

A stylized map of Antarctica and Africa is shown in white against a light blue background. The map is oriented with Antarctica at the top and Africa at the bottom. The text is overlaid on the map.

ANTARCTICA, AFRICA & THE ARTS

WORKSHOP

23-25 MAY 2022

AGULHAS NATIONAL PARK



--- welcome!

This workshop is intended as an incubator for an African Antarctic humanities and arts community. We are happy to welcome those who are already working on these topics, while also hopefully stimulating new interest in those who aren't (yet) doing so – in Antarctica, the islands, the Southern Ocean, and our south-facing coastlines more generally in a time of melting ice and rising seas.

This workshop is an experiment in bringing scientific knowledge into conversation with artistic and literary engagements with the region, within our unique historical and political context. We hope that you will enter into the spirit of creative and future-oriented thinking, as we shape this new terrain together.

We also hope that the conference location itself will become a part of our conversations. Cape Agulhas, located at the southernmost tip of mainland Africa and designated the official meeting point of the Atlantic and Indian Oceans, should be a generative space from which to explore the interrelationship between Africa and Antarctica.

We look forward to your participation!
Charne, Adrienne & Sophy

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U IS NOU OP DIE MEES
SUIDEKE PUNT VAN DIE
VASTELAND VAN AERIKA
KAAP/CAPE T'AGULHAS
YOU ARE NOW AT THE
SOUTHERN MOST TIP OF THE
CONTINENT OF AFRICA

INDIAN OCEAN

ATLANTIC OCEAN

--- venue and logistics

We will be staying at the **Agulhas Rest Camp** and have booked all the cottages, as well as the main **Lagoon House** (where our presentations and meals will take place). Please note that this is not by any means a formal conference venue, and comes with a certain amount of homeliness and informality.

Please see the Agulhas National Park (ANP) website for more details:
<https://www.sanparks.org/parks/agulhas>

Covid context: We are aware that cases of Covid-19 are again on the rise and will try to do what we can to minimise risks. Please bring warm clothes to allow us to keep windows and doors open wherever possible, feel free to keep your mask on if you are concerned, and let us know if you have any specific questions or suggestions.



Transport to the ANP | Once you get the to the ANP

We have arranged a shuttle for everyone who requested transport to the ANP. Please meet us in the parking lot of the **Starke Ayres Garden Centre** (21 Liesbeek Parkway, Rosebank, Cape Town) at **09.00** on Monday morning.

For those driving: there is no need to stop at reception once you get to the ANP – we have submitted your SANParks forms, and collected the keys and access cards. Please drive straight to the Agulhas Rest Camp. We will all meet at the **Lagoon House at 13.00** for a welcome lunch.

From the park entrance: drive past the Cape Agulhas lighthouse towards Suiderstrand >>> past the Meisho Maru shipwreck >>> through Suiderstrand >>> turn left at the T-junction >>> Adrienne will open the gate (please phone her when entering the park)



Presentations | Internet

We will have a laptop, projector, screen and speakers available for all the presentations (not quite as analogue anymore!). If your presentation uses an uncommon filetype, please let us know ahead of time so that we can ensure that we will be able to open it. To help us stay on schedule, please send your presentation to us ahead of time or give it to us before the start of your session – this will allow us to do a quick test drive.

We will set up a 4G router to serve as a wireless access point in the Lagoon House, but please note that mobile and data signals in the ANP are patchy. If you will need internet access for your presentation, please create screen recordings or screenshots as backups.

Catering

There will be good coffee, delicious meals and catered breaks throughout the workshop. To accommodate all dietary requirements, our meals will be mainly vegetarian (with locally caught fish for the first supper). We will have non-alcoholic drinks and wine available in the evenings – if you would prefer to drink something else, please feel free to BYO.

What we recommend bringing

- Warm clothing, wind- and waterproof jacket
- Comfortable walking shoes (the cottages are approximately 700m from the Lagoon House; there are also several trails that you may wish to explore during the breaks)
- Sunscreen, hat, sunglasses
- Swimming gear (all cottages are close to the lagoon and ocean)
- Headlamp / torch / portable LED light (loadshedding; walking back to your cottage in the evening)
- Reusable water bottle, travel mug (as we try to reduce single-use plastics)



--- programme

Monday 23 May

- 09.00** Meet at parking lot of Starke Ayres Garden Centre for shuttle to L'Agulhas
- 13.00** Welcome lunch at Lagoon House
- 14.00** Check in (chalets)
- 15.00 Session 1**
Opening offering guided by Toni Giselle Stuart
Charne Lavery, *Introduction to the project*
Jean Brundrit, *Looking through a different lens: photographing in Antarctica*
- 16.00** Break
- 16.30 Session 2**
Jean McNeil, *The empir(e)ical sublime*
Tertius Kapp, *Extremophilia*
Screening: Victor Gama, *Vela 6911*
Roundtable | Sarah Nuttall, Masande Ntshanga, Safiyyah Moos
- 17.30** Break
- 19.00** Supper

Tuesday 24 May

- 08.00** Breakfast
- 09.00 Session 3**
Geoffrey Grantham, *A brief geological history of Antarctic–Southern African relationships and evolution*
Liesel Rudolph, *A geographer's take on Africa, Art and Antarctica*
Jaco Boshoff, *Marion Island archaeology*
- 10.30** Break
- 11.00 Session 4**
Toni Stuart, *Ocean Home* performance
Traci Kwaai, *Fisher Child*
Meghna Singh, *Journeys across the ocean: visualising human migrations via the story of three ships in Cape Town*
Adrienne van Eeden-Wharton, *Water/Log*
- 12.30** Lunch
- 14.00 Session 5**
Isabel Hofmeyr, *Southern African literature through Antarctica*
Sophy Kohler, *Towards a southern poetics of ice*
Charne Lavery, *Postcolonial Antarctica*
- 15.00** Break
- 15.30 Session 6**
Ria Olivier, *How South Africa became involved in the Antarctic region, including the sub-Antarctic and Southern Ocean*
ALSA digital repository demonstration
Roundtable | Louise Gammage, Toni Giselle Stuart, Tsholofelo Tshenkeng
- 17.00** Break
- 19.00** Supper

Wednesday 25 May

- 08.00** Breakfast
- 09.00 Informal discussion | Next steps**
- 10.00** Check out (chalets) and drive back to Cape Town; option to explore ANP

--- background reading

- Lauren Beukes, 'Her Seal Skin Coat,' *Current Futures: A sci-fi ocean anthology*, XPRIZE, 2022, <https://go.xprize.org/oceanstories/her-seal-skin-coat>
- Klaus J. Dodds, 'Postcolonial Antarctica: an emerging engagement,' *Polar Record*, vol. 42, no. 220, 2006, pp. 59–70.
- Elizabeth Leane, 'Placing Women in the Antarctic Literary Landscape,' *Signs*, vol. 34, no. 3, pp. 509–514.
- Mohale Mashigo, 'Floating Rugs,' *Current Futures: A sci-fi ocean anthology*, XPRIZE, 2022, <https://go.xprize.org/oceanstories/floating-rugs>
- Peder Roberts, Adrian Howkins and Lize-Marié van der Watt, 'Antarctica: A Continent for the Humanities,' *Antarctica and the Humanities*, edited by Peder Roberts, Adrian Howkins and Lize-Marié van der Watt. Palgrave Macmillan, 2016, pp. 1–23.
- Lance van Sittert, "Ironman": Joseph Daniels and the white history of South Africa's deep south,' *Polar Record*, vol. 51, no. 260, 2015, pp. 501–512.



