

The story 'The Unicorn expedition' by Satyajit Ray, with Professor Trilokeshwar Shonku as the protagonist, presents an alternative scientific discourse where scientific explanations and mythic mysteries meet half way. The porosity is visible not only in Shonku's pursuits but also in the nature of Dung-lung-do and the members undertaking the expedition. Even though Shonku is a strong advocate of science, mythic mysteries are not completely rejected but rather considered as a limitation of the present scientific discourse. The paper will analyse whether the scientific discourse of Shonku resembles ancient scientific discourse of India or its methodology in so far as it is received by the West. My paper intends to examine how Ray uses the medium of science fiction to initiate a dialogue with the scientific discourse of the recent colonial past. I argue that he writes back, using the tool of fiction. The paper will use other Shonku stories in order to substantiate the argument.