



Romanticism and Rocks

International ECR Workshop | Keynote speaker: Sophie Laniel - Musitelli

23 October 2026

University of Neuchâtel

Faculté de Lettres et Sciences Humaines Room RS 38

Espace Tilo-Frey 1

Neuchâtel, Switzerland

unine
Université de Neuchâtel
Faculté des lettres
et sciences humaines



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PASTEUR

Organisers: Pauline Hortolland | Philip Lindholm | Patrick Vincent

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Programme

Thursday 22 October 2026

18.00 Guided Visit of the Pierre à Bot with *Thierry Malvesy*, Curator of the Geology Wing, Museum d'Histoire Naturelle de Neuchâtel, followed by a fondue dinner at the Pinte de Pierre à Bot. RSVP before 10 October 2026.

Friday 23 October 2026

8:45-9:00 Registration / Coffee / Welcome

9:00-10:30 Panel 1: Rocks and Romantic Literature

Chair: Pauline Hortolland

Aditi Jain (Neuchâtel): 'weep to have what he may lose': A close look at rocks and Books, in *The Prelude*

Jérôme Chemin (Dijon): 'This grand laboratory of Nature': Where Davy's chemistry met the eternal rocks

Tiberio Inguscio (Zurich): Romantic Headlands: Erosion and the Sublime in the Anti-Alps

10:30-10:45 Coffee Break

10:45-12:00 Keynote Lecture

Sophie Laniel-Musitelli (Paris Cité): Romantic Lithopoetry

12:00-1:30 Lunch: Café des Amis

13:30 - 14:30 Panel 2: Rocks and Post-Romantic Literature

Chair: Philip Lindholm

Judith Trouilleux-Leca (Clermont-Auvergne): Entering the rock: George Sand's perception of the inside of minerals

Meg Duell (Lausanne): 'The eternal rocks beneath': Metaphysical Materiality in *Wuthering Heights*

14:30-14:45 Coffee Break

14:45 - 15:45 Panel 3: Rocks and Romantic / Post-Romantic Visual Culture

Chair: Patrick Vincent

Violaine Gourbet (Polytechnique Haut-de-France): 'Cut through the rocks': Alpine rocks and human intervention in William Brockedon's Illustrations of the Passes of the Alps (1828-1829)

Harriet McKinley-Smith (Wuppertal): Elizabeth Le Blond and the Afterlives of Romantic Alpine Aesthetics

15:45 - 16:30: Roundtable Discussion: Geology, Literature, Culture

Sophie Musitelli (Paris-Cité), Peter Schnyder (Neuchâtel), and Maia Whomsley-Walker (Bern)

All talks will be held in FLSH RS 38 (main floor, to the left of the cafeteria)