

## **Blue Humanities: From Flooded Cities to Evaporating Liquidities**

### **A Class of Excellence Seminar with International Francqui Professor Ursula Heise and Jon Christensen**

Thursday, 21 November 2024, 13:00-18:00

Université libre de Bruxelles, Campus du Solbosch, Bâtiment S, Auditoire Dupréel (44  
avenue Jeanne, 1050 Brussels)

- 13:00-14:00: **Lecture by Ursula Heise (UCLA):**  
    **“Under Water: Sea and Summer in the Cities”**
- 14:00-15:00: Reading group session (download text and film [here](#)):
  - Ursula Heise, “Urban Narrative and Climate Change”
  - Nguyễn-Võ Nghiệm-Minh, *Nước 2030* (film)
- 15:00-15:30: *Coffee Break*
- 15:30-16:45: Presentations by
  - Mathieu Govaerts (ULB):  
    “The Sea Is My Mother: A Venture into the Blue Eco-poetics of Diane di Prima”
  - Dr Jessica Maufort (ULB):  
    “Floating Homes: (Re)Storying Wet Matter in Novels by Witi Ihimaera, Thomas King, and Alexis Wright”
  - Matthew McLaughlin (ULB & Tokyo University of Science, online):  
    “Watching the Water Flow: Buddhist Reflections and Blue Ecocritical Insights from Welch’s *Wobbly Rock*”
- 17:00-18:00: **Lecture by Jon Christensen (UCLA):**  
    **“The California Way: Sunny with a Chance of Apocalypse”**

Feel free to attend any part of the programme.

**For more information and to register, please contact Prof. Franca Bellarsi at [franca.bellarsi@ulb.be](mailto:franca.bellarsi@ulb.be).**