

Natural Disasters and the Apocalypse

Peter Richards Room, Hughes Hall, University of Cambridge

13 September 2018

9.30am-10.15am Arrive, welcome, and tea, coffee, and cake

10.15am-11.30am Plenary: **Koichi Watanabe (National Institute of Japanese Literature, National Institutes for Humanities and SOKENDAI, Japan), 'Natural Disasters and Beliefs in Divine Punishment and Eschatology in Early Modern Japanese Metropolis'**

Break

11.40am-12.15pm **Vincenzo Lisciani Petrini (La Sapienza University, Rome), 'Facing the Abyss: Comparative Perspectives on the Apocalypse and Disaster in Melville, Buzzati and Beckett'**

Break

12.25pm-1pm **Corinna Guerra (LabEx HASTEC, Paris), 'How to Avoid a Volcanic Eruption Becoming an Apocalypse Thanks to Chemical Knowledge in Modern Naples'**

1-2pm lunch

2-3.15pm Plenary: **Vanessa Harding (Birkbeck, London), 'Plague and Fire in Early Modern London'**

3.15pm Tea, coffee, biscuits

3.25-4pm **Will Sipling (University of St Thomas), 'A Critical-Mythological Examination of Natural Disaster Theodicies in Modern/Global/Connected Societies'**

Break

4.15-5.30pm Plenary: **Bill McGuire (University College London), 'A Guide to the End of the World: Everything You Never Wanted to Know'**

6.45pm **Evening meal for speakers**