“The Aesthetics of Decay: Creative Modes of Destruction”
International Conference

22 February 2020
St Anne's College, University of Oxford

organised by
London Centre for Interdisciplinary Research

Programme

9:00-9:30 Registration

9:30-10:50 Session 1:
Chair: Nicholas Wernicki

Amy Melia, Liverpool John Moores University (UK)
Urban Ruin in Radical Socio-Aesthetic Practice: Decay as an Insurgent Creative Device Within Capitalist-Urbanism

Ben Jack Nash, Independent Scholar and Artist (France/UK)
Decay as Shifts From Material to Abstract Identities in Physical and Socio-Political Matter

Pauline Georgiou, Goldsmiths, University of London (UK)
Urban Exploration in the Cyprus Green Line: Heritage and Identity-Making in the Decay

Christopher Pizzino, University of Georgia (USA)
Old Feelings: Decaying Infrastructure and Affective Economies in Twenty-First Century Cinema of the US South

10:50-11:00 Tea/Coffee
11:00-12:10 Session 2:
Chair: Sun Xin

Nergis Kalli, Newcastle University (UK)
The Architecture of Impermanence

Clementine Monro, University of Lincoln (UK)
Architectural Dialogues of the Evolving Ruin

Juliette Losq, Arts University Bournemouth (UK)
Spatial Perception and Ruin Landscapes: Constructing Sites of Ruination Through the Medium of the Teleorama

12:10-12:50 Lunch

12:50-14:10 Session 3:
Chair: Clementine Monro

Nicholas Wernicki, Albright College (USA)
Until the Water: The Dynamical Sublime and Transphenomenality

Abigail T. Wernicki, Holy Family University, Philadelphia (USA)
Decay, Absence, and the Ontological Sublime: An Extension of Schopenhauer’s Aesthetics

Justin Armstrong, Wellesley College (USA)
Toward an Object-Oriented Hauntology: The Ethnographic Half-Lives of Things

Paloma Orozco Scott, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai (USA)
An Ethics of Decay: Empathy as a Practice of Desirous Self-Annihilation

14:10-14:20 Tea/Coffee

14:20-15:30 Session 4:
Chair: Amy Melia

Renata Buziak, Queensland College of Art, Griffith University (Australia)
Organic Decomposition as an Alternative Method of Visually Representing Plant Specimens’ Characteristics

Sun Xin, Capital Normal University (China)
The Positive Destruction: Landscape Ink Painting in Chinese Contemporary Art
Fergal Gough, University College Cork (Ireland)
The Wind: Source of Renewal or Agent of Decay?

15:40-17:00 Session 5:
Chair: Olena Lytovka

Katerina García-Walsh, University of St Andrews (UK)
R.L. Stevenson’s Decadent Spain

Savannah J. Lee, New Mexico Highlands University (USA)
Gothic Themes of Terror in Edgar Allan Poe’s The Fall of the House of Usher

Talia Varoğlu, University of British Columbia (Canada)
Ad Mortem: Collapsing Hegemonic Western Models of “Good Death”

Dorota Horvath, University of Kent (UK)
The Chaos in the Fiction of Joyce Carol Oates: Revisiting the aesthetics of Oates’ Wonderland Quartet through the Lens of Postmodern Nietzsche