



The mineral Arctic: imagination, communication and practices



International and interdisciplinary
conference

8-10 October 2025
Versailles (France)

Contact: Dr Joanna Kodzik (Joanna.Kodzik@uvsq.fr)

The mineral Arctic: imagination, communication and practices

an international and interdisciplinary conference

organised by

The Malaurie Institute of Arctic Research Monaco-UVSQ (MIARC)

at the

University of Versailles Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines/ University of Paris Saclay

in cooperation with the research group

Nordic Blue Humanities

at the

Sorbonne University in Paris

in association with

UArctic Thematic Network Arctic Cultures and History (ARCH)

and

UArctic Regional Centre for Continental Europe

Versailles / Paris

8-10 Octobre 2025

8 October 2025, Versailles UVSQ, Villa Panhard on the Science Campus

9:00-9:30 welcome by the organisers

9:30-10:15 Joanna Kodzik (University of Versailles Saint-Quentin-en-Yveline):
The Arctic and the enlightened idea of universalism in Abraham Gottlob Werner's
Mineralogische Geographie [Mineralogical Geography] (1770)

10:15-11:00 Æsa Sigurjónsdóttir (University of Iceland):
Polarized Light and Iceland Spar: The Cultural and Scientific Contexts

11:00-11:15 coffee break

11:15-12:00 Bergur Djurhuus Hansen (University of the Faroe Islands):
Leaving no Stone Unturned

12:00-12:45 Alexandre Zeitler (University of Strasbourg):
The role of Nepheline in the formation and dissemination of hybrid discourse on
Stjernøya.

12:45 -14:15 lunch break

14:15-15:00 Åsa Andersson (University of Gothenburg):
The significance of stones in indigenous oral history

15:00-15:45 Francis Joy (University of Lapland) and John C. Ryan (University of Notre
Dame, Australia/ University of Lapland):
Sacred landscapes in northern Fennoscandia and their links with Sámi oral
traditions.

9 October 2025, Versailles UVSQ, Villa Panhard on the Science Campus

10:15-11:00 Thierry Rodon (University of Laval):
Arctic Extractivism: Myths, Minerals, and the Making of Territory

11:00-11:15 coffee break

11:15-12:00 Alexandre Delangle (University of Versailles Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines):
Stones, sailors and scholars, Gathering and editing Martin Frobisher's Arctic
voyages to North America and forgotten relics

12:00-12:45 Benjamin Ferguson (Wofford College):
Golden Opportunities in Alaskan Literature: How Rex Beach and Robert Service
Epitomized and Influenced 'The Last Frontier' in their Gold Rush Writings

12:45-14:15 lunch break

14:15-15:00 Jan Borm (University of Versailles Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines):
'A shelter from immensity': Rockwell Kent's account of his stay in Greenland in
1932 as told by himself in *Salamina* (1935): rocks, representation and cultural
Relativism

15:00-15:45 July Graff (Université du Québec à Montréal):
Carving out spaces of representation: The work of Kumukuluk Saggiak and
Elijah Pootoogook at Expo'67.

18:00 Le pôle Nord

Lecture in French by Jan Borm (University of Versailles Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines)

at the library in Versailles : bibliothèque municipale de Versailles
Bibliothèque Choiseul (ex Centrale) - 5, rue de l'Indépendance américaine - 78000 Versailles

10 October 2025 Sorbonne University, salle D052 Histoire à la Sorbonne (1, rue Victor Cousin 75005 Paris)

14:00-14:15 welcome by Sylvain Briens - Nordic Blue Humanities

14:15-15:00 Erki Tammiksaar (University of Tartu):
Ice age theories in Skandinavia and Russia

15:00-15:45 Anna Street (Le Mans University):
Waves of Ice: Eco-Emotions of the Feminine Aquatic

15:45-16:15 Emil Andersen (Musée National duDanemark)
Staging Ice

16:15-16:45 Sylvain Briens (Sorbonne University):
Cryopoetics and Transoceanic Resistance in the Anthropocen

16:45-17:00 wrap up and dicussion