

# Queering Fire and Ash

## Workshop by Ko Rupert (Komencanto Eterna)

### Description:

This workshop will provide a path to queering (disrupting normative understandings of) fire, ash, and other materials through a guided presentation of works by a diverse group of scholars, artists, and activists followed by a group conversation on queering materials. Emphasis throughout the workshop will be placed on queering as action, Indigenous and Asian/American anticolonial lenses, and on the unprecedented ongoing wildfires in so-called Canada that have covered much of the so-called eastern United States in smoke and ash.

### Sources (in order of appearance):

- Chen, Mel. *Fire and Ash*. Presentation, 2019. Minute marker 9:40-17:33.  
<https://youtu.be/ztlim3WNkCg?t=580>
- Mazzolini-Blanchard, Briana. Instagram Reel/Podcast Clip, 2023. Entirety.  
<https://www.instagram.com/p/CuCd2yoNrwX/>
- Hubbard, Jim. *United in Anger: A History of ACT-UP*. Documentary, 2012. Minute marker 1:13:25-1:18:05. <https://youtu.be/MrAzU79PBVM?t=4405>
- John, Jamie. *What The Water Carries*. Short Film, 2023. Entirety.  
<https://youtu.be/i7ekJLewgt0>
- Evans, Robert, and Mia Wong. *Their Voice Is Fire: The Banlieues And The New Uprising in France*. Podcast, 2023. Minute marker 43:23-44:37.  
<https://open.spotify.com/episode/4TXOnUAF7uNb5mItrlvmlc>
- Lanot, Clément. Instagram Post/Video Journalism, 2023. Entirety.  
<https://www.instagram.com/p/CuC3wt-uCVr/>

### Content Warnings:

Discussion of ecocide, genocide, burning of human bodies, slaughterhouses, and massacres. Mention of rape and videos of police brutality and fireworks.

### Presenter Description:

Komencanto Eterna is a queer youth scholar and organizer based in so-called Central Ohio. She has been affiliated with Central Ohio Youth Liberation, Kaleidoscope Youth Center, Queer Youth Assemble, and Ohio State University's Center for Folklore Studies. You can reach Ko at [komencanto-eterna@protonmail.com](mailto:komencanto-eterna@protonmail.com).