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 consideration 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.”

Making

**Planting: Plantationocene(s)**


**Planting: Afterlives**


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Relocation


**Dispossession**


**Extraction**


Transformation


Unmaking

Disruption


Insurgence


**Reformation**


**Fugitivity**


Regeneration

Reckoning


Play available to watch online until June 30, 2021: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=urFD1WEXuy4&feature=emb_title


Reparation


Abolition


Multimedia Addendum

Visual Art

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

http://www.rosanapaulino.com.br/blog/

Jose Alves de Olinda

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

Toyin Ojih Oduotola - *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://johndowell.com/photographs/cotton/

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)

*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=3VlErjKOTISrJ5F5-yWzsw

Katherine McKittrick - *Dear Science and Other Stories*
https://open.spotify.com/playlist/7AIBjDWFhNhQ9oYziFETDW?si=bD-tmsR9SiKvKP83UJ_Rag

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