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# Interview with Kate Rigby, author of *Reclaiming Romanticism: Towards an Ecopoetics of Decolonisation*

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Houssami, Eyad. "Kate Rigby, 'Reclaiming Romanticism: Towards an Ecopoetics of Decolonisation.'" *New Books in Environmental Studies*, December 10, 2021. Mp3, 01:17:45.

The earliest environmental criticism took its inspiration from the Romantic poets and their immersion in the natural world. Today the "romanticising" of nature has come to be viewed with suspicion. Written by one of the leading ecocritics writing today, Kate Rigby's book *Reclaiming Romanticism: Towards an Ecopoetics of Decolonisation* (Bloomsbury, 2020) rediscovers the importance of the European Romantic tradition to the ways that writers and critics engage with the environment in the Anthropocene era. Exploring the work of such poets as Wordsworth, Shelley and Clare, the book discovers a rich vein of Romantic ecomaterialism and brings these canonical poets into dialogue with contemporary American and Australian poets and artists. Kate Rigby demonstrates the ways in which Romantic ecopoetics responds to postcolonial challenges and environmental peril to offer a collaborative artistic practice for an era of human-non-human cohabitation and kinship.

Kate Rigby was recently selected to receive an Alexander von Humboldt Professorship, Germany's most valuable research award.

(Source: New Books Network )

In this episode of *New Books in Environmental Studies*, Eyad Houssami interviews Kate Rigby, author of *Reclaiming Romanticism: Towards an Ecopoetics of Decolonisation.*

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