



Dipartimento di Filosofia e Beni Culturali



European Research Council

Established by the European Commission







April 29, 2021

Organizers:

Helge Wendt, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science Berlin / CRC 'Episteme in Motion', Freie Universität Berlin

Pietro Daniel Omodeo, Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Department of Philosophy and Cultural Heritage Max Planck Partner Group "The Water City" (Max Planck Society / MPI for the History of Science - Berlin) ERC "EarlyModernCosmology" (Horizon 2020, GA 725883)

Project "EarlyGeoPraxis" (FARE, Italian Ministry of University and Research)

For questions, the link of the event and registration, please contact:
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Guests hosted by the ERC
EarlyModernCosmology GA 725883
and the FARE EarlyGeoPraxis
project ID R184WNSTWH

Workshop ERC EarlyModernCosmology and FARE EarlyGeoPraxis project

Interactive Online Seminar with mandatory registration

Natural Resources in Early Modern Economies of Knowledge

9:30

Welcome and Introduction

9:40-10:20

Tina Asmussen (Deutsches Bergbau-Museum Bochum / Ruhr-Universität Bochum) *Mining and Resource Oeconomies in the Early Modern Period: A History of Vertical Entanglements*

10:20-11:00

Sebastian Felten (University of Vienna)
Georg Donat's Iudicium Astrologicum (1642)
for Marienberg: Timing and Mining in an
Early Modern Town

11:10-11:50

Helge Wendt (Max Planck Institute for the History of Science Berlin / CRC 'Episteme in Motion', Freie Universität Berlin)

The Origin of Coal: Earth History in Early Modernity

11:50-12:30

Joshua Hillman (University of Leeds)
Artisanal Insight and the Knowledge Economy
of Coal in Eighteenth-Century Europe

13:40-14:20

Francesco Luzzini (Max Planck Institute for the History of Science Berlin)

'The First and Proper Companion of Mines': Water and Ore Feneration in Biringuccio's De la pirotechnia (1540)

14:20-15:00

Volkhard Wels (CRC 'Episteme in Motion', Freie Universität Berlin) *Thurneysser on Water and Urine*

15:00-15:40

Simon Brandl (CRC 'Episteme in Motion', Freie Universität Berlin)

Chemical Mysticism in Daniel Mögling's Speculum Sophicum Rhodostauroticon

15:50-16:30

David Gentilcore (Ca' Foscari University of Venice) The politics of freshwater management in early modern Italy: Naples, Rome, Venice

16:30-17:10

Pietro Daniel Omodeo (Ca' Foscari University of Venice)

Fishing and Water Politics in Early Modern Venice 17:10-17:30 Roundup



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Natural Resources in Early Modern Economies of Knowledge

This workshop will focus on two resource groups: Water in urban and planetary contexts and mineral and metallic resources in mining contexts. Presentations will address the use of resources as well as their conceptualization as parts of a "nature" redefined from the perspective of resource exploitation in the early modern period. In terms of knowledge history, the workshop aims to understand the assimilation process in relation to the respective contexts and the respective resources. At the same time, this resource-related knowledge will be placed in tension with a (post-)Copernican understanding of planetary contexts and a planetary unity in the consideration of an early modern construction of nature. Thus, human agency with respect to natural processes and conditions is also included in a comprehensive dimension of the workshop's considerations. Water management and mining are forms of early modern "geoengineering" and link resource management to planetary theories of nature. Thus, these areas are early, effective and irreversible interventions in nature, as described by the Anthropocene in the twentieth century with the help of large-scale technology. Therefore, the workshop seeks to also trace the idea of a Protoanthropocene that comprises aspects of practice, domination, and epistemology in socio-natural environments.

