

Dr SIMON FERDINAND

curriculum vitae

website: www.simonferdinand.com | email address: s.r.ferdinand@gmail.com

I am an interdisciplinary researcher in the environmental humanities, geography, and visual culture, with a focus on the politics and poetics of visually representing the earth. By critically rethinking histories of mapmaking and visions of the whole earth, my work explores how imaginations of planetary space mediate and shape relations of power among humans and nonhuman environments.

EDUCATION

2012–17 **Ph.D., Cultural Analysis**
University of Amsterdam
Conferred *cum laude*

Dissertation: “I Map Therefore I am Modern: Cartography and Global Modernity in the Visual Arts.” Supervisors: Prof. Esther Peeren (Cultural Analysis), Prof. Jeroen de Kloet (Globalization Studies)

2010–12 **MRes, Theatre and Performance Studies**
University of Warwick
Conferred with distinction

Dissertation: “Beneath the Straw Stars of Modernity: Legacies of Romanticism in Modernist Performance Practice.” Supervisors: Prof. Daniel Katz (English and Literary Studies), Dr. Margaret Shewring (Theatre and Performance Studies)

2007–10 **BA, Theatre and Performance Studies**
University of Warwick
Conferred with first class honors

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

2021–25 **Postdoctoral researcher (VENI laureate)**, Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis, University of Amsterdam. Position fully funded by a VENI grant from the Netherlands Research Organization (NWO). Four-year independent research project, “Untimely World Pictures: Confronting the Anthropocene Through Historical Representations of the Global Environment.”

2019 **Temporary lecturer**, Literary and Cultural Analysis, University of Amsterdam. Responsibilities: supervised and assessed 5 BA and 2 MA dissertations.

- 2017 **Temporary lecturer**, Literary and Cultural Analysis, University of Amsterdam. Responsibilities (shared with Dr Rudolph Glitz): redesigned, delivered, and assessed the MA course "Narrative and Globalisation." 15 x 4 hr. seminars; 20 students.
- 2016 **Temporary lecturer**, Humanities, Amsterdam University College. Responsibilities: redesigned, delivered, and assessed the BA course "Introduction to Visual Methodologies." 56 x 1.5 hr. seminars; 31 students.
- 2012–16 **Ph.D. researcher**, Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis (ASCA), University of Amsterdam. Four-year independent research project, "Map Art: Alternative Visions of Globalisation." Fully funded by the ASCA and Amsterdam Center for Globalisation Studies.
- 2012 **Temporary lecturer**, History of Art, University of Warwick. Responsibilities: redesigned, delivered, and assessed the BA course "Contemporary Art." 10 x 1 hr. seminars; 16 students.

ENTREPRENEURIALISM

- 2018–present **English Academic Editing** (www.eaediting.nl; freelance company)
- established and run a highly successful company providing academic editing, publication consultation, and publicity writing;
 - edited hundreds of articles, dissertations, funding proposals, and other texts, including books that have appeared with Cambridge, Edinburgh, Fordham, Oxford, and Stanford university presses;
 - worked extensively in the museum sector, including editing for the Louvre Abu Dhabi, the Netherlands' National Museum of World Cultures, the directors of the British Museum and the Louvre Paris, and the presidents of the Getty Trust, Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities, and many other museums around the world.

FUNDING SECURED

- 2024 Awarded €2,200 by the Netherlands' Center for Cultural Analysis and Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis to co-organize the international symposium "The Aesthetics of Geopower: Imagining Planetary Histories and Hegemonies."
- 2020 VENI grant awarded from the Netherlands Research Organization (NWO) for the four-year individual research project "Untimely World Pictures: Confronting the Anthropocene Through Historical Representations of the Global Environment." €250,000. One of 161 successful candidates out of 1,176 applicants.

- 2017 Awarded €3,500 by the Amsterdam Centre for Globalisation Studies to co-organize the international symposium "Other Globes: Past and Peripheral Imaginations of the Global."
- 2012 Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis doctoral fellowship (four years of full funding). One of four successful candidates selected from over 400 applicants.
- 2012 AHRC Doctoral Award in English, University of Exeter (three years of full funding; funding offer declined).
- 2012 Wolfson Foundation Ph.D. Scholarship in History, University of Warwick (three years of full funding; funding offer declined).

HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2020 Ph.D. dissertation one of six works shortlisted for the Karel van Mander Prize 2020 for an outstanding work of art history in the Netherlands between 2015 and 2020.
- 2018 Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis Dissertation Award for the best Ph.D. dissertation defended in the research school in the 2017–2018 academic year. €500 prize money.
- 2017 Ph.D. dissertation awarded *cum laude*, the highest possible distinction in the Dutch doctoral system, awarded to only 5% of Ph.D. candidates following a rigorous review process by a six-member multi-disciplinary committee and two anonymous external reviewers.
- 2012 MRes dissertation conferred with distinction, the highest possible marking tier, following an assessment by one internal and one external examiner.
- 2010 BA Dissertation awarded the University of Warwick's Theatre Studies Prize for Best Research Essay.

PUBLICATIONS

MONOGRAPHS

- Untimely World Pictures: Images of the Earth, Histories of Geopower* (under contract, University of Toronto Press).
- Mapping Beyond Measure: Art, Cartography, and the Space of Global Modernity*, Cultural Geographies + Rewriting the Earth (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2019), 304 pages.

Reviews:

- Zach Thorpe, *Cartographic Perspectives* 105 (2024): 1–5.
- Ruth Watson, *Visual Studies* 38.3/4 (2023): 740–41.
- David McLaughlin, *Social & Cultural Geography* 23.2 (2022): 330–31.
- David Toohey, *Environment, Space, Place* 14.1 (2022): 126–30.
- Kristan M. Hanson, *H-Net Reviews* (2020), 1-3. URL: <https://www.h-net.org/reviews/showpdf.php?id=55380>.
- Mott Linn, *Views: Society of American Archivists' Visual Materials Section* (2020). URL: <https://saavms.wordpress.com/2020/06/09/book-reviews/>.
- Lucia Lovison-Golob, *Western Association of Map Libraries* 52.2 (2020). URL: <https://waml.org/waml-information-bulletin/volume-52-number-2/mapping-beyond-measure/>.

EDITED VOLUMES

Aesthetics of Geopower: Contested Planetary Imaginaries, coedited with Colin Sterling, Geothory (Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, under contract for expected publication in 2027).

Heterotopia and Globalisation in the Twenty-First Century, coedited with Irina Souch and Daan Wesselman (London: Routledge, 2020), 250 pages.

Reviews:

- J.H. Rubin, *CHOICE: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries* 58.6 (2021): 585.
- Robert T. Tally, Jr., *cultural geographies* 28.1 (2020): 207–8.

Other Globes: Past and Peripheral Imaginations of Globalization, coedited with Irene Villaescusa Illán and Esther Peeren, *Palgrave Studies in Globalization, Culture, and Society* (Cham: Palgrave Macmillan, 2019), 300 pages.

Review: Divya Dwivedi, *Arcadia* 55.1 (2020): 150–7.

JOURNAL ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

“Mining the Virgin Mountain: Personifying the Earth in Colonial Potosí,” *Environmental Humanities*. Accepted for publication in volume 18.2 (2026).

“Clashing Globes: Images of the Earth and Heidegger’s Thinking of Modernity,” *Environment, Space, Place* 15.1 (2023): 1–31.

“Being in the Globe: Hieronymus Bosch’s The Garden of Earthly Delights at the Fringes of Modern Globalism.” In *Other Globes: Past and Peripheral Imaginations of Globalization* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2019), pp. 63–84.

“Seeing the Self in the World: Attending to Banal Globalism in Urban Visual Cultures,” *Journal of Urban Cultural Studies* 5.2 (2018): 249–54. Special issue: “Urban Worlding,” edited by Carolyn Birdsall and Simone Kalkman.

“Cartography at Ground Level: Spectrality and Streets in Jeremy Wood’s *My Ghost and Meridians*.” In *Visualising the Street: New Practices of Documenting, Navigating and Imagining the City*, edited by Judith Naeff and Pedram Dibazar (Amsterdam University Press, 2018), pp. 137–60.

“Drawing Like a State: Maps, Modernity and Warfare in the Art of Gert Jan Kocken,” *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 35.2 (2017): 319–38.

“The Shock of the Whole: Phenomenologies of Global Mapping in Solomon Nikritin’s *The Old and the New*,” *GeoHumanities: Space, Place, and the Humanities* 2.1 (2016): 220–37.

EDITORIAL INTRODUCTIONS

“Introduction: An Aesthetics of the Earth for a New Age of Geopower,” co-authored with Colin Sterling. In *Aesthetics of Geopower* (Edinburgh University Press, under contract), 39 pages.

“Extractive Horizons: Introduction,” co-authored with Colin Sterling. In *Aesthetics of Geopower*, 4 pages.

“Conflicted Sovereignties: Introduction,” co-authored with Colin Sterling. In *Aesthetics of Geopower*, 4 pages.

“Earthly Vitalities: Introduction,” co-authored with Colin Sterling. In *Aesthetics of Geopower*, 3 pages.

“Introduction: Interrupting Globalisation: Heterotopia in the Twenty-First Century,” co-authored with Daan Wesselman and Irina Souch. In *Heterotopia and Globalisation in the Twenty-First Century* (Routledge, 2020), pp. 1–18.

“Introduction. Other Globes: An Introduction to Past and Peripheral Imaginations of Globalization,” co-authored with Irene Villaescusa Illán and Esther Peeren. In *Other Globes: Past and Peripheral Imaginations of Globalization* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2019), pp. 1–39.

CATALOGUE ESSAYS

"Worlds Apart: Prehistories of the Overview Effect / 'Χωριστοί Κόσμοι: Προϊστορίες της Πανοραμικής Ενύπωσης." In *Non-Catalog: 60th Thessaloniki International Film Festival*, edited by Orestis Andreadakis. Translated into Greek by Rosemary Tzanaki. (Thessaloniki: Thessaloniki Film Festival Publications, 2019), pp. 64–79.

Reprint 1: "Mons A Part: Prehistòries de l'effect de la Visió des de Dalt." In *Apunts Sobre la Impossibilitat de la Image del Món* [Notes about the impossibility of the image of the world], edited by Roc Domingo, Maite Villafranca, and Walmor Correa. Translated into Catalan by Brian Caffery. (Lleida: Institut D'Estudis Ilerdencs, 2019), unpaginated.

Reprint 2: "Worlds Apart: Prehistories of the Overview Effect," *Kunstlicht* 41.2/3 (2020): 19–24. Special issue: "On Maps," edited by Anna Sejbæk Torp-Pedersen.

"On the Untimeliness of Alison Hildreth's Printmaking 1974–2014." In *Alison Hildreth, Printmaking 1974–2014* (Berkeley: Edition One Books, 2015), pp.1–6. Essay solicited by artist.

BOOK REVIEWS

"Veronica della Dora, *The Mantle of the Earth: Genealogies of a Geographical Metaphor*," *Imago Mundi: The International Journal for the History of Cartography* 74.1 (2022): 125–6.

"James Elkins, *What Heaven Looks Like: Comments on a Strange Wordless Book*," *Visual Studies* 34.3 (2019): 305–6.

"Miriam Meissner, *Narrating the Global Financial Crisis: Urban Imaginaries and the Politics of Myth*," *Urban Studies* 55.15 (2018): 3492–9.

"Amy J. Elias and Christian Moraru, editors, *The Planetary Turn: Relationality and Geoaesthetics in the Twenty-First Century*," *cultural geographies* 25.2 (2018): 376.

"Jason Weems, *Barnstorming the Prairies: How Aerial Vision Shaped the Midwest*," *Visual Studies* 32.2 (2017): 198–200.

"Harriet Hawkins, *For Creative Geographies: Geography, Visual Arts and the Making of Worlds*," *AntipodeFoundation.org* (2014): 1–5. URL: <https://antipodeonline.org/2018/11/16/for-creative-geographies-geography-visual-arts-and-the-making-of-worlds/>.

"Mark Dorrian and Frédéric Pousin, editors, *Seeing from Above: The Aerial View in Visual Culture*," *Visual Studies*, 30.1 (2014): 112–3.

"Nanna Verhoeff, *Mobile Screens: The Visual Regime of Navigation*," *Visual Studies*, 29.1 (2014): 122–3.

"Karen O'Rourke, *Walking and Mapping: Artists as Cartographers*," *Cartographica*, 48.4 (2013): 337–8.

"Kimberly Jannarone, *Artaud and His Doubles*," *New Theatre Quarterly* 29.3 (2013): 305–6.

PEER REVIEW ASSIGNMENTS

Jan 2026	Article manuscript, <i>Journal of International Political Theory</i>
Mar 2025	Edited volume (9 chapters), University of Chicago Press
Feb 2024	Article manuscript, <i>Journal for the Philosophy of Language, Mind, and the Arts</i>
Jan 2023	Edited volume (17 chapters), Routledge
Jul 2022	Book proposal, Routledge
Jun 2020	Article manuscript, <i>cultural geographies</i>
Mar 2018	Article manuscript, <i>cultural geographies</i>
Nov 2017	Article manuscript, <i>cultural geographies</i>

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

4–5 April 2024	"The Aesthetics of Geopower: Imagining Planetary Histories and Hegemonies," University of Amsterdam. Organized with Colin Sterling. <u>Keynote speaker</u>: Federico Luisetti (University of St. Gallen).
4–5 July 2017	"Other Globes: Past and Peripheral Imaginations of the Global," University of Amsterdam. Organized with Irene Villaescusa Illán and Esther Peeren. <u>Keynote speakers</u>: Patrick D. Flores (University of the Philippines); Ursula K. Heise (University of California Los Angeles); Peter Hitchcock (City University of New York).
16–18 April 2014	"Brains, Maps, Rhythms," Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis International Workshop, University of Amsterdam. Organized with Artyom Anikin, Uzma Ansari, and Annelies Kleinherenbrink.

Keynote speakers: Jasbir Puar (Rutgers University); Kate Soper (London Metropolitan University); Alan Ingram (University College London); John Protevi (Louisiana State University).

INVITED TALKS

- 21 May 2021 "Imagining Earth Otherwise." Research seminar at the University of Amsterdam's Cities Project.
- 2 December 2016 "Figures of the Global." Masterclass at the *Onderzoekschool Literatuurwetenschap* (the Netherlands' national program for graduate students in literary studies research), Amsterdam.
- 2 November 2013 "Maps of the Night." Public talk at the Allard Pierson Museum, Amsterdam.
- 8 April 2012 "Maps and Time in the Art of Alison Hildreth." Public talk inaugurating the Amsterdam Centre for Globalisation Studies, Spui25 public outreach centre, Amsterdam.
- 15 June 2011 "Artaud, Lautréamont and Grotowski Against Monotheism." Research paper, Arts Faculty Seminar Series, University of Warwick.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 24 June 2025 "Parading the Earth in Triumph: Global Imagining in Walter Crane's *The Triumph of Labour*," Before Earthrise, Exeter College, University of Oxford
- 25 February 2023 "Mining the Virgin Mountain: Gendered Visions of the Earth in Colonial Potosí," Territorial Bodies: World Culture in Crisis, University of Warwick
- 3 June 2022 "Gendering Geopower: Representing the Earth in Colonial Potosí," Staging Gender: Sexuality and Gender On Stage Across Geopolitical Borders, University of Amsterdam
- 5 July 2017 "*The Garden of Earthly Delights* at the Fringes of Banal Globalism," Other Globes: Past and Peripheral Imaginations of the Global, University of Amsterdam

- 1 June 2017 "A Globe That Globalization Forgot," Urban World Making, University of Amsterdam
- 16 June 2016 "Cartography at Ground Level," Visualising the Street, University of Amsterdam
- 23 March 2016 "Artists Astride Shifting Mapping Paradigms," Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis International Workshop, University of Amsterdam
- 27 March 2015 "Solomon Nikritin's The Old and the New," Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis International Workshop, University of Amsterdam
- 10 October 2014 "The Socialist Globe," Inverting Globalisation, Amsterdam Centre for Globalisation Studies conference, University of Amsterdam
- 30 June 2014 "Drawing Like a State," Latencies, the European Summer School in Cultural Studies, Lisbon
- 14 March 2014 "Millennial Mapmaking: Satomi Matoba's Utopian Cartography of Globalisation," Collecting Geographies conference, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam
- 16 October 2013 "Shattered Arrows: The Polychronous Cartography of Gert Jan Kocken," Fragments of Time conference, University of Lancaster
- 5 September 2013 "A Map of London and the Experience of Defeat," Experiencing Space/Spacing Experience, the European Summer School in Cultural Studies, Bochum
- 29 June 2013 "Mapmaking in a State of Emergency," International Association for Media and Communication Research conference, Dublin