

Workshop

LEARNING FROM THE PAST, ACTING FOR THE FUTURE: HISTORY AND THE STRUGGLE FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE

17 December 2021 - Universität Zürich - KO2-G-275

Schedule

14:30-16:30

- *History, the Arts, and Activism. Different Perspectives on Climate Change*

16:30-17:00

- **Coffee break**

17:00-18:30

- Roundtable - *Thinking the Past to Act in the Present: How History Can Inspire Climate Action*

Guest speakers

- Drielli Peyerl (Instituto de Energia e Ambiente, University of São Paulo)
- Pedro Wirz (artist)
- Milo Probst (University of Basel)
- Steven Tamburini (Climate March Switzerland)
- Bertrand Sansonnens (Pro Natura - Friends of the Earth Switzerland)
- Clement Verger (artist / Casa de Velázquez)

Organizers

- Antoine Acker, Nathalia Capellini and Lukas Becker (SNSF Eccellenza Project "AnthropoSouth: Latin American Oil Revolutions in the Development Century". Graduate Institute, Geneva)

Climate change has become the biggest challenge of our times. Around the world the issue has provoked political and societal discussions around solutions, as well as artistic interventions questioning humanity's place and engagement with nature, and given rise to protest movements demanding climate justice under the banner of "Strikes for Future". But what is the role of the past, or rather the field of History, in all of this?

What can History learn from the current dynamic activism and from artistic engagement and how can academic knowledge about the origins of climate change and issues such as energy transitions contribute to our current debates around responsibility and solutions? How can we bridge the gap between academia and society, between the ivory tower and the streets?

By bringing together scholars of Latin American Environmental History, as well as activists and artists dealing with the challenges of the Anthropocene and global climate justice, the workshop aims at starting a critical dialogue about the possible role of historians and historical narratives in the global efforts to combat the existential climate challenge. Combined, the lessons of the past and the struggles of the present might give us answers for a reimagined future

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