

Mountains, Rivers, Forests and Lakes: Viewing Nature in New Zealand and the Pacific

The 22nd annual conference
of the New Zealand Studies Association
together with Franklin University Switzerland

**LUGANO, SWITZERLAND
30 JUNE - 3 JULY 2015**

Thursday 30 June

- 11.45-12.15 Registration (Aoraki)
12.15-12.50 Welcome (Nielsen)
12.50-1.00 Conference opening (Nielsen)
- 1.00-1.50 **Keynote 1** (Nielsen) – **Professor Vanessa Smith** (University of Sydney), “Island Highs and Lows”
Chair: **Professor Yifen Beus** (Brigham Young University, Hawai‘i)
- 1.55-3.10 **Session 1a** (Wanaka) – **Māori/ Iwi Perspectives on Nature**
Chair: **Gregory Albisson** (Grenoble Alpes University)
- **Carl Mika** (University of Waikato), “Synchronous Entities: Landmarks, Self and Language in Māori Philosophy”
- **Justine Camp** (Otago Polytechnic), “Ko Kā Mauka Me Kā Tumomo Wai: A Kai Tahu View of Nature in New Zealand”
- **Richard Kerr-Bell** (Otago Polytechnic), “He Ngāru Whakateo, He Kōtare, in Every Crested Wave a Kingfish”
- Session 1b** (Mohaka) – **Art/ Literature/ Photography**
Chair: **Hilke Thode-Arora** (Übersee-Museum Bremen)
- **Paola Della Valle** (University of Turin), “To See or Not To See, That is the Question: Representing Pacific Nature in Paul Gauguin’s Art and W.S. Maugham’s Pacific Writings”
- **Max Quanchi** (University of Queensland), “Imagining the Dark Interior: Art and Photography of the Tropical Pacific”
- **Robin Woodward** (University of Auckland), “The Art of Nic Moon: Nature, Survival and Guardianship of the Land”
- 3.10-3.35 Tea break

- 3.35-4.25 **Session 2a** (Wanaka) – **Nature in Māori and Australian Literature**
Chair: [David Callahan](#) (University of Aveiro)
- [Lotta Schneidmesser](#) (University of York), “Where the Bush Begins: Nature and the Thresholds of Home in Contemporary Māori Literature”
- [Michael Ackland](#) (James Cook University), “Going Bush or Going Troppo? Landscape, Possession and the Topos of the Painter-Seer in the Work of Patrick White and David Malouf”
- Session 2b** (Mohaka) – **Paradise in the Pacific? Contemporary Considerations**
Chair: [Rick Feinberg](#) (Kent State University)
- [Geir Henning Presterudstuen](#) (Western Sydney University), “Reimagining Paradise From the Margins of Fijian Society”
- [Joanna Siekiera](#) (Victoria University of Wellington), “Climate Change as the Integrative Factor in Pacific Regionalism”
- 4.30-5.30 **NZSA AGM** (Nielsen)
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Friday 1 July

- 8.45-10.00 **Session 3a** (Wanaka) – **New Zealand and Pacific Poetry**
Chair: [Paloma Fresno-Calleja](#) (University of the Balearic Islands)
- [Carla Comellini](#) (University of Bologna), “Imagery of the Pacific Ocean in Canadian Poetry”
- [Norman P. Franke](#) (University of Waikato), “‘What am I if not the river...?’ Ecopoetics and Emotional Geography in German and New Zealand Poetry”
- [Hilary Bracefield](#) (Ulster), “Cyril Speaks: Fleur Adcock and Poems About Her Father”
- Session 3b** (Mohaka) – **Pacific Island Communities: Space, Place, Land and Culture**
Chair: [Geir Henning Presterudstuen](#) (Western Sydney University)
- [Iati Iati](#) (University of Otago), “Watching Their Customary Lands Slip Away? The Implications of Applying the Torrens System to Samoan Customary Land Tenure”
- [Rick Feinberg](#) (Kent State University), “Polynesian Structures of Geographical and Cosmological Space: Anuta, Solomon Islands”
- [Thomas Dick](#) (Southern Cross University), “Dancing Diversity: Critical Indigenous Perspectives on a New Conservation Ethic in Melanesia”
- 10.00-10.20 Coffee break
- 10.20-11.10 **Session 4a** (Wanaka) – **Landscape in New Zealand Cinema**
Chair: [Nele Rein](#) (Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg)
- [Eva Rueschmann](#) (Hampshire College), “Reading Littoral Spaces in Niki Caro’s *Memory and Desire* (1998) and *Whale Rider* (2002)”

- [Alfio Leotta](#) (Victoria University of Wellington), “From Kaihoro to Hobbiton: The Imaginary Geography of Peter Jackson’s Film Landscapes”

Session 4b (Mohaka) – **(Former) Empires and Colonies**

Chair: [Hermann Mückler](#) (University of Vienna)

- [Dominic Alessio](#) and [Patricia Olle Tejero](#) (Richmond, The American International University in London), “Re-thinking the Pacific’s ‘Bermuda Triangle’: Micronesia’s Spanish, German and American Lakes”

- [Wendy Stokes](#) (London Metropolitan University), “Political Change: 1970s in the Solomon Islands”

11.10-12.00 **Keynote 2** (Nielsen) – **Associate Professor David Callahan** (University of Aveiro), “Deterritorialisation and the Landscape of New Zealand Videogames”

Chair: [Professor Eva Rueschmann](#) (Hampshire College)

12.00-1.00 Lunch

1.45-3.55 **Boat trip on Lake Lugano (departure Lugano Centrale)**

7.00 **Conference dinner**

Saturday 2 July

9.00-9.50 **Session 5a** (Wanaka) - **Outdoor Spaces: From Mountains to Cities**
Chair: [Dominic Alessio](#) (Richmond, The American International University in London)

- [Gregory Albisson](#) (Grenoble Alpes University), “‘Average’ New Zealanders? Mountain Climbing and National Identity in Aotearoa”

- [Manfredo Manfredini](#) (University of Auckland) and [Franco Manai](#) (University of Auckland), “Urban Relational Infrastructure: Public Space and Civic Life in Auckland Metropolitan Centres”

Session 5b (Mohaka) – **Film and Indigenous Identity**

Chair: [Andrea Wright](#) (Edge Hill University)

- [Yifan Beus](#) (Brigham Young University, Hawai‘i), “The Force Awakens: Mana as a Causal Agent in Pacific Cinema”

- [Nele Rein](#) (Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg), “Caribbean Sounds in Aotearoa: The Transcultural Dimension of Reggae Music in Recent Māori Films”

9.50-10.15 Coffee break

10.15-11.05 **Session 6a** (Wanaka) - **Early German Photography in the Pacific**
Chair: [Max Quanchi](#) (University of Queensland)

- [Hermann Mückler](#) (University of Vienna), “Faded Traces: Wilhelm Knappe’s Photo-album and Erwin Steinbach’s Comments on Early German Colonial Involvement in the Marshall Islands”

- [Hilke Thode-Arora](#) (Übersee-Museum Bremen), “Shaping the Colonial Landscape and Infrastructure: C. F. Lammert, Imperial Land-Surveyor in Samoa”

Session 6b (Mohaka) - **Nature, Horror and New Zealand Film**

Chair: [Eva Rueschmann](#) (Hampshire College)

- [Andrea Wright](#) (Edge Hill University), “Outside Inside: Nature, Gender and the Altered Domestic Space in *Possum* (1997) and *Nature’s Way* (2006)”

- [Laura Sedgwick](#) (University of South Australia), “When Nature Bites Back: The Comedy of New Zealand Zombie Horror in *Braindead* (1992) and *Black Sheep* (2006)”

11.10-12.00 **Keynote 3** (Nielsen) – **Professor Eric Pawson** (University of Canterbury), “‘An elegant symphony of plants and nature’? Inventing and Reinventing the South Island High Country in the European Imagination”

Chair: [Dr Norman P. Franke](#) (University of Waikato)

12.00-1.00 Lunch

1.00-3.00 **Screening of *Tanna* (2015, 104ms), with post-screening discussion**

3.00-3.20 Tea break

3.20-4.35 **Session 7a** (Wanaka) - **Selling New Zealand**

Chair: [Alfio Leotta](#) (Victoria University of Wellington)

- [Alessandra De Marco](#) (University of Calabria), “Selling New Zealand as a Destination 3.0: Nature, Multimodality and Social Media”

- [Paloma Fresno-Calleja](#) (University of the Balearic Islands), “Selling the ‘New Zealand Exotic’: Sarah Lark’s Landscape Novels”

- [Katie Higgins](#) (University of Sussex), “‘A paradise ... at the end of the world’: Contemporary British Migrants’ Imaginaries of ‘the Good Life’ and Place in Auckland, Aotearoa”

Session 7b (Mohaka) – **Travels/Voyages in NZ & the Pacific**

Chair: [Paola Della Valle](#) (University of Turin)

- [Valentina Napoli](#) (University of Rome 3), “Questioning the ‘Exotic’ in Two Italian Travellers’ Accounts of New Zealand”

- [Graham Jefcoate](#) (Nijmegen), “The First Morning in Tahiti”

4.40-5.30 **Keynote 4** (Nielsen) – **Associate Professor Deidre Brown** (University of Otago), “Keep New Zealand Beautiful? Commodity, Sublimity and Tragedy on the Land and Whenua”

Chair: [Professor Dominic Alessio](#) (Richmond, The American International University in London)

5.30 **Close**