

1-1-2014

## Flyer with 2014 Schedule for the Idea of Nature Public Lecture Series

Samantha Harvey

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# Interdisciplinary Explorations

## The Idea of Nature

PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES • SPRING 2014



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

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 and book signing with a no-host bar and appetizers.

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

For **free reception tickets** and information about **free parking**, please email [samanthaharvey@boisestate.edu](mailto:samanthaharvey@boisestate.edu) or visit [scholarworks.boisestate.edu/ideaofnature](http://scholarworks.boisestate.edu/ideaofnature).

### The Schedule

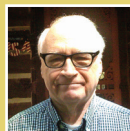
Wednesday, February 12, 2014 • 6 PM



#### After Nature: Living in the Anthropocene

**Jedediah Purdy**,  
Robinson O. Everett  
Professor of Law,  
Duke University

Thursday, March 13, 2014 • 6 PM



#### Emily Dickinson and Science

**Richard Brantley**,  
Professor Emeritus,  
University of Florida

Thursday, April 24, 2014 • 6 PM



#### Getting to the Roots of the Matter: Trees in 19th-Century Literature

**Susan Oliver**,  
Reader of English  
Literature, University  
of Essex, England

### Sponsored By:



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The Idea of Nature

PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES • SPRING 2014

**Wednesday, February 12, 2014** • 6 PM with a reception to follow at 7 PM • Simplot Ballroom, Student Union Building, Boise State University

## **After Nature: Living in the Anthropocene**

**Jedediah Purdy**, *Robinson O. Everett Professor of Law, Duke University*

Human beings have changed everything in the world. There is no longer such a thing as a Nature that comes before us, no natural, pre-human order for us to restore. How shall we think about environmental law, politics, and ethics in this situation?

**Thursday, March 13, 2014** • 6 PM with a reception to follow at 7 PM • Simplot Ballroom, Student Union Building, Boise State University

## **Emily Dickinson and Science**

**Richard Brantley**, *Professor Emeritus, University of Florida*

Emily Dickinson took her cue from the scientific method. "Experiment escorts us last," she wrote. Just as her understanding of temporal and spatial change channeled geology, so her sense of the sublime consulted astronomy. Her grasp of the bald, cold truth of life's struggle out-Darwined Darwin. Thus she thrilled and shuddered in nature's creative and destructive presence.

**Thursday, April 24, 2014** • 6 PM with a reception to follow at 7 PM • Simplot Ballroom, Student Union Building, Boise State University

## **Getting to the Roots of the Matter: Trees in 19th-Century Literature**

**Susan Oliver**, *Senior Lecturer in English, University of Essex, England*

From the medieval greenwood to plantation forestry, nineteenth-century poetry and fiction is filled with references to trees. Susan Oliver looks at ecological crisis and the complex relationship between people and woods as trees were replaced by grass in a rapidly changing world.

## Past Lectures



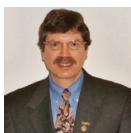
### **Henry David Thoreau and Health in Nature**

**James Engell**,  
*Gurney Professor of English, Harvard University*



### **Robert Frost and the Forests of Vermont**

**John Elder**,  
*Professor Emeritus, Middlebury College*



### **The Poetics of Nature**

**James McKusick**,  
*Dean of the Davidson Honors College, University of Montana*



### **The Nature of Slow Food**

**Dan Philippon**,  
*Associate Professor of English, University of Minnesota*



### **Romanticism, Blake and the Politics of Nature**

**Kevin Hutchings**,  
*Research Chair in Literature, Culture, & Environmental Studies, University of Northern British Columbia*



### **On Metaphor and Progress: Nature in 19th-Century Literature and Landscape Painting**

**Rochelle Johnson**,  
*Professor of English & Environmental Studies, College of Idaho*

Lectures can be downloaded at:  
[scholarworks.boisestate.edu/ideaofnature](http://scholarworks.boisestate.edu/ideaofnature).