Mountains dis:connect

A workshop at the Paris Lodron University Salzburg

From the perspective of art and cultural history, mountains have not only been an important subject of visual practices, from landscape painting to (travel) photography, they have also been understood as sites that can be highly charged with national, cultural and religious symbolism. Inspired by these neighbouring fields, global history is currently discovering mountains as sites where global entanglements manifest themselves and emphasise how deeply embedded local and regional processes are in global webs of connections and (potentially conflicting) interests.

For long, high altitudes have not played a particularly prominent role in the study of global history. The field's focus rested firmly on sites and structures whose role in global connectivity was instantly recognisable. Mountains and mountainous regions were often considered obstacles that had to be negotiated, crossed or circumvented, as natural borders, as impassable territory, as hide-outs and retreats, as watersheds and rain shadows. In short, mountains and high altitudes were long regarded as disruptive elements in an otherwise globalising world.

This workshop seeks to integrate the connective and the disruptive perspectives on the role of mountains in globalisation. With its innovative focus on dis:connection, it identifies mountains as sites where connecting and disconnecting processes intersect, and where they create a powerful tension with regards to regional changes.

Your participation is understood to imply consent to photgraphic and video recordings for internal purposes, scholarly communication and publicity.

Should you have any concerns, please contact Sophie Eisenried at sophie.eisenried@lmu.de.



Mountains dis:connect

Concept and organisation: Martin Knoll Eva-Maria Troelenberg Roland Wenzlhuemer



Please register by 12 June 2024: https://www.globaldisconnect.org/registration/ A link will be sent for remote participation upon registration. 20–21 June 2024

Paris Lodron University Salzburg Erzabt–Klotz–Str. 1 5020 Salzburg, Austria Convene at Unipark First floor, room 1.005

Thursday, 20 June 2024

13:00 Registration

13:30 Welcome & Introduction

14:00 Inventions/Imaginaries

Benjamin Cowan (UC San Diego): "Maravilhas do Brasil" : Race, Patriotism, and Topography in Early Imaginaries of Brazilian Mountaineering

Fynn Holm (University of Tübingen): Alpine Orientalism: The British Invention of the Japanese Alps

Lauren Kroiz (UC Berkeley): 1906 in the High Sierra, California, USA

15:30 Coffee break

16:00 Visions/Visuality

Violaine Gourbet (Université de Tours): "The troubles began with our watching the diligences": Visual and Literary Representations of Travelling Coaches across the Alps (19th Century)

Tatyana Bakhmetyeva (University of Rochester)/Stewart Weaver (University of Rochester): Of Ice and Mountains: The Art and Science of Glaciers, 1834–1934

Siddharth Pandey (Shimla): (In)Compatible Aesthetics?: Embodied Visions and Graded Commensurabilities of the "Global Picturesque" in the Perception of Colonial Indian Hill Stations

Lucia Leoni (University of Fribourg): The Evolution of Mountain Films and International Mountain Culture Seen Through the Development of the International Alpine Film Festival of *Les Diablerets*

18:30 Conference dinner for panelists

Friday, 21 June 2024

9:00 Knowledge

Lucas Mueller (Université de Genève): The Snow and its Global Metamorphosis, c. 1950

Alexander Jost (Paris Lodron University Salzburg): Polar Mountains in Global Geographical Imagination

- 10:00 Coffee break
- 10:30 Economy, Society, and Nature

Christof Jeggle (University of Vienna)/Margareth Lanzinger (University of Vienna): Connecting Agents of Transit Transportation in Eighteenth-Century Tyrol Kristýna Kaucká (Masaryk Institute and Archives of the CAS): Bark Beetle at the Peak: Forest Calamities in the Mountainous Region of Böhmerwald in the 1870s Judd Kinzley (UW - Madison/global dis:connect): Mountains, 'Mountain Products', and the Rugged Features of Global Capitalism

- 12:00 Lunch break
- 13:30 Geopolitics

Tanja Zimmermann (University of Leipzig): The Julian Alps as a Stage for European Geopolitics

Robert Obermair (Paris Lodron University Salzburg): Hope After the Shoah -A Mountain Pass as the Gate to the World

14:30 Concluding remarks

