: Cultures of Nature in the Okanagan Valley'. Much of his published research can be viewed at <https://universityofbritishcolumbia.academia.edu/GregGarrard>

### **Grandey, Rachel**

Rachel Grandey is a Doctoral researcher in Extinction Studies at the University of Leeds, focussing on Hmong religious perspectives around culture and environment. After completing a BA in English Language and Literature at Merton College, University of Oxford, and an MA in South East Asian Studies at SOAS, University of London, she lived in South East Asia from 2013-2023. During this time she learned two languages and developed an interest in ecological and cultural conservation in Christian communities. She returned to South East Asia for four months of PhD fieldwork in 2024-2025 and hopes to complete her PhD in 2026.

### **Grigg, Adrian**

Adrian 'Shuggsy' Grigg is a shipwright, educator and willowsmith. His restoration and rebuilds of iconic vessels include The 1904 *Alfa* pilot cutter, The 1914 *Brittania* sailing smack and a complete restoration of the *Irene*, a 1907 trading ketch. With his son Aaron Grigg, they run Tree to Sea, growing and coppicing willow using different varieties for fish traps, crab, lobster and crayfish pots and working with the local fishing industry to determine new and innovative plastic-free fishing practices, whilst embracing traditional skills and fishing sustainably.

### **Hampson, Jamie**

Jamie Hampson is an Associate Professor of Rock Art and Indigenous Heritage in HaSS Cornwall at the University of Exeter. He has degrees in Archaeology, Heritage and History from Cambridge and Oxford. Prior to Exeter, Jamie held academic posts in Australia and South Africa; he was also a Marie-Curie Global Fellow at Stanford. His recent books include *Visual Culture, Heritage and Identity: Using Rock Art to Reconnect Past and Present*; and *Powerful Pictures: Rock Art Research Histories Around the World*. His most recent article is a contribution to the *Oxford Handbook of Cognitive Archaeology*. Jamie's current fieldwork project is in the Colombian Amazon, working with Indigenous groups on the origins of symbolism, animistic belief systems, and other-than-human narratives.

### **Hirtenstein, Stephanie**

Stephanie Hirtenstein is a Creative Writing PhD student at the University of Exeter. Her critical and creative research considers that 'neurodiversity may be every bit as crucial for the human race as biodiversity is for life in general' (Blume, 1998: 4), specifically exploring the historic extirpation of wolves from the British and Irish isles and undiagnosed autistic girls. Stephanie's most recent creative work 'The Last Cries of the Kittiwake' was published in *Neither Fish nor Foul*. Other short stories have been published in a special edition *Riptide* book and in the anthology *Personal Weather* by Mor Media. Her non-fiction has been published in *Dialect*, *The Great Margin* and *The Listener*. Stephanie was longlisted for the Nan Shepard Prize 2023.

### **Hoque, Nazneen**

Nazneen Hoque is currently a Commonwealth PhD Split-Site Scholar at the University of Exeter (2024-2025). She is originally registered as a PhD scholar in the Department of Comparative Literature at Jadavpur University, India (reg. 2019-2020). Her doctoral research focuses on the representation of transnational refugee movements in graphic novels, with particular attention to the Syrian refugee crisis and the migration of Latin American refugees over the last two decades of the twenty-first century. Nazneen previously completed her MPhil (2017-2019) in the

Department of English at Jadavpur University, where her dissertation explored Shaun Tan's graphic narratives through the lens of Diaspora Studies, specially examining themes of home and displacement.

### **Howard, Alfie**

Alfie Howard is a writer and final year PhD student on the Leverhulme-funded Extinction Studies DTP at the University of Leeds. His thesis examines representations of animal speech in fiction from a postcolonial human-animal studies perspective. He has had academic work published in multiple journals, including in the *Cambridge Prisms* series. His short story 'A Primitive Superstition', about aliens encountering nuclear waste, was published by *Culture Chain* magazine in 2021, and his short story 'The Farm Closes' has been published in the latest issue of *Stand* magazine.

### **Hubmann, Tom**

Tom Hubmann is an illustrator, visual artist and academic who divides his time between commercial work, personal projects, teaching and research. He has a deep interest in environmental issues which inform all aspects of his professional and creative practise and output.

Interested in exploring how the visual arts can be actively used to mitigate the impact of climate change, he has been awarded research funding to collaborate with scientists and academic bodies including the Environmental Sustainability Institute (ESI) at Exeter University, presented at global research conferences and given guest lectures, talks, workshops at various educational institutes and organisations. As an illustrator, he has worked with a wide range of clients including Friends of the Earth, Shelterbox, Finisterre, Eden Project and ARM as well as undertaking self authored projects, residencies and exhibitions in the UK and abroad to practically help understand this theme further.

### **Hutchinson, Paul**

Paul Hutchinson is an AHRC-funded PhD student at the University of Bristol and the University of Exeter. His doctoral research examines the historical role of gender and masculinity in the environmental crisis of the Dust Bowl in the 1930s Great Plains of the United States. He is particularly interested in exploring the representation of masculinity and the environment through a range of sources including photographs, artworks, and literature. This research hopes to show that masculinity is a fundamental part of how ecological crises of the past – and the present – are understood and reacted to.

### **Johnson, Philippa**

Philippa Johnson is in the third year of her Creative Writing PhD at Exeter: her thesis title is *Women With-In the Landscape*, for which she has written a poetry collection about the female bog bodies, the bogs themselves, and the nature of enmeshment in this landscape. With a background in Anglo-Saxon and Linguistics, she draws on the poetics of early English, Irish and Scottish writings to enrich her poems. She is currently the deputy editor of Exeter's *Exclamation Journal*, and has been published by Black Bough, and in *Nearshore* and *Exclamation* journals, and is a teacher in her spare time.

### **Kleininger, Clara**

Clara Kleininger, anthropologist and filmmaker, researches and films on topics of multispecies relationships (in Mexico, in Romania) and migration (in Poland). Clara is currently PhD candidate in *Film by Practice* at the University of Exeter and London Film School (UK) and has been visiting researcher at the Benito Juarez University in Oaxaca, Mexico. Her research concerns multispecies relationships, conservation, indigenous and Afro-Mexican ontologies and how these might be best represented through documentary film.

### **Lee, Jessica J.**

Jessica J. Lee is a British-Canadian-Taiwanese author, environmental historian, and winner of the Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Prize for Nonfiction, the Boardman Tasker Award for Mountain Literature, a Banff Mountain Book Award, and the RBC Taylor Prize Emerging Writer Award. She is the author of three books of nature writing, *Turning*, *Two Trees Make a Forest*, and *Dispersals*, the children's book *A Garden Called Home*, and co-editor of the essay collection *Dog Hearted*. She has a PhD in Environmental History and Aesthetics and was Writer-in-Residence at the Leibniz Institute for Freshwater Ecology in Berlin from 2017–2018. Jessica is the founding editor of *The Willowherb Review* and teaches creative writing at the University of King's College. She lives in Berlin.

### **Markle, Adrian**

Adrian is the author of the novel *Bruise* and approximately twenty short stories in significant journals and magazines in Canada, the US, the UK, and Europe (*EVENT*, *Queens' Quarterly*, *Pithead Chapel*, *Riptide*, the *Cornish Short Stories* anthology, etc.). Those short stories have earned him Best Small Fictions and Pushcart nominations, as well as a places on university curriculums and, strangely, the Danish National Highschool Curriculum.

### **Marsden, Philip**

Philip Marsden is the award-winning author of a number of works of travel, fiction and non-fiction, including *The Bronski House*, *The Spirit-Wrestlers*, *The Levelling Sea* and, most recently, *The Summer Isles*. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature and his work has been translated into fifteen languages.

After years of travelling, he now lives on the tidal upper reaches of the River Fal in Cornwall with his wife, children and various boats.

### **Maslow, Leslie**

Leslie Maslow is a writer, editor, and amateur Herman Melville scholar. Her short stories, critical essays and humour pieces have appeared in *Tin House*, *Open City*, *McSweeney's Internet Tendency* and *The Exposition Review*. She holds MFAs in Playwriting and Fiction from The New School and Bennington College.

### **McAllister, Peter**

A writer, educator and publisher of prose fiction and currently a doctoral researcher at The University of Exeter, Peter was awarded a Distinction for his MA in Creative Writing. He now lectures at the University of Hull, is the editor and co-founder of [Inkfish](#) (a literary journal and print publisher), a committee member for the Penzance Literary Festival and an organiser of the North Cornwall Book Festival.

Peter's writing builds layers of narrative through linked short-stories that result in profound moments of self-realisation or dramatic action. He has been shortlisted and/or highly commended in several International Literary Prizes for his short-form fiction and poetry. His work has been published online, in print journals and numerous anthologies. <https://www.ptmcallister.com/>

### **McKay, Laura Jean**

Laura Jean McKay is the author of *The Animals in That Country* - winner of the prestigious Arthur C Clarke Award, The Victorian Prize for Literature, the ABIA Small Publishers Adult Book of the Year and co-winner of the Aurealis Award for Best Science Fiction Novel 2021. Laura is also the author of *Holiday in Cambodia* and an Adjunct Lecturer in Creative Writing at Massey University. Her latest collection is *Gunflower*, shortlisted for the Queensland Literary Awards and named one of The Guardian's best books of 2023.

### **McMahon, Wendy**

Wendy McMahon is an interdisciplinary scholar with expertise in the literatures and creative expression of the Hispanophone and Anglophone Caribbean and US and their intersections with history, colonialism, decolonial politics, politics, law, human rights, the environment, natural hazard, as well as ideas of place, belonging, and home. At the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Cornwall, she is a

Senior Lecturer in Environmental Humanities, co-leads the BA in Environmental Humanities and serves as Co-Director of the Centre for Environmental Arts and Humanities. The Centre is committed to working collaboratively to apply arts and humanities research and methods to tackle the intractable global environmental issues that we face, locally and globally, from resource extraction, ecological crises, to the climate crisis.

### **Nieroba, Elżbieta**

Sociologist, lecturer, reader, observer of the art world. Associated with the University of Opole, Poland (Institute of Political Science and Public Administration, Department of Public Governance and Public Policy). Elżbieta studies narratives about the environment in which humans and non-humans live and is particularly interested in ecological discourses. She observes human relations with the so-called others, trying to find ways to build bonds based on empathy.

### **Osborne, Clare**

I am a practice-based researcher from Yorkshire engaged with landscape and site-specificity, incorporating film, music composition, photography, ceramics, installation and creative writing. I have been awarded the WRoCAH scholarship (Arts & Humanities Research Council UK) for my practice-based PhD project, 'Mothering Beyond the Flesh: landscape and knowledge at the convergence of ecology, maternal agency and creative practice'. My position of mother and artist is used to both presuppose and question a theory of maternal agency in the Anthropogenic landscape, using specific gardens as case studies within the UNESCO biosphere island of Lanzarote. This work involves a combination of fieldwork, including oral history projects, embedded creative practice and reflective processing of the site; repositioning and translating knowledge generated by being in the landscape through an auto-ethnographic and creative methodology.

### **Osmond, Mat**

Mat Osmond's a writer, educator and activist based in Cornwall. He's currently supporting the Ecological Citizenship peer-learning community seeded at Falmouth University, where he works as a Senior Lecturer in the School of Art. Mat's convened a number of eco-arts symposia since 2014, mostly recently Art.Earth's two-year creative summit on ecological grief and death cultures, [\*Borrowed Time: on death, dying & change\*](#). He [publishes regularly](#) with The Dark Mountain Project and related platforms, and is enrolled on a [Practice-based PhD](#) that asks what might be worth sustaining and cultivating in the face of secular modernity's ecocidal and genocidal trajectory.

### **Pollard, Natalie**

Natalie Pollard is Associate Professor in Modern Literature and Culture at UoE. Her current research lies at the intersections of the arts, humanities, natural and social sciences. Natalie's third monograph - due out with Bloomsbury this year - explores the narrative and visual potentials for storytelling climate transformations differently. Natalie's earlier books focus on the politics of contemporary speech, poetry, publishing and visual culture.

Natalie is the editor of *Unhoming Pedagogies*, a digital network which brings together researchers and students to explore ways of unmooring anthropocentric educational norms and hierarchies, through practices that involve risk-taking and bewilderment, collaboration and digression.

### **Potter, Jess**

Jess Potter is an artist and a teacher. Her practice is sensitive to the acts and processes of life, labour, and care, considered through photography and language. She completed a PhD by practice at the Royal College of Art in 2013 entitled *The Photograph as a Site of Writing*. Current work approaches ecology and field research, considering questions of commonality alongside processes of description and encounter found in phenomenological thought engaging early photographic processes, drawing and moving image. She is a research tutor at the Royal College of Art, an editor at Copy Press, a founding member of the Health and Care Research Cluster and a member of the Centre for Art and Ecology.

### **Rekeszus, Anja**

Anja is a lecturer in German and Translation Studies at the University of Reading. For 2024/2025, she is an Inclusion, Participation and Engagement Fellow at the School of Advanced Studies, London; her participatory research project investigates how the collaborative creation of fairy tales can impact individuals' perception of urban foxes in the borough of Southwark. As a researcher, Anja is particularly interested in the role that stories play in how humans view and identify with landscapes and non-human actors. Other research interests and specialisms include women's writing, Romanticism, fairy tale studies, and transculturalism.

### **Roberdeau, Wood**

Wood Roberdeau (Visual Cultures, Goldsmiths, University of London) explores modes of everyday experience through philosophical post-humanism to ask how a poetics of space and place or the 'lived environment' might resonate with climate change and futurity. He is particularly interested in questions concerning cultural production and reception in times of climate crisis and activism that explore a poetics of encounter, observation, and participation (an 'eco-poetics'). At Goldsmiths, he

chairs the Critical Ecologies Research Stream and is a member of the Centre for Art and Ecology, the Centre for Critical Global Change, and the Kitchen Research Unit.

### **Sharma, Poonam**

Poonam Sharma is a PhD researcher at the University of Leeds, funded by the White Rose College of Arts and Humanities (WRoCAH). Her research focuses on planetarity and animism in contemporary Indian historical fiction, examining the ecological impact of empire and colonialism in South Asia through postcolonial and environmental humanities frameworks. She holds an MPhil in Modern South Asian Studies from the University of Cambridge, where she was a Commonwealth Shared Scholar, and has previously taught at the University of Delhi. She has received various grants for research and conferences and actively contributes to postcolonial and environmental humanities scholarship.

### **Sherwood, Rosie**

Rosie Sherwood is an interdisciplinary artist whose practise focuses on the environment. Operating at the axis of fine art and the earth crisis, Sherwood's work seeks to contribute to reshaping our personal and societal relationships with nature. Sherwood has exhibited widely, and her work can be found in national and international collections. She has taught and been published on a range of subjects, received funding from numerous bodies, and was a finalist in the National Sculpture Prize (2018) and Aesthetica Prize (2023). As the UK's first Blue Carbon Artist in Residence (2022), Sherwood The Seagrass Walk at the National Marine Aquarium. In 2023 she exhibited her project Zennor Wildfire with the National Trust, a photographic examination of the increasing threat of wildfires in the UK. In October 2024 Sherwood began a practice-based PhD at Falmouth University. Her project, the Museum of Mass Extinction, takes an interdisciplinary approach to examining and expressing a mass extinction event which has not yet occurred.

### **Smith, Ben**

Ben Smith is an author and Senior Lecturer in Creative Writing at the University of Exeter, UK. His research and writing explore narratives of climate change and the Anthropocene, drawing on collaborations across the arts and sciences. His debut novel *Doggerland* (4th Estate 2019) tells the story of two men working on an offshore windfarm sometime in the future. It was a *Guardian* Book of the Year and won the ASLE-UKI Creative Book Prize. He is currently PI on an AHRC-funded project, *A History of Storms: New Approaches to Climate Fiction and Climate Literacy*, partnering with the UK Met Office.

### **Smith, Rob Magnuson**

Rob Magnuson Smith is the author of *The Gravedigger*, *Scorper* and *Seaweed Rising*. His short fiction appears in *Granta*, the *Guardian*, *Ploughshares*, the *Saturday Evening Post*, *MoMA Magazine* and the *Australian Book Review* as winner of the Elizabeth Jolley Prize. A recipient of an Arctic Circle Artist and Science Fellowship, and a former contributing editor at *Playboy Magazine*, his investigative journalism features unusual intersections of science and nature. He is Senior Lecturer in Creative Writing and Environmental Humanities at Exeter University in Cornwall.

### **Thoms, Jol**

Jol Thoms (b. Toronto) is an artist, sound designer, audio curator and researcher based in London, UK where he is studio lecturer on the *MA Art & Ecology* and *MA Art & Politics* at Goldsmiths. His critical audio-visual practices address the west's troubled relationship with nature, technology, and the cosmos by signalling beyond the purely measurable and quantifiable, and by thinking, feeling, and sensing with more-than-human worlds. He is the founder of the Radio Amnion sound ritual commissioning and transmitting artists' messages of care deep into the Pacific Ocean during each full moon – ongoing since June 2021. He has presented this project internationally, most recently in the opening ceremonies of the 60th Venice Biennale with Ocean Space and LAS Foundation: <https://radioamnion.net>

### **Watkins, Matt**

Matt Watkins is a senior lecturer in robotics and computing at Falmouth University. He has developed a range of interactive work and products from web and mobile-based projects and games, robotics and sensor-driven interfaces in galleries, and locative and pervasive games played live in the streets. He has worked as a developer and producer on projects with Hewlett and Packard, the BBC, Channel 4, The Tate Gallery, Birmingham City Council and the MET Office. He has published academic papers and presented at conferences worldwide, including the ACM Multimedia Conference 2005 Singapore, SIGCHI 2003, Dislocate Festival, Tokyo, and MobileFest in Sao Paulo.

### **Whyte, Nicola**

Nicola Whyte is Associate Professor of Landscape and History at the University of Exeter where she is co-Director of the Centre for Environmental Arts and Humanities. She has published widely on environmental and social entanglements in the early modern and post-medieval periods. In her historical research she explores inter- and trans-disciplinary theories and methods, crossing temporal and spatial boundaries. She is particularly interested in the social and landscape contexts of

custom, place, memory and identity, and how contemporaries interpreted, appropriated and re-used the physical remains of the past.

**Wodzińska, Agnieszka**

Agnieszka Wodzińska is a contemporary art historian and lecturer based in Scotland. She is interested in how environmentalism, embodiment, and digitality manifest in visual and popular cultures. Her recent publication, "Drown your laptop: on office sirens, working from home, and aesthetics of refusal," theorises new relationships to productivity, gender expression, and marine environments seen through the evolving mythical figure of the siren, performed online by young artists and content creators.

**Yolland, Bede**

Bede Yolland is a first year AHRC-funded PhD student in Creative Writing at Exeter University. She previously worked at museums including V&A and National Gallery London and as a film editor for BBC and ITV. She is working on several projects about artists and makers.