

**Carrier Bag Theory & Practice #6**  
**Dialectical Ecology II**  
**The Value of Nature : Stefania Barca.**

West Den Haag (hybrid)

31.08.2022

Baruch Gottlieb

# Anecology

## Dismantling the Master's (Modernity's) House

- “For the master's tools will never dismantle the master's house. They may allow us temporarily to beat him at his own game, but they will never enable us to bring about genuine change. And this fact is only threatening to those women who still define the master's house as their only source of support.” Audre Lorde - Sister Outsider
- *oikos* = eco
  - ecology & economy / domestication
    - slavery / plantation
    - subjugation of women / slaves / “nonhuman”
  - dialectical ecology
    - modernity/amodernity
    - patriarchy/eco-ergo-feminism (no “return” to primordial models)

# Undoing the “Master” Narrative

## Undoing the Anthropocene

- a critical analysis of its four levels of denial and backgrounding:
  - 1.colonial relations:the only civilization that matters is Western;
  - 2. gender relations: the only historical agency is that of the ‘forces of production’ (science, technology and industry);
  - 3.class relations: social inequalities and exploitation do not matter;
  - 4.species relations: the non-human living world does not matter.

# Inter-species Being

## the “reproductive labour” of Nature

- the “work” of Nature is only accessible through the work of other humans
  - the value of this work is usurped profitably to the degree that this human labour is unpaid
    - “the making of capitalist/ industrial modernity through the plantation system that, from the sixteenth century onwards, took over colonial territories all over the world. A long time before the industrial revolution, the plantation already configured a master model of modernity based on white/capitalist hegemony over both human and non-human work. Its homogeneous, simplified eco-epistemes, built on slave labour and cheap energy” Forces of Reproduction p.21
- modernity/growth imperative = institutions of patriarchy / subordination of women’s work, slavery
  - —> degrowth ? new materialism ? historical materialism ?

# Inter-species Being

the “reproductive labour” of Nature

- “Applying a decolonial and materialist feminist lens to the Anthropocene storyline allows us to make visible the work of the colonized (slaves, Indigenous and racialized subjects) who have taken care of people and the land all along – the denied and backgrounded part of the modernity/coloniality project (Mignolo and Walsh, 2018). In fact, accounting for the unequal geographical distribution of ecological responsibilities and ecocide is only one way of conceptualizing ecological debt. Another way is to account for what capitalist/industrial modernity and all who live in it owe to Black and Indigenous people for the work and the knowledge they have devoted to keep the world alive – for their forces of reproduction. “ Forces of Reproduction p.27

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1400-1430 : Introduction  
1430-1530 reading  
1530-1600 discussion

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<http://westdenhaag.nl/Harawiki>