

Visuality and Extraction: Materiality, Interpretation, Power

Centre for Visual Arts and Culture (CVAC) Symposium

16-18 June, 2025

Hotel Indigo, 9 New Elvet, Durham, DH1 3HL

Programme

Monday 16 June

9.00-9.30	Registration and welcome	
9.30-12.30	Keynote Laura Sillars	Mineral Technologies: Tracing the aesthetics of extraction from arts history to the digital screen.
12.30-13.15	Lunch	
13.15-14.45	Panel Rio Creech	Photography Rubber and Rifles: the role of photography in the fight to dominate the natural rubber industry in late colonial Malaya
	Rosalind Hayes	Extracting Animals: Creaturely Materiality and Early Photography
	Sophie Piper	Towards an Inclusive Re/visualisation of Women's Work
14.45-15.15	Break	
15.15-16.15	Film screening Penelope Anthias	<i>Urukurenda: In Search of the Land Without Evil (Ívĩ Maraëi)</i>
16.30 – 18.00	Sabrina Sallis	How to Explain Pictures to a Dead Planet: A Non-Extractive Approach to Art and Knowledge. Pedagogy Against Extraction: Earthbound Learning as Radical Visuality. (Art walk)

Tuesday 17 June

9.00-9.30	Tea/coffee	
9.30-11.15	Panel	Questions of method
	Sahar Sagha	Instagram as a Digital Mine During the Protest
	Peter Whitton	Extracting academic identity: doors and desks, the social production of personal university spaces
	Megan Kuster and Sarah Comyn	The 'EXTRACTS' project: Fostering collectives of creative-critical practice
11.15-11.30	Break	
11.30-13.00	Panel	Temporalities of Extraction: Narratives of Social and Environmental Violence and Transformation
	Jenny Terry	Sedimenting Black Geologies in Fiction and Art
	Adam Bridgen	Imagining Slow Violence during the Industrial Revolution: Metaphors of Extraction in Labouring-Class Poetry
	Rebecca Macklin	Visualising Relations in the Tar Sands: Extraction, Aesthetics, and Repair
13.00-13.45	Lunch	
13.45-15.15	Panel	Plans, maps, and information
	Mike Crang	'Through the hush'd Chorasmian waste... shorn and parcell'd Oxus strains along': from visions of engineering to depictions of disaster, from imaginaries of abundance to emptiness in the demise of the Aral Sea.
	Renwen Xu	Extracting Meaning in Multimodal Museum Spaces: A Cognitive Perspective on Visitor Experience
	Oliver Betts	From Mine to Station to Sea – Extractive Stories in the collections of the National Railway Museum and Locomotion.
15.15-15.45	Break	
15.30-17.00	Panel	Games and exploration
	Simon James	Maps, Male Bonding and Making it Up: Arthur Conan Doyle's <i>The Lost World</i>
	Ladan Cockshut	Did you <i>Factorio</i> that in when you extracted <i>No Man's Sky</i> ?: <i>Minecrafting</i> the visualities of extraction in videogames.
	Inês Barreiros	The 16th hole of Vale do Lobo Golf Resort: plantanoceno, visuality, and ancestral future
17.00-18.30	Stuart Jones	Geology walk around Durham
18.30	Optional pub + dinner	

Wednesday 18 June

9.00-9.30	Tea/coffee	
9.30-12.00	Keynote David Campbell	Title tbc.
12.00-13.00	Lunch	
13.00-15.00	Round-up and next steps	Open discussion
15.00	Close	