

Rebecca Altman. "American Petrotopia." *Aeon Magazine*. March 2015.

Selected Sources

On the history of plastics, especially Bakelite, I consulted the following works: Jeffrey Meikle (1997) *American Plastic: A Cultural History* (Rutgers University Press); Burkhard Wagner (2011) "Leo Baekeland's Legacy—100 Years of Plastics." *100+ Years of Plastics, Leo Baekeland and Beyond, ACS Symposium Series 1080*: 31-67; Bakelite Corporation (1937) "The Fourth Kingdom," a short film; Wiebe E. Bijker (1997) *Of Bicycles, Bakelites and Bulbs: Toward a Theory of Sociotechnical Change* (MIT Press); M. Kaufman (1963) *The First Century of Plastics: Celluloid and Its Sequel*. Published by the Plastics and Rubber Institute (London); American Chemical Society (1993) *The Bakelizer*, commemorative pamphlet published by the National Historic Chemical Landmarks Program; William Haynes (1945-1954) *American Chemical Industry*, Volumes 1-6 (Van Nostrand); also Stephen Fenichell (1996) *Plastic: The Making of a Synthetic Century* (HarperCollins). **On the entwined social, political, ecological significance plastics and hydrocarbon culture**, I drew from the work of Max Liborion, beginning with *Redefining Pollution: Plastics in the Wide* (Doctoral Dissertation, New York University, 2012). Also see: "The Plasticsphere and Other 21st Century Waste Ecosystems," published via *Discard Studies*. Available at: <https://discardstudies.com/2013/07/22/the-plasticsphere-and-other-21st-century-waste-ecosystems/>. **Also**, see e.g., Jennifer Gabrys, Gay Hawkins and Mike Michael, eds. (2013) *Accumulation: The Material Politics of Plastic*. (Routledge), especially Jody Roberts (2013) "Reflections of an Unrepentant Plastiphobe: An Essay on Plasticity and the STS Life" (p. 121-133); and Max Liborion (2013) "Plasticizers: A Twenty-First Century Miasma" (p. 134-149; and finally, Charles Hall et al., (2003) "Hydrocarbons and the Evolution of Human Culture." In *Nature* 426 (20 November 2003): 318-322.

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versions available online, but am still tracking down archival collections Middlesex Public Library or elsewhere.)

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On **the building of chemical plants on the grounds of former plantations along the Mississippi River corridor**, see J. Timmons Roberts and Melissa Toffolon-Weiss (2001) *Chronicles for the Environmental Justice Frontlines*. (Cambridge University Press); and Richard Misrach and Kate Orff (2012) *Petrochemical America*. (Aperature).

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Press); and *Legally Poisoned: How the Law Puts Us at Risk from Toxicants* (Harvard University Press 2011).

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