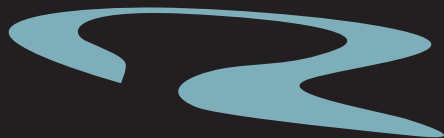


1-1-2013

Idea of Nature Public Lecture Series - 2013 brochure with schedule

Samantha Harvey
Boise State University



Interdisciplinary Explorations

The Idea of Nature

PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES • SPRING 2013



Thomas Cole (1801-1848). View from Mount Holyoke, Northampton, Massachusetts, after a Thunderstorm - The Oxbow. 1836. Oil on canvas, 51 1/2 x 76 in. (130.8 x 193 cm). Gift of Mrs. Russell Sage, 1908 (08.228). The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY, U.S.A. Photo Credit: Image copyright © The Metropolitan Museum of Art. Image source: Art Resource, NY

The Series

In spring 2012, a new public lecture series began at Boise State University. The goal of the series is to promote interdisciplinary inquiry and to foster dialogue across the campus and community, based on the premise that *big questions need interdisciplinary answers*.

How are conceptions of nature expressed in literature, art, philosophy, music, and other humanities disciplines? How did ideas of nature change from 1660 to the present, a period of radical change and revolution?

These lectures are free and open to the public and will be followed by a reception with a cash bar and appetizers.

The Schedule

Thursday, February 14, 2013 • 6 PM



Robert Frost and the Forests of Vermont

John Elder
Professor Emeritus,
Middlebury College

Tuesday, March 12, 2013 • 6 PM



The Nature of Slow Food

Dan Philippon
Associate Professor of English,
University of Minnesota

All events will be held in the Boise State Student Union Building, Simplot Ballroom A-D, followed by a reception.

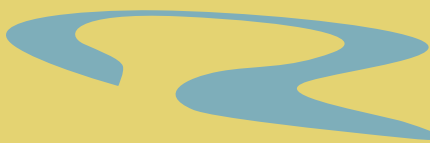
For **free reception tickets** and information about **free parking**, please contact Dr. Harvey at samanthaharvey@boisestate.edu or go to <http://scholarworks.boisestate.edu/ideaofnature/> for more information.

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How are conceptions of nature expressed in literature, art, philosophy, music, and other humanities disciplines? How did ideas of nature change from 1660 to the present, a period of radical change and revolution?

Thursday, February 14, 2013, 6 PM with a reception to follow at 7 PM,
Simplot Ballroom, Boise State University.

Robert Frost and the Forests of Vermont

John Elder, Professor Emeritus of Middlebury College

In addition to being one of the most beloved and influential writers of the twentieth century, Frost was also an extremely perceptive observer of natural patterns. His ecological insights enrich the beauty and intricacy of his poems while also heightening his reader's own understanding of northern New England's densely forested landscape. This lecture will look at both these aspects of Frost as a poetic naturalist through readings and discussions of some of his most celebrated works. Along the way Elder will also relate his poetry directly to his own experiences in the forests of Vermont, the same landscape that inspired Frost.

Tuesday, March 12, 2013, 6 PM with a reception to follow at 7 PM,
Simplot Ballroom, Boise State University.

The Nature of Slow Food

Dan Philippon, Associate Professor of English, University of Minnesota

Professor Philippon will lecture on the "Slow Food" movement in Europe. Although Slow Food is often portrayed as a contrast to fast food, it is less about speed than scale. Visits with artisan food producers in Italy's Piedmont region, where Slow Food was born, illustrate the weaknesses in romantic understanding of nature as "other" and confirm that scale is the key variable in the search for sustainability.

Past Lectures



Kevin Hutchings

Romanticism, Blake, and the Politics of Nature

Research Chair in Literature, Culture, and Environmental Studies, University of Northern British Columbia, Canada



James Engell

Henry David Thoreau and Health in Nature

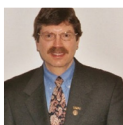
Gurney Professor of English, Harvard University



Rochelle Johnson

On Metaphor and Progress: Nature in Literature and Landscape Painting in 19th Century America

Professor of English and Environmental Studies, College of Idaho



James McKusick

The Poetics of Nature

Dean of the Davidson Honors College, University of Montana