

Sylvia Wynter has produced a rich body of work synthesizing Black studies, anthropology, cybernetics, literary studies, Caribbean studies, feminist theory, and more. One pivotal concept within her theoretical apparatus is that of the human. Despite its use as a cultural weapon, empty promise, theological gambit, or justification for colonial conquest, Wynter thinks the human has yet to be properly articulated.

For Wynter, the human operates at multiple scales, ranging from individual consciousness, to its embeddedness in a specific 'genre' of being human, to the racialized distribution of humanness at the planetary scale. At the same time, in her analysis, the term 'Man' has served as an exclusionary substitute for the human. This orthogonal humanism has invited a volley of disparate readings. Wynter has been rallied, among other things, to afropessimism, posthumanism, counter-humanism, and postcolonial and decolonial thought.

This one-day symposium aims to articulate the stakes of Wynter's work and its reception by way of attending to the different scales of the human, and of how the cosmological, philosophical, theological, economic, scientific, and political narratives in her work map onto one another and generate a rethinking of 'the human project'.

11:00 Welcome and Coffee

11:30

Henrike Kohpeiss

Infinite Catastrophes:

Ecological Crisis and Scales of the Human

12:00

Kirill Chepurin

Sylvia Wynter and

the Post-Copernican Construction

of the Human

12:30 Lunch Break

14:00

Matthew Milbourne

If it don't feel good, you ain't doing it right:

Some Notes Towards the Wynterian Itinerary

14:30

Lama El Khatib

Thinking with Wynter:

Notes on Myth, Unsettling, and the 'We'

15:00 Coffee Break

15:30

Yaniya Lee

Wynter's Toolbox:

Notes from Artists and Scholars

16:00

Ben Woodard

Missed Links:

Sylvia Wynter's Biological Thought

16:30 Coffee Break

17:00

Tobi Haslett

NHI Revisited: Rebellion, Politics, Time

17:30

Jackqueline Frost

Wynter, Césaire, *poiesis*

Organized by

Kirill Chepurin, Tobi Haslett, Ben Woodard

Sylvia Wynter and the Scales of the Human

