



## KEYNOTE LECTURE

**ARIEL SALLEH**

## EcoCultures: Holding Life-on-Earth Together

### EcoCultures

- replace Human domination of Nature with reciprocity rather than control
- replace top-down ideas of Earth Governance with bioregional autonomy
- replace the hierarchy of mental vs manual labour with horizontal commoning
- replace gender and racial discrimination with value for life-regenerative skills.

Ecofeminism is an EcoCulture that treats ecology and feminism as one politics. It emerges when conditions of life in urban or rural neighborhoods are put at risk by the effects of climate change, genetically engineered viruses, mineral extractivism, water privatisation, or electro magnetic radiation.

Ecofeminists see the historical enclosure and commodification of natural resources by capitalist patriarchal economies repeated in the enclosure and commodification of women's and indigenous bodies.

Yet against the life-alienated era of the industrial machine, the labour of these marginals creates alternative epistemologies, relational ways of knowing, distinct from the destructive instrumental modernism of the global development model

Ecofeminists describe these unspoken practices as 'holding' labours, where the linear logic of production gives way to the circular logic of reproduction, eco-sufficient provisioning, and solidarity. Similarly, indigenous EcoCultures like buen vivir, swaraj, and ubuntu, foster sustainable livelihoods and cultural autonomy.

Today, in response to old eurocentric police codes like Humanity over Nature, Masculine over Feminine, White over Black, ecofeminist, decolonial, and ecological activists are building a global EcoCulture together: a global tapestry of alternatives, a Pluriverse.

Our future EcoCulture will be post-capitalist, post-colonial, post-patriarchal, and eco-centric.

Once people around the world discover that they are themselves 'nature-in-embodied-form', then cross-cultural understanding and peace on Earth will grow.