There's rue for you, and here's some for me

Hadi Mehrpouya
Dominic Smith

Presented at the Indeterminate Futures / The Future of Indeterminacy, international transdisciplinary conference, 13-15 November 2020
University of Dundee, Scotland
Towards a Hydro-logics of Streams and what can we learn from Tragedies

Hadi Mehrpouya

Dominic Smith
Why water?

Water is an inorganic, transparent, tasteless, odorless, and nearly colorless chemical substance, which is the main constituent of Earth's hydrosphere and the fluids of all known living organisms. (Wikipedia, 2020)

Water is our (Animal & Plant) political common
Living in/with/on streams

- Floating
- Making dams
- Currents and currency
Tragedy & the notion of streams

“We are all bodies of water in the constitutional, the genealogical, and the geographical sense” (Neimanis, p.99, 2012)
Existential inescapability of the tragic stream of events.

Destiny in the form of knowledge
- Oedipus
- Hamlet
- Macbeth

All end up in some state of madness
All haunted whether upstream, downstream, distant or immersed

Existential inescapability of the tragic stream of events.
What are the characteristics of streams

• Inescapability: Overwhelming/Confiscated agencies
• Gravity and desire / Highly flexible and intelligence
• Form of consciousness in stream / Transform consciousness

“water guides a body from young to old, from here to there, from potentiality to actuality. Translation, transformation. Plurality proliferates.” (Neimanis, p.98, 2012)
What are the characteristics of streams

- Forming entities / Distortion
- Spectre and truth making
- Sedimentation / Rendition (Horatio)
- Intensified/new entanglements

Somewhere at the bottom of the sea, there must be water that sank from the surface during the ‘Little Ice Age’ three centuries ago . . . The ocean remembers.
This mad young man: but so much was our love,
We would not understand what was most fit;
But, like the owner of a foul disease,
To keep it from divulging, let it feed
Even on the pith of Life. Where is he gone?