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The Ocean's Skin | A Talk by Philip Hoare

Liberal Arts Division

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THE OCEAN'S SKIN

A TALK BY PHILIP HOARE

The sea is our future. It is our past, too - the most vital yet unknown part of our relationship with the natural world. Most weighty of all in that story is the vast shape of the whale. From myth to industrial resource to symbol of ecological fragility, its huge yet oddly absent presence mirrors the way our attitudes to the sea have changed. 'We cannot imagine a time that is oceanless', wrote , T.S. Eliot. Yet when Herman Melville declared of the whale, 'I know him not, and never will', he seem to be forecasting our fated history with the sea itself, and our inability to know it. We could not live without the ocean, and yet we seem to turn our backs on it.

In this talk, drawing on his new book, *RISINGTIDEFALLINGSTAR*, Philip Hoare looks at the way we humans relate to the sea's natural history - its whales, its birds, its tides, its myths.

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Friday January 18th, 2019 5pm - 7pm
Rhode Island School of Design, Chace Center Metcalf Auditorium
Made possible by a Grant from the Division of Liberal Arts