

## **Ecofeminism Reading Cycle (WS 2021/2022)**

Having concluded our first 'Ecofeminism Reading Cycle', I'm happy to announce the second one, which will take place during the winter semester 2021/2022 at the beginning of October.

Last semester, we focused on a series of papers and chapters one could consider to be "canonical" contributions of so-called traditional Ecofeminism. This strategy allowed us to obtain an overview of the main motives and questions of the subject matter, both from key thinkers and from the traditions they represent. However, in trying to cover too much in too little time, we were unable to delve too deeply into any of these authors. For this reason, this cycle will focus only on a single book and author, namely Donna Haraway's "Staying with the Trouble: Making Kin in the Chthulucene" (2016).

### **Outline:**

Feminism and environmental issues have many convergences that are strongly interrelated and mutually reinforcing. These convergences have to do, especially, with the sources and consequences of oppression, domination, dualism, colonization and exploitation, as they underlie problematic power structures and relations still prevalent today. In this reading cycle, we want to cover some of the basic ideas of Ecofeminism and Feminist Environmental Philosophy more broadly and approach some of the contributions made by women philosophers and activists in this field, especially in the last decades. Some of the questions we want to discuss are:

- How to understand the different positions on Ecofeminism/Feminist Environmental Philosophy; both historically and systematically?
- Assuming a plurality of "Ecofeminisms", what unites them and where do they diverge?
- Do feminist and environmentalist claims respond to the same "source of domination" relating to both gender and non-human nature?
- To what extent can dualistic parallels such as man/nature and man/woman be critically rethought?
- Could different demands lead to more inclusive and effective responses to problems that concern feminist and environmental struggles?

When: Wednesdays every other week from 15:00 – 17:00pm (CET)

Where: Zoom (links will be provided)

### **Schedule & Material:**

06.10.21: Introduction and chapter 1 of "Simians, Cyborgs, and Women: The Reinvention of Nature"(2013) pp1-21.

20.10. 21: Chapter 1: Playing String Figures with Companion Species.

03.11. 21: Chapter 2: Tentacular Thinking Anthropocene, Capitalocene, Chthulucene.

17.11. 21: Chapter 3.1: Symbiogenesis, Interlacing Sciences and Arts with Involutionary Momentum.

01.12. 21: Chapter 3.2: Science Art Worldings for Staying with the Trouble, Four Critical Zones, Resurgence in Four Parts.

15.12. 21: Chapter 4: Making Kin.

05.01. 22: Chapter 5 + 6: Awash in Urine, Sowing Worlds.

19.01. 22: Chapter 7: A Curious Practice.

02.02.22: Chapter 8: The Camille Stories.

16.02.22: Complementary readings and conclusions.

Prior knowledge on debates in Environmental Philosophy or Feminism is not necessary. The idea is to create an informal platform to explore the texts together.

Also you do not need to read the paper in advance if you don't manage to do so, as one of us is going to give a brief overview of the paper before starting the general discussion.

If you want to participate, please contact [sarah.espinosa@univie.ac.at](mailto:sarah.espinosa@univie.ac.at) so she can send you the texts and the Zoom links.

Looking forward to reading and discussing with you!