

An Inventory of Key Terms in Ecocriticism in Theatre and Performance Studies

eco hubris (May) “Now we must redefine ‘tool’, redefine ‘man’, or accept chimpanzees as humans.” Louis Leakey, 1963 (example of ecohubris)

Eco minstrelsy (Chaudhuri; May)

Anthropomorphism (the sky is out to get me)

Superficial Anthropomorphism - the interpretation of animal behavior based on human behavior, as when the wide-eyed, alert owl is thought to be wise or when a chimpanzee gives a fear grimace that appears like a human’s big grin.

Explanatory Anthropomorphism - naming a behavior to explain it, as when we say a dog has acted out of spite when people return home to find garbage strewn about. Lockwood concludes that the only productive variety is Applied Anthropomorphism

Political Representation vs. Artistic Representation (Gayatri Spivak)

Personification (the sky is angry) (May)

Ecofeminism

Eco materialization

Gynomorphism

Communicative democracy (Young)

Deliberative Democracy (Young)

Judeo-Christian Dominion (Scott)

Role-playing

Meme theory (Dawkins, et al; Arons)

State of exception

Bare life (Agamben)

Mere life (Agamben)

Good life (Agamben)

Dominion (Mary Louise Pratt)

Monarch of all our Survey (Mary Louise Pratt)

Frontier –Fredrick Jackson Turner (Mary Louise Pratt)

Ecotage – like sabotage

Education as embodied practice (Yassi/Spiegel)

Vibrant Matter (Baker White/Jane Bennett)

Slippage

Soft approach – e.g., common sense structuralism (Arons)

Hard approach – e.g., scientific (Arons)

Avoiding ecology as aesthetic descriptor for nonnatural settings (May)

“Post-Tourist” New tourist knows that everything is fake, but goes winkingly (Urry)

Touristic entertainment

Dangerous ecocriticism – foregrounds body as material and metaphorical site of interaction (May)

Geopathology (Chaudhuri)

Zoopathology (Chaudhuri)

Zoöesis (Chaudhuri)

Zoogeopathology (Chaudhuri) – life and site or place

Carnophallologocentrism (Chaudhuri via Derrida)
Theater of Species (Chaudhuri)
Naturecultures
Pseudo-event (Borstin)
Anthropological machine (Agamben)
Ecolacuna (Peterson; Baz Kershaw)
Allegorical Applied Anthropomorphism
Matrixing (Curvy/Peterson)
Hard/Soft Etymology
Recalcitrant Performance (Peterson)
High Brow (French equestrian company)
Furry Middle Barrow – between the earthy and high brow (artsy and accessible)
Low Brown -- Earthy – Dr. Faustus
Metonymy of presences (Erika Rundle) (small thing standing in for big thing?)
Synecdoche – visual stand in for the whole (part of something standing for the whole)
Unconscious (Baudrillard – animals cannot be taken out of territory, but people have an unconscious b/c taken out of territory e.g., Chaudhuri's Polar Bear article)
Ecodrama
Global Performance Commons (Kershaw)
Animalculture (Chaudhuri)
Non-Aristotelian Recognition (Chaudhuri) – recognition that lies at heart of Zooises – (Martin sees Sylvia's goat face, others look at goat as sign of forbidden sexual body.)
Mimesis Plato says if you see cup, that is getting in the way of ideal of cup; Aristotle says this cup as a work of art gets us closer to idea. Cf. Oedipus – character is closer to ideal of King; the opposite is total communion with presence of another being
Self and human nature
Non-Aristotelian Anagnorisis- not seeing self as center of a universe, just part of it (hamartia – reversal of anagnorisis)
Parabasis – when the birds in Aristophanes' play address the audience
Darwinian self
Social Darwinism
Teleological