

Editors' Note

Our first volume is dedicated to what we have called “Eco-Gencies”: ecological emergencies that deeply threaten our planet. The academic articles we have included in our volume approach this topic from a wide range of points of view: pedagogically, experientially, philosophically, cinematically, and aesthetically. Our perspectives harvest points of view from the extreme contemporary to the literatures of 18th-century Asia and England in order that these academic “particles of light” might help illuminate our present reactions to the increasing crisis at hand. We have also included a special “Field Notes” section to *Green Humanities*, which will feature, in each volume, firsthand experiences from authors and artists through art, photography, journalism or personal essays. In this volume, we felt it was imperative to bring attention to the plight of the disappearing bee colonies, which could have devastating repercussions on the world food chain. Similarly, in our poetry section, we have endeavored to address “eco-gencies” through the poet’s lens which, since antiquity, has often played a prominent role in shaping or reacting to issues that have an effect on all of us.

How can the humanities illuminate, examine, analyze, and criticize the role of the humanities in responding to, and ultimately addressing, the many environmental crises that we face today? While we do not expect to single-handedly resolve these issues in this volume, nor offer a fully comprehensive set of answers to all of them, we do hope to effect change and keep readers and scholars thinking even via this journal. Through this volume, we hope to throw our

voice into the debates around us and, volume by volume, help make the world a better place, one article, poem, and photo at a time.

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