



# ***RIVER TALKS***

## ***PAROLES DE FLEUVES***

Université d'Angers (France)  
17–19 June 2026



EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES ALLIANCE FOR SUSTAINABILITY:  
RESPONSIBLE GROWTH, INCLUSIVE EDUCATION AND ENVIRONMENT

# Day 1: Welcome & Conference Day

Wednesday, 17 June 2026

Location: Maison de la Recherche Germaine Tillion, Université d'Angers

**09:00 – 09:30**

## **Registration & Welcome**

**09:30 – 10:00**

## **Opening Remarks**

*Anne-Rachel Hermetet (Université d'Angers)*

*Nora Pleßke (Otto-von-Guericke-Universität Magdeburg)*

**10:00 – 11:00**

## **Keynote Lecture**

*Chair: Anne-Rachel Hermetet*

**Water as Living Heritage: From the Orisha Oshun to Contemporary River Rights**

*Christina Horvath (Bath University)*

**11:00 – 11:30**

## **Coffee Break**

**11:30 – 13:00**

## **Panel 1: Language, Songs & Cultural Mediation**

*Chairs: Gioia Angeletti, Anne-Rachel Hermetet*

**(Ra)Conter la Loire. Rhétoriques fluviales et anastomoses écolinguistiques en milieu ligérien**

*Anatole Danto (Tartu Ülikool)*

**The Euphrates as a Cultural Generator: Readings through Songs and Myths**

*Hanan Alahmad (Magdeburg)*

**Le voci dei fiumi nelle opere di Giuseppe Verdi**

*Ivonne Begotti (Université Paris 8 Vincennes - Saint-Denis)*

**13:00 – 14:30**

## **Lunch Break**

**A conversation with Catherine Passirani**

*(Vice-President for International Affairs and Equality at Université d'Angers)*

**14:30 – 16:00**

**Panel 2: Scottish Waters**

*Chair: Nora Pleßke*

**Arteries of Imagination: Examples of Writing with Rivers in Anglophone Literatures from the 19<sup>th</sup> Century to the Present**

*Gioia Angeletti & Lucia Scaringella  
(Università degli Studi di Parma)*

**Scotland Submerged: Interrupted Rivers and Flooded Glens**

*Emily Alder (Edinburgh Napier University)*

**River of Stories: Confluence, Empire, and Literary Memory between India and Scotland**

*Arunima Bhattacharya (Edinburgh Napier University)*

**16:00 – 16:30**

**Coffee Break**

**16:30 – 17:15**

**Panel 3: Conversation with Emmanuel Ruben**

*Chair: Isabelle Trivisani-Moreau*

**17:45**

**Evening Reading at the Maine**

*Chair: Arunima Bhattacharya*

**Frei and Irtysch**

*Karsten Steinmetz  
(Otto-von-Guericke-Universität Magdeburg)*

**The Stones Themselves**

*Simon Bracken (Independent Writer & Researcher)*

**19:00**

**Drinks at the Maine Bank or Discussion with Emmanuel Ruben about his Book *Sur la route de la Loire***

*(Librairie Lhériaux, 10 Pl. de la Visitation, Angers)*

**20:30**

**Dinner**

*Restaurant L'Ardoise (7 Pl. Molière, 49100 Angers)*

# Day 2: Creative Day along the Loire

Thursday, 18 June 2026

Location: Saint Mathurin-sur-Loire

**08:00** Leaving by train or by car for La Ménitré

**9:00 – 10:30** **Geopoetic Walk**

*Isabelle Trivisani-Moreau, Cristiana Oghina-Pavie,  
Nuscia Taïbi*

**10:30 – 11:30** **Boat Trip Round the Loire**

*Loire Odysée, Port Saint-Maur, 49250 La Ménitré*

**12:30 – 14:00**

Lunch Break

Restaurant Reflets de Loire

*(2 Pl. du Port Charles Sigogne, 49250 Loire-Authion)*

**14:00 – 15:00**

**Film Screening and Discussion**

*L'île de Chalennes-sur-Loire: entre enjeu et  
identité*

with the director, Maëlle Boisteau

*Loire Odysée, La Maison de Loire en Anjou, Saint-Mathurin*

**15:00 – 16:00**

**Visit of the Exhibition**

**16:00 – 16:30**

**Conversation**

*Chair: Anne-Rachel Hermetet*

**Se mouiller avec Nos RIVIÈRES: étude d'un  
projet chorégraphique au fil de l'eau**

*Caroline Granger & Flora Pilet  
(Université de Caen Normandie)*

**16:30 – 18:30**

**Atelier**

**Bodies in Convergence: Somatic Practices and  
Landscape Interpretation on the Banks of the  
Loire**

*Compagnie Noesis, Saint-Mathurin*

**18:30**

**Return to Angers by train and car**

**Free Evening**



*Since we will be outside a lot, please remember to bring water,  
comfortable shoes, and, depending on the weather, sun protection  
(sunscreen, headdress) and/or rain protection.*

# Day 3: Conference Day & Goodbye

Friday, 19 June 2026

Location: Maison de la Recherche Germaine Tillion, Université d'Angers

**09:00 – 10:30**

## **Panel 4: Contemporary Writing**

*Chair: Lucia Scaringella*

### **Sur les routes du Danube**

*Isabelle Trivisani-Moreau (Université d'Angers)*

### **"There's Nobody Home": Rivers of London and the Limits of Reading Fantasy Ecocritically**

*Carsten Kullmann*

*(Otto-von-Guericke-Universität Magdeburg)*

### **How Do Odra Rivers Speak? A Variety of Ideas for Listening to the River's Voice**

*Joanna Wyrwa (Uniwersytet Przyrodniczy we Wrocławiu)*

**10:30 – 11:00**

**Coffee Break**

**11:00 – 12:30**

## **Panel 5: Education & Ethics**

*Chair: Carsten Kullmann*

### **Learning from Rivers: Rights of Nature and the Porous Limits of the Personhood**

*Marina Sportelli (Université Toulouse - Jean Jaurès)*

### **Water is Life: Environmental and Experiential Education at University**

*Maja Antonietti & Elena Nardiello*


*(Università degli Studi di Parma)*

### **Rivers in the Age of the Anthropocene: How Water Crises Emerge and How Societies Can Confront Them**

*Alessio Malcevschi (Università degli Studi di Parma)*

**12:30 – 14:00**

**Lunch Break**



**14:00 – 15:00**

**Panel 6: Cinema**

*Chair: Emily Alder*

**The Lost Language of the Rivers**

*Vitor dos Santos Gomes (Universidade de Évora)*

**Tales of the Great Rivers: A Cinematic  
Comparison of the Po and Mississippi**

*Carlo Ugolotti (Università degli Studi di Parma)*

**15:00 – 15:30**

**Final Discussion**

**15:30 – 16:00**

**Coffee Break**

**16:00 – 17:00**

**Film Screening**

*Kedofaa maayo / Listen to the River*

Frank Guillemain and Marie Lorin: the Voice of  
the Senegal River

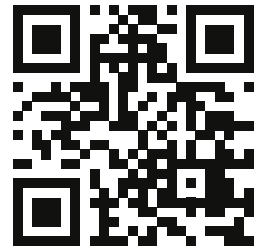
**17:00**

**End of Conference**

# The Venue

The conference location is the University of Angers, France. All academic events will take place at the Campus Belle-Beille in the Maison de la Recherche Germaine Tillion (5 Bd de Lavoisier).

The campus can be reached from the city centre by taking trams B and C to Belle-Beille Campus or by taking bus 2 to Beaucouzé, exiting at IUT stop.



## Contact

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