Plantation Worlds: A Syllabus

This collection of readings—which also includes an addendum featuring films, music, and visual art—has been curated by Sophie Sapp Moore and Aida Arosoaie. Bringing together resources from Black and Indigenous Studies, Agrarian Studies, Caribbean and Postcolonial Studies, poetry, art, and film, this list situates the Plantationocene concept within and against long-standing critiques of extractive racial capitalism. Committed to careful considersation of myriad plantation forms that have emerged in different times and places—from the sugarcane fields of the Canary Islands in the 1400s to contemporary oil palm estates in Indonesia—this interdisciplinary syllabus is organized around world-building practices of making, unmaking, and regeneration that have defined plantation worlds since their inception. For a more detailed discussion, see Moore and Arosoaie's "A Syllabus for Plantation Worlds."

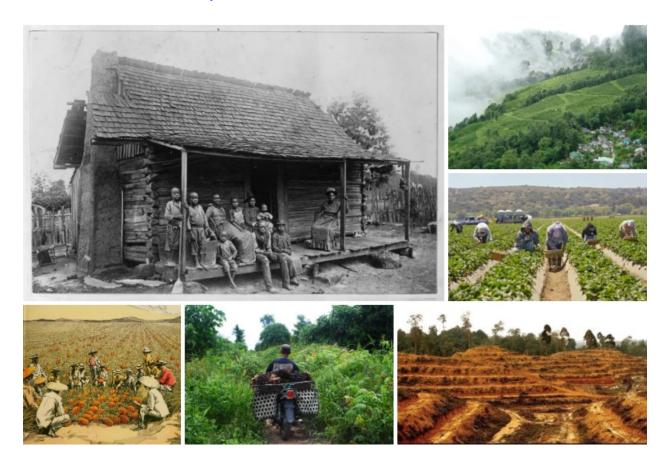


Image credit, clockwise from left: "A Slave Cabin in Barbour County, Near Eufaula." Photo from Federal Writer's Project, United States Work Projects Administration (USWPA), 1936-1938. Courtesy of the Library of Congress; Tea plantation in Darjeeling. Photo from Wikimedia, 2011; Strawberry plantation in California. Photo by Holgerhubbs, 2009; Hawaiian pineapple plantation, circa 1914; A villager transports oil palm fruits in Jambi, Indonesia. Photo by Iddy Farmer/CIFOR, 2010; Deforested lands in Sumatra, Indonesia, being prepared for large scale palm oil development. Photo from Wikimedia, 2016.

Making

Planting: Plantationocene(s)

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This syllabus foregrounds ways of knowing and being that racial capitalism silences.

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Unmaking

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We hope to highlight the insurgences that are always present within plantation worlds as worldmaking in their own right.

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Regeneration

Reckoning

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World-making is a central function of plantations.

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Abolition

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Multimedia Addendum

Visual Art

Rosana Paulino - *Búfalas & Jatobas* (2019, Mendes Wood DM) - https://www.biennaleofsydney.art/artists/rosana-paulino/

Rosana Paulino - *Red Atlantic* (2017, Pinacoteca) http://www.rosanapaulino.com.br/blog/

Jose Alves de Olinda

https://imaginariobrasileiro.com.br/blogs/news/significados-e-inspiracoes-que-envolvem-a-arte-do-mestre-jose-alves

Sidney Amaral

https://tamarind.unm.edu/artist/sidney-amaral/

Toyin Ojih Odutola - *Defying the Shadow* (2020 - 2021, Risd Museum) https://risdmuseum.org/exhibitions-events/exhibitions/defying-shadow

Simryn Gill & Tuassing - Becoming Palm (2015, Center for the Contemporary Art Singapore)

https://www.sternberg-press.com/product/becoming-palm/

John E Dowell Jr - *Cotton* (2018, African American Museum Philadelphia) https://johndowell.com/photographs/cotton/

M Lamar - Negrogothic, a Manifesto: The Aesthetics of M Lamar (2014, Participant INC)

http://www.participantinc.org/seasons/season-13/negrogothic participantinc.org/content/2-seasons/7-season-13/1-negrogothic/mlamarpr.pdf

Ernest Zacharevic and Charlotte Pyatt - *Splash & Burn* (Virtual) https://www.splashandburn.org/why-we-do-it

Kara Walker - *A Subtlety, or the Marvelous Sugar Baby* (2014, Domino Sugar Factory) https://www.nytimes.com/2014/05/12/arts/design/a-subtlety-or-the-marvelous-sugar-baby-at-the-domino-plant.html

Film

Rue Cases Nègres (Dir. Euzhan Palcy, 1983) https://www.festival-cannes.com/en/films/rue-cases-negres

The Land Beneath Our Feet (Dir. Gregg Mitman and Sarita Siegel, 2016) https://www.thelandbeneathourfeet.com/

The Big Banana (Dir. Franck Bieleu, 2014)

https://www.amazon.com/Big-Banana-Franck-Bieleu/dp/B00DB5F2CC https://www.africanfilm.com/products/the-big-banana?variant=31528604467257

Indochine (Dir. Régis Wargnier, 1992) https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0104507/

Daughters of the Dust (Dir. Julie Dash, 1991) https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0104057/

La tierra y la sombra (Dir. César Augusto Acevedo, 2015) https://www.imdb.com/title/tt4663992/

Sound

Meshell Ndegeocello - *Tiny Desk (Home) Concert* https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I7db2X9RA2Y

-- Plantation Lullabies

https://open.spotify.com/album/3K1ZZP9cAwUGxZHYrUv7Qe?si=3VlErjKOTlSrJ5F5-yWzsw

Katherine McKittrick - *Dear Science and Other Stories*https://open.spotify.com/playlist/7AIBjDWfHnQg9oYziFETDW?si=bD-tmsR9SiKvKP83UJ_Rag

Janelle Monáe - *The ArchAndroid*https://open.spotify.com/album/7MvSB0JTdtl1pSwZcgvYQX?si=tSOm3r7_R56MxaZu11M0Fw

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Additional support provided by the Center for Humanities, the Robert F. and Jean E. Holtz Center for Science and Technology Studies, and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.







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