

Encountering Plant Sentience

Techniques of Communication & Collaboration Between Plants & People
Tuesday, 19 March 2024, 4–6pm EEST (Zoom)



The idea of plant sentience suggests the capacity of plants for communication, memory, empathy, and other intelligent qualities. What are the creative, educational, social, and health implications of recognising plants as sentient?

Join Dr Francis Joy of the University of Lapland Arctic Centre and Dr John C. Ryan of Southern Cross University, Australia, for a two-hour online seminar **Encountering Plant Sentience** on Spring Equinox, **19 March 2024**, from **4-6pm Eastern European Standard Time (EEST)**. The interactive seminar will introduce participants to enjoyable techniques of connecting to the mysteries of the botanical world.

The **free seminar** will be offered as part of **Gifts from the Sentient Forest** with support from the Kone Foundation's 'In the Woods' funding program. The project develops creative approaches to Northern Finland's forests. It endeavours to understand how recognising the botanical world in contexts other than exploitation can illuminate ways in which plant life and forests rejuvenate human-nature relationships and sustain the Earth.

To register, please email <sentientforestproject@gmail.com> by 17 March 2024 at 5pm EEST

Francis Joy is a photographer, researcher, and Druid based in Rovaniemi, Finland, with an interest in pareidolia (the recognition of meaningful patterns, shapes and forms in nature). For more information about Francis Joy's work visit: <https://research.ulapland.fi/en/persons/francis-joy>. **John C. Ryan** is a poet and researcher based in New South Wales, Australia, who focuses on the senses, plants, and creative writing. For more information about his work, see www.johncharlesryan.com.

