

ORGANIZED BY

ETIENNE BENSON (MPIWG), LUIS CAMPOS (RICE UNIVERSITY), MATHIAS GROTE (UNIVERSITÄT GREIFSWALD), SALOME RODECK (MPIWG)

Situating the Symbiotic Planet

A Workshop on Lynn Margulis in Science, Culture, and Society

July 11-12, 2024

Harnack-Haus, 14195 Berlin, Germany

Lise-Meitner-Saal

DAY 1 - Thursday, July 11

9:30–10:00am

Meet & Greet

10:00–10:30am

Welcome and Introductions

Politics & History

10:30–11:05am

A Microhistory of Hypothetical
Microbes: Margulis and the Politics of a
Symbiotic Cell

Nuala Caomhánach (NYU)

11:05–11:40am

De pénsums y células: Lynn Margulis
and the U.S. Peace Corps Colombia
Project

Ana María Gómez-López
(Sandberg Institute)

Coffee Break

12:00–12:20am

Comment: Nic Rasmussen
(University of New South Wales)

Lunch Break

Poetics

1:20–1:55pm

“My Neighbor Emily”: Lynn Margulis on
Pleasure, Poetry, and Proximity in Life
and Symbiosis

Caitlin Kossmann (Yale University)

1:55–2:30pm

Lynn Margulis, The Romantic Scientist
Samira Daneshvar
(Harvard University)

2:30–2:50pm

Comment: Pascal Eitler
(Forschungsstelle für
Zeitgeschichte, Hamburg)

Coffee Break

3:15–4:30pm

Small-group sessions

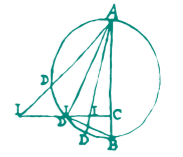
4:30–6:00pm

Open discussion and screening of
excerpts from *Symbiotic Earth*

Presentations by junior scholars: 25 minutes plus 10-minute Q&A

Contributions from senior scholars: 20 minutes (no Q&A)

Small group sessions: 2-3 senior scholars plus 3-4 junior scholars



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DAY 2 - Friday, July 12

10:00–10:15am

Introduction by Organizers

Life & Systems

10:15–10:50am

The Ontology of Lynn Margulis:
Between Symbiosis and Autopoiesis
Sarah Cathey
(Université de Paris 8)

10:50–11:25am

Acytota:
Viruses, Cellular Life, and the legacy of
Margulis
Zia Forrai (Rice University)

Coffee Break

11:40–12pm

Comment:
Jamie Foster
(University of Florida)

Lunch Break

1:00–1:35pm

Margulis and the symbiotic conception
of life. Relationality and identity in
endosymbiosis

Aurore Franco
(Université Paris 1 Panthéon
Sorbonne)

1:35–1:55pm

Comment: Stefan Helmreich (MIT)

Coffee Break

2:10–3:30pm

Small-group sessions

3:30–4:30pm

Concluding discussion



Moving Earths, a conference-performance by Bruno Latour and
Frédérique Aït-Touati, Compagnie Zone Critique, Paris. © Patrick
Laffont de Lojo