

SYMPOSIUM

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# ELEMENTAL PATHWAYS THROUGH NATURE

BEYOND ANTHROPOCENTRISM  
AND ECOCENTRISM



June 15–16, 2026



Centre for Humanities  
ZRS Koper, Kreljeva ulica 6, Koper



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# MONDAY, JUNE 15: ELEMENTAL FRAMEWORKS

Pier Francesco Corvino & Lenart Škof, Opening Remarks 10.00 – 10.30

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## MORNING SESSION: ELEMENTAL THEOLOGY

Sigríður Guðmarsdóttir (University of Iceland), *“Whatsoever Passeth Through the Paths of the Seas”: Blue Theology in the Arctic* 10.30 – 11.00

Michael Marder (University of the Basque Country), *Mystical Fire in the Medieval Kabbalist Tradition: Effacement, Exile, Ethics* 11.00 – 11.30

Aksel Johan Lund (VID Stavanger), *Doing Theology in the Chthulucene: A Kenotic Theology of Entanglement* 11.30 – 12.00

**Lunch** 12.00 – 14.00

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## AFTERNOON SESSION: ELEMENTAL PHILOSOPHY

David Macauley (Penn State University), *Wild Beauty and the Elemental World* 14.00 – 14.30

Lenart Škof (ZRS Koper), *An Ethics of Deep Immanence* 14.30 – 15.00

Pier Francesco Corvino (ZRS Koper), *From Subtle Bodies to Temperament: On Elemental Transfiguration* 15.00 – 15.30

Marjolein Oele (Radboud University), *Grasping Elemental Loss in Times of Climate Change: From Infinitesimal Changes to Affective and Cognitive Disorientation* 15.30 – 16.00

**Coffee Break**

### Keynote Lecture

David Abram (University of Oxford), *On the Spherical Shape of Time* 16.30 – 18.00

**Dinner and Cultural Programme** 19.00

# TUESDAY, JUNE 16: ENVIRONMENTAL ENCOUNTERS

## MORNING SESSION: ENVIRONMENTAL IMAGINATIONS

### Plenary Lecture

Serenella Iovino (UNC Chapel Hill), *Thinking Arks: Animals and the Origins of Human Imagination* 10.00 – 11.00

### Coffee Break

Alberto Parisi (Kobe University, ZRS Koper), *Cultivating Beauty: Sakura and the Metamorphosis of Culture* 11.30 – 12.00

Giovanbattista Tusa (Universidade Nova de Lisboa), *Indestructible Relations: Notes on Elemental Politics* 12.00 – 12.30

**Lunch** 12.30 – 14.30

## AFTERNOON SESSION: ELEMENTAL WISDOM

Cirila Toplak (University of Ljubljana), *“Living through” the Elements* 14.30 – 15.00

Maja Bjelica & Petri Berndtson (ZRS Koper), *Experiencing the Elements: Salt-working as Environmental Wisdom* 15.00 – 15.30

### Coffee Break

### Distinguished Artist Lecture

Marko Pogačnik, *Intelligence of Nature and its Elemental Beings* 16.00 – 17.00

**Concluding Remarks (session with coffee and tea)** 17.00

**Dinner and Cultural Programme** 19.00