

# Animail: February 2016

Dear All,

Welcome to the second edition of *Animail*, brought to you by the collective efforts of the AASA Executive team, and reflecting the talents of our AASA members and the diversity and strength of the emergent field of Animal studies. Two good examples can be seen in our **member profiles** section for this month, highlighting the work of **Deidre Wicks** and **Elizabeth Ellis** – see pages 2-4, a great read!

News from the Executive team includes the very important decision on **how to pronounce 'AASA'**. Some of us have been saying 'double a- s-a', while others have been saying 'a-sir'/'acer'. The Executive has discussed this vital issue (!) and we have decided that overall **'a-sir'/'ace-r' is preferable**. So, you'll probably start to hear us referred to as 'a-sir' more and more. The recent podcasts produced by Siobhan O'Sullivan are also going to make reference to AASA pronounced 'a-sir', so the shift will start to take effect.....

Other news from the Executive includes our decision to extend **sponsorship** of Siobhan's podcast **Knowing Animals** for another 3 months. If you haven't already discovered Knowing Animals and its ever expanding archive of interviews, have a look here: <https://itunes.apple.com/au/podcast/knowing-animals/id997543452?mt=2> or direct download: <http://knowinganimals.libsyn.com>.

We also have a new **BLOG** site on the AASA website – this is going to be managed by Christine Townend and Nik Taylor, who have both been doing a great job sourcing blog contributions and coming up with guidelines for authors. Blogs are a terrific way to communicate with the wider network and we encourage all members to contribute to it. More details over the page.

A reminder that our next **Annual General meeting** will be held at the University of Sydney, on July 12<sup>th</sup>. It will be occurring in the lunchtime break of *Animaladies*, a conference featuring Professor Lori Gruen as keynote. <http://sydney.edu.au/arts/research/harn/conferences/index.shtml>. The registration site for this conference is: <http://events.sydney.edu.au/office3/getdemo.ei?id=30648&s=75G122TX3>. To attend the AGM you do not need to register for the conference. I will be sending more news about *Animaladies* shortly.

Finally, we're interested in knowing about any relevant **Reading Groups** that might be of interest to members. For those in Melbourne, for instance, there is the Knowing Animals Reading group, hosted by HRAE (<http://humananimal.arts.unimelb.edu.au/> which meets on the last Monday of each month, 5.30-6.30pm, in the Linkway, Level 4, John Medley Building, The University of Melbourne Parkville. If you'd like to join this group, please email [hrae-info@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:hrae-info@unimelb.edu.au).

A reminder to contact the following Exec members if you'd like to contribute information to be included in *Animail*.

- **Blog:** Nik Taylor and Christine Townend, [[christownend@bigpond.com](mailto:christownend@bigpond.com)] and [nik.taylor@flinders.edu.au](mailto:nik.taylor@flinders.edu.au)
- **Conference Calls** –<[joanne.sneddon@uwa.edu.au](mailto:joanne.sneddon@uwa.edu.au)> Please send your news to Jo
- **Membership News** –<[R.DeVos@curtin.edu.au](mailto:R.DeVos@curtin.edu.au)> Please send your news to Rick
- **New Book releases** –Annie Potts <[annie.potts@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:annie.potts@canterbury.ac.nz)> - Please send your news to Annie
- **Other news/AASA exec news** – this section is to be compiled by Fiona Probyn-Rapsey ([fiona.probyn-rapsey@sydney.edu.au](mailto:fiona.probyn-rapsey@sydney.edu.au)). Please send any items to me.

Please enjoy the rest of *Animail* February: Membership News, New Book Releases and Conferences. You'll see AASA members represented in all of these sections. Cheers, fiona

# PhD/Graduate Teaching Positions

PhD/GTA positions available with the Centre for Human Animal Studies at Edge Hill University-UK. The closing date is 10th March. Areas include:

- Human-animal studies and Environmental Sociology

<https://jobs.edgehill.ac.uk/vacancy.aspx?ref=EHGT083-0216>  
<https://jobs.edgehill.ac.uk/vacancy.aspx?ref=EHGT083-0216>

## AASA Blog

Edited by Christine Townend and Nik Taylor.

The AASA now provides opportunities for those who wish to air their feelings, their research or their thoughts in accordance with the guidelines at <http://animalstudies.org.au/contribute-to-blog> The first blog has been written by Dr. Jack Reece, B.V. Sc., M.R.C.V.S., and can be viewed at <http://animalstudies.org.au/blog-2> Its an interesting article about the humane management of the Jaipur (Rajasthan) street dogs. Before Help in Suffering Animal Shelter started its ABC (Animal Birth Control) programme the Jaipur street dogs were being poisoned with strychnine as they were considered the major vector of rabies in humans. However, according to WHO Guidelines, the poisoning, apart from being cruel, did not control populations of animals because new dogs moved in to fill the empty biological niche when a dog died. If the dogs could be sterilised, then they would guard their territory on the streets. Thus HIS began the ABC programme in 1995 and Jaipur was the first city in India to be rid of human rabies in the area worked. This has implications for the control of so called 'pest' and 'feral' animals in Australia.

## Member Profiles



### Deidre Wicks

As a sociologist, my interests and work have always revolved around the concept of power, how it works and how it manifests. My early work revolved around class and gender power relations within the health system, with a focus on the division of labour between doctors and nurses. Later, an opportunity arose which allowed me to combine my personal interest and commitment to animals, with my professional academic work. This has been very fulfilling and is further enhanced by collegiate support and friendship through the AASA and my work with the animal protection institute: Voiceless ([www.voiceless.org.au](http://www.voiceless.org.au)).

For as long as I can remember, I have felt an affinity with animals. I come from a family who were kind to animals and enjoyed having them around. I think I was always uneasy about eating animals, but I was able to keep up the disassociation until I was about 14, when my family bought a cattle property. I had to help my dad round up the calves who were to be sold for veal,

and heard the awful bellowing of their grieving mothers. I felt so sad for them and knew that it was wrong. Later, I read Peter Singer's *Animal Liberation* and it made intellectual, moral and emotional sense to me: This was a turning point regarding what I ate and how I would try to live.

I am an Honorary Research Associate at the Department of Sociology & Anthropology, University of Newcastle, Australia where previously I was Senior Lecturer in Sociology, with a PhD from Macquarie University, later published as *Nurses and Doctors at Work: Rethinking Professional Boundaries* (Allen & Unwin and Open University Press, 1998). At that time I also published articles and book chapters on gender and healing. In the mid 1990's, I helped to develop an introductory Sociology subject which



Figure 2 Lotte

included material on vegetarianism and meat-eating. I incorporated this material in 'Humans, Food, and Other Animals: The Vegetarian Option', in *A Sociology of Food and Nutrition: The Social Appetite*, edited by John Germov and Lauren Williams (Oxford University Press 1999), 4th edition forthcoming in 2016. After several years abroad, I returned to Australia and joined the recently formed Australian Animal Studies Group. In 2009, I presented a paper at the first Minding Animals International Conference in

Newcastle (Australia) titled 'Silence and Denial in Everyday Life – The Case of Animal Suffering', which was published in a special edition of the

on-line journal *Animals* <http://www.mdpi.com/2076-2615/1/1/186/>

My research continues to explore this theme of silence and denial, which seems to me to be central to the way we do-exist with hidden violence and cruelty to our fellow creatures. In recent years, I have written papers on this theme in relation to the dairy industry and presented them at various national AASA conferences and international Minding Animal conferences. I also contributed a regular column on these and related topics to the Voiceless e-bulletin which can be accessed via the website. In 2014 I co-authored a groundbreaking report on the Australian Dairy Industry, *The Life of the Dairy Cow*. This Report can be down-loaded from the Voiceless website. In 2010, I was invited to join the Voiceless Council and in 2015 I was invited to become a Director of Voiceless, a position which I accepted with great pleasure. My plans for this year are to prepare papers I have presented at conferences for publication and to assist with various campaigns through Voiceless. I have a beautiful rescued greyhound called Lotte (photo included) and also share our house, less willingly, with a rat who is causing me no end of practical and ethical dilemmas. If I can sort him out this year I will be happy.

## Elizabeth Ellis



About 15 years ago, I was tossing around research ideas as part of my work as an academic lawyer. A colleague asked me what I felt really passionate about. I didn't hesitate; the live export trade I said, but immediately qualified my answer: that's a *political* matter not a *legal* issue.

I still think that animal protection is political. But inspired by the nascent Australian animal law movement, I came to realise that law also had a role to play. In 2007, I obtained approval to run Animal Law as a subject at the University of Wollongong; I taught it for the first time in 2008 and

have done so on an occasional basis since then, most recently with the help of Keely Boom.

My research and writing on animal matters reflect my interest in public law, with an emphasis on governance issues, such as transparency and accountability. I have tried to expose the gulf between government rhetoric around animals and what is actually done to protect their welfare. I have also sought to mainstream animal law by working it into my first year text *Principles and Practice of Australian Law*, for example to illustrate how attitudes and resources impact on regulatory action.

Although no longer working full time, I maintain an honorary relationship with UOW and can be contacted via my university email. In that capacity, I have continued to be part of the animal protection movement through activities such as submission writing, the piece in *The Conversation* and peer reviewing articles for a range of journals, including the *Animal Studies Journal* on whose Editorial Advisory Board I sit.

I also engage with my local community on animal matters in diverse ways. Like supporting the local shelter, or pushing to secure protection for the overlooked animals in visiting petting zoos, or raising awareness of animal protection as a social justice issue with the local philosophy forum. And my rescue dog, a completely gentle rough collie, charms the residents of an aged care home where we visit regularly.

Living with my rescue cat is more complicated. I grew up with cats and respond to them in a deeply intuitive way but I acknowledge the harm they do to wildlife. For me, the answer is not confinement 24 hours a day – I am working to free up the lives of animals not to constrain them. While I wrestle imperfectly with the complexity of this and other animal protection issues I will continue to work for a legal and regulatory system that does much more to protect the interests of animals than the laws we have today.

### **Recent Publications**

Each month **Animail** will present a list of recently published journal articles and book chapters by AASA members. Please contact Rick De Vos < [r.devos@curtin.edu.au](mailto:r.devos@curtin.edu.au) > if you are an AASA member and have had work published in the previous month that you would like included in the list.

Yangzi Sima and **Siobhan O'Sullivan** (2016). Chinese animal protection laws and the globalisation of welfare norms. *International Journal of Law in Context*, 12, 1-23. DOI: 10.1017/S1744552315000348.

**Joanne Sneddon**, Julie Lee, Roy Ballantyne & Jan Packer (2016). Animal welfare values and tourist behaviour. *Annals of Tourism Research*.

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0160738316300081>

**Thom van Dooren** (2016). Authentic Crows: Identity, Captivity and Emergent Forms of Life. *Theory, Culture and Society*, 33.2, 29-52. <http://tcs.sagepub.com/content/33/2/29.abstract>

**Dinesh Wadiwel** (2016). Fish and pain: The politics of doubt. *Animal Sentience*, 1(3).

<http://animalstudiesrepository.org/animalsent/vol1/iss3/31/>

# Call for submissions

Sydney University Press is looking for submissions to the **Animal Publics** series.

It publishes original and important research in animal studies by both established and emerging scholars. Animal Publics takes inspiration from varied and changing modalities of the encounter between animal and human. The series explores intersections between humanities and the sciences, the creative arts and the social sciences, with an emphasis on ideas and practices about how animal life becomes public: attended to, listened to, made visible, foregrounded, included and transformed. Animal Publics investigates publics past and present, and publics to come, made up of more-than-humans and humans entangled with other species.

Authors are invited to discuss potential titles for the series and submit a proposal to Agata Mrva-Montoya: [agata.mrva-montoya@sydney.edu.au](mailto:agata.mrva-montoya@sydney.edu.au)

Series Editors: Dr Melissa Boyde and Associate Professor Fiona Probyn-Rapsey.

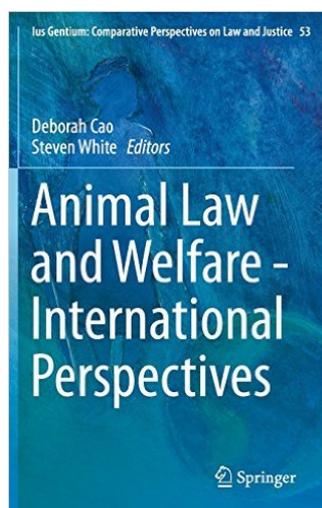
Advisory Board:

Professor Steve Baker (University of Central Lancashire); Professor Una Chaudhuri (New York University); Dr Matthew Chrulew (Curtin University); Professor Barbara Creed (University of Melbourne); Dr Chris Degeling (University of Sydney); Dr Thom van Dooren (University of New South Wales); Professor Adrian Franklin (University of Tasmania); Professor Lori Gruen (Wesleyan University); Professor Claire Kim (University of California, Irvine); Professor Paul McGreevy (University of Sydney); Dr Siobhan O'Sullivan (University of Melbourne); Professor Clare Palmer (University of Texas); Dr Anat Pick (Queen Mary, University of London); Dr Anthony Podberscek (University of Cambridge); Associate Professor Annie Potts (University of Canterbury); Professor Deborah Bird Rose (University of New South Wales); Professor Peta Tait (La Trobe University); A/Prof Nik Taylor (Flinders University); Dr Dinesh Wadiwel (University of Sydney); Professor Cary Wolfe (Rice University); Professor Wendy Woodward (University of the Western Cape).

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## NEW BOOK RELEASES

Compiled by Annie Potts



### ***Animal Law and Welfare: International Perspectives***

Edited by Deborah Cao and Steven White

Published by Springer, 2016.

This book focuses on animal laws and animal welfare in major jurisdictions in the world, including the more developed legal regimes for animal protection of the US, UK, Australia, the EU and Israel, and the regulatory regimes still developing in China, South Africa, and Brazil. It offers in-depth analyses and discussions of topical and important issues in animal laws and animal welfare, and provides a comprehensive and comparative snapshot of some of the most important countries in the world in terms of animal population and worsening animal cruelty. Among the issues discussed are international law topics that relate to animals, including the latest WTO ruling on seal products and the EU ban, the Blackfish story and US law for cetaceans, the wildlife trafficking and crimes related to Africa and China, and historical and current animal

protection laws in the UK and Australia. Bringing together the disciplines of animal law and animal welfare science as well as ethics and criminology with contributions from some of the most prominent animal welfare scientists and animal law scholars in the world, the book considers the strengths and failings of existing animal protection law in different parts of the world. In doing so it draws more attention to animal protection as a moral and legal imperative and to crimes against animals as a serious crime.

- First book on new developments in both animal law and animal welfare science
- Brings together some of the world's leading scholars in both fields
- Reflects on animal law and its development in key jurisdictions in the world
- Offers the latest thinking on animal law informed by animal welfare science
- Provides an international perspective on both domestic and wild animal protection

#### About the Editors:

**Professor Deborah Cao** is based in the school of Languages and Linguistics at Griffith University. She is also the author of *Animals in China: Law and Society* (London, Palgrave Macmillan, 2015) and *Animal Law in Australia* (2nd edition) (Thomson Reuters/LawBooks, 2015).

**Steven White** is a Lecturer at Griffith Law School in Brisbane. He has published widely on animal law, including co-editing *Animal Law in Australasia: A New Dialogue* (with Peter Sankoff), launched in May 2009 by The Hon Michael Kirby AC CMG. Steven taught one of the first undergraduate courses offered on animal law in Australia (in early 2007, repeated in 2008 and 2009). Steven is currently writing his PhD on the regulation of the treatment of companion and farmed animals in Australia.



ABORTION AND  
ANIMAL RIGHTS

SHERRY F. COLB AND MICHAEL C. DORF

#### ***Beating Hearts: Abortion and Animal Rights***

By Sherry F. Colb and Michael C. Dorf

Published by Columbia University Press, 2015.

How can someone who condemns hunting, animal farming, and animal experimentation also favour legal abortion, which is the deliberate destruction of a human foetus? The authors of *Beating Hearts* aim to reconcile this apparent conflict and examine the surprisingly similar strategic and tactical questions faced by activists in the pro-life and animal rights movements.

*Beating Hearts* maintains that sentience, or the ability to have subjective experiences, grounds a being's entitlement to moral concern. The authors argue that nearly all human exploitation of animals is unjustified. Early abortions do not contradict the sentience principle because they precede foetal sentience, and *Beating Hearts* explains why the mere potential for sentience does not create moral entitlements. Late abortions do raise serious moral questions, but forcing a woman to carry a child to term is problematic as a form of gender-based exploitation. These ethical explorations lead to a wider discussion of the strategies deployed by the pro-life and animal rights movements. Should legal reforms precede or follow attitudinal changes? Do gory images win over or alienate supporters? Is violence ever principled? By probing the connections between debates about abortion and animal rights, *Beating Hearts* uses each highly contested set of questions to shed light on the other.

#### About the Authors:

**Sherry F. Colb** is professor of law and Charles Evans Hughes Scholar at Cornell University.

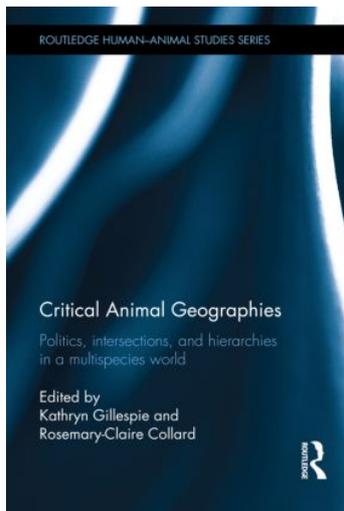
**Michael C. Dorf** is Robert S. Stevens Professor of Law at Cornell University. Colb is the author of *When Sex Counts: Making Babies and Making Law* and *Mind If I Order the*

*Cheeseburger? And Other Questions People Ask Vegans.* Dorf is the author of *No Litmus Test: Law Versus Politics in the Twenty-First Century* and the coauthor (with Laurence H. Tribe) of *On Reading the Constitution*.

### ***Critical Animal Geographies: Politics, Interactions, and Hierarchies in a Multispecies World***

Edited by Kathryn Gillespie and Rosemary-Claire Collard

Published by Routledge, 2015.



*Critical Animal Geographies* provides new geographical perspectives on critical animal studies, exploring the spatial, political, and ethical dimensions of animals' lived experience and human-animal encounter. It works toward a more radical politics and theory directed at the shifting boundary between human and animal. Chapters draw together feminist, political-economic, post-humanist, anarchist, post-colonial, and critical race literatures with original case studies in order to see how efforts by some humans to control and order life – human and not – violate, constrain, and impinge upon others. Central to all chapters is a commitment to grappling with the stakes – violence, death, life, autonomy – of human-animal encounters.

Equally, the work in the collection addresses head-on the dominant forces shaping and dependent on these encounters: capitalism, racism, colonialism, and so on. In doing so, the book pushes readers to confront how human-animal relations are mixed up with overlapping axes of power and exploitation, including gender, race, class, and species.

#### **About the Editors:**

**Kathryn Gillespie** is a part-time lecturer in Geography, the Honors Program, and the Comparative History of Ideas Program at the University of Washington in Seattle, Washington. Her research focuses on the lived experience of animals in spaces of commodity production (e.g., farming, breeding, sale, and slaughter), with a particular emphasis on those animals humans use for food.

**Rosemary-Claire Collard** is an Assistant Professor in Geography at Concordia University in Montreal. Her research looks at capitalism, environmental politics, science, and culture, especially film, with an eye to how they depend on and engender certain human-animal relations.

### ***Animal Horror Cinema: Genre, History and Criticism***

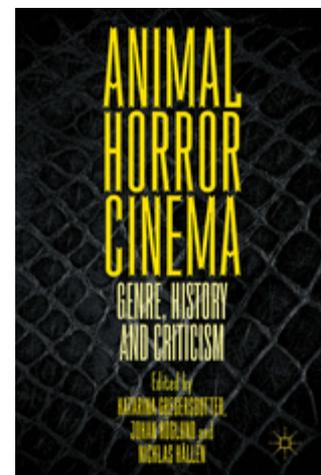
Edited by Katarina Gregersdotter, Johan Höglund and Nicklas Hållén

Published by PalgraveMacmillan, 2015.

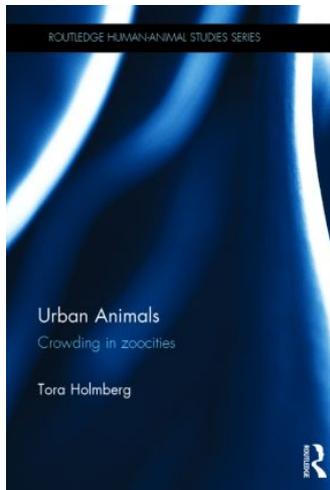
This first full-length scholarly study about animal horror cinema defines the popular subgenre and describes its origin and history in the West. The chapters explore a variety of animal horror films from a number of different perspectives. This is an indispensable study for students and scholars of cinema, horror and animal studies.

#### **List of Contributors:**

John Edgar Browning, Georgia Institute of Technology, USA My T. Do, University of California, Davis, USA Michael Fuchs, University of Graz, Austria Katarina Gregersdotter, Umeå University, Sweden Nicklas



Hållén, Umeå University, Sweden Johan Höglund, Linnaeus University, Sweden Dawn Keetley, Lehigh University, USA Craig Ian Mann, Sheffield Hallam University, UK Maja Milatovic, Southern Cross University, Australia Niklas Salmose, Linnaeus University, Sweden Jennifer Schell, University of Alaska Fairbanks, USA Susanne Schwertfeger, Umtrieb-Gallery Kiel, Germany.



### ***Urban Animals: Crowding in Zoocities***

By Tora Holmberg

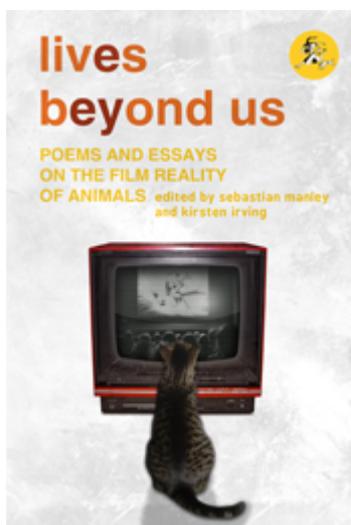
Published by Routledge, 2015.

The city includes opportunities as well as constraints for humans and other animals alike. Urban animals are often subjected to complaints; they transgress geographical, legal as and cultural ordering systems, while roaming the city in what is often perceived as uncontrolled ways. But they are also objects of care, conservation practices and bio-political interventions. What then, are the "more-than-human" experiences of living in a city? What does it mean to consider spatial formations and urban politics from the perspective of human/animal relations?

This book draws on a number of case studies to explore urban controversies around human/animal relations, in particular companion animals: free ranging dogs, homeless and feral cats, urban animal hoarding and "crazy cat ladies". The book explores 'zoocities', the theoretical framework in which animal studies meet urban studies, resulting in a reframing of urban relations and space. Through the expansion of urban theories beyond the human, and the resuscitation of sociological theories through animal studies literature, the book seeks to uncover the phenomenon of 'humanimal crowding', both as threats to be policed, and as potentially subversive. In this book, a number of urban controversies and crowding technologies are analysed, finally pointing at alternative modes of trans-species urban politics through the promises of humanimal crowding - of proximity and collective agency. The exclusion of animals may be an urban ideology, aiming at social order, but close attention to the level of practice reveals a much more diverse, disordered, and perhaps disturbing experience.

#### **About the Author:**

Tora Holmberg is an Associate Professor in sociology and Senior Lecturer as at the Department of Sociology and the Institute for Housing and Urban Research, Uppsala University, Sweden.



### ***Lives Beyond Us: Poems and Essays on the Film Reality of Animals***

Edited by Kirsten Irving and Sebastian Manley

Published by Sidekick Books  
(and featuring an essay by AASA's Carol Freeman).

"Fssst – a snapped flare, from my x-ray / bones to whiskers I am stiff objection. / Cut from hard dark you are, bad spirit – / of the humans, but not one of them."

**The canine stars of Hollywood confess all, two owls provide commentary on *Night of the Hunter* and Jonesy the space cat finally speaks.**

CRITICAL and lyrical responses commingle throughout this expansive volume. Ranging and deep, serious and playful, they address the

varied roles animals have played throughout the history of film. From the first chronophotographic experiments in capturing animal movement to the CGI facsimiles of the modern era, from Hitchcock to Lynch, cartoons to military metaphors, sharks to protozoa, *Lives Beyond Us* considers an array of cinematic fauna, along with their relationship to humans – as our companions, our subjects, our alter-egos and our guides.

See also: <https://cinematicanimal.wordpress.com/2015/07/19/lives-beyond-us-in-bookshops-now/>

Email enquiries to **contact [at] sidekickbooks.com**

### ***Affect, Space and Animals***

Edited by Jopi Nyman and Nora Schuurman

Published by Routledge, 2016.

In recent years, animals have entered the focus of the social and cultural sciences, resulting in the emergence of the new field of human–animal studies. This book investigates the relationships between humans and animals, paying particular attention to the role of affect, space, and animal subjectivity in diverse human–animal encounters. Written by a team of international scholars, contributions explore current debates concerning animal representation, performativity, and relationality in various texts and practices.

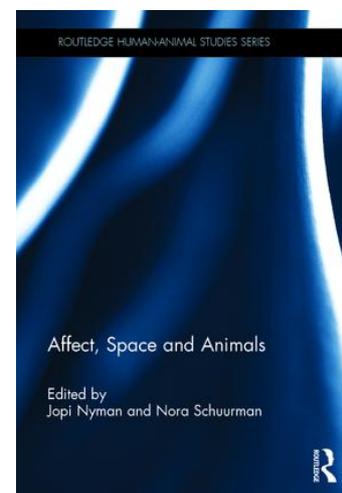
Part I explores how animals are framed as affective, through four case studies that deal with climate change, human–bovine relationships, and human–horse interaction in different contemporary and historical contexts. Part II expands on the issue of relationality and locates encounters within place, mapping the different spaces where human–animal encounters take place. Part III then examines the construction of animal subjectivity and agency to emphasize the way in which animals are conscious and sentient beings capable of experiencing feelings, emotions, and intentions, and active agents whose actions have meaning for the animals themselves.

This book highlights the importance of the ways in which affect enables animal agency and subjectivity to emerge in encounters between humans and animals in different contexts, leading to different configurations. It contributes not only to debates concerning the role of animals in society but also to the epistemological development of the field of human–animal studies.

#### **About the Editors:**

**Jopi Nyman** is Head of English at the School of Humanities at the University of Eastern Finland.

**Nora Schuurman** is Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Eastern Finland.



### ***Fighting Nature: Travelling Menageries, Animal Acts and War Shows***

By Peta Tait

Published as part of the Animal Publics Series by Sydney University Press, 2016.

This book will be available soon – pre-order today to be among the first to receive your copy!

Throughout the 19th century animals were integrated into staged scenarios of confrontation, ranging from lion acts in small cages to large-scale re-enactments of war. Initially presenting a handful of exotic animals, travelling menageries grew to contain multiple species in their thousands. These 19th-century menageries entrenched beliefs about the human right to exploit nature through war-like practices against other animal species. Animal shows became a stimulus for antisocial behaviour as locals taunted animals, caused fights, and even turned into violent mobs. Human societal problems were difficult to separate from issues of cruelty to animals.

Apart from reflecting human capacity for fighting and aggression, and the belief in human dominance over nature, these animal performances also echoed cultural fascination with conflict, war and colonial expansion, as the grand spectacles of imperial power reinforced state authority and enhanced public displays of nationhood and nationalistic evocations of colonial empires.

*Fighting Nature* is an insightful analysis of the historical legacy of 19th-century colonialism, war, animal acquisition and transportation. This legacy of entrenched beliefs about the human right to exploit other animal species is yet to be defeated.

“Fighting Nature is an important contribution to the growing field of research on nineteenth century show business. Peta Tait brings to the book an impressive scholarly command of the documentary material, from which she draws a range of vivid examples and revealing analyses of human-animal confrontation in popular entertainments. She addresses the cultural and performative dimensions of these in ways that throw light on changing ideas of species hierarchy in a period of colonial ideology. The book is written with verve and clarity, and will be of interest to a wide readership in performance studies and cultural history.” — Professor Jane Goodall, Writing and Society Research Centre, Western Sydney University.

#### **Digital editions:**

Digital editions of *Fighting Nature* will be available upon release for Google Play and the iBookstore. If you would like more information, or to be notified when these become available.

#### **About the Author:**

**Peta Tait** FAHA is Professor of Theatre and Drama at La Trobe University and Visiting Professor at the University of Wollongong, and author of *Wild and Dangerous P* (2012).

## Conference Calls

Compiled by Jo Sneddon

### **Sixth International Conference on Food Studies University of California at Berkeley, Berkeley, USA 12-13 October 2016**

#### **2016 Special Focus: Food Systems in the Age of the Anthropocene: Addressing Demands for Change**

The carbon footprint of our species has been increasingly recognized as a defining factor in the current geological age: the age of the anthropocene. This age and its ecosystemic traces are defined by a particular history, the “great acceleration” of human impact upon nature: modern industry, population growth, and increasing per capita consumption. This history has resulted in a number of human-induced changes to global temperatures, sea levels, CO<sub>2</sub> levels in the atmosphere, to name just a few. The production, distribution, and consumption of food—at local and global scales—provide a critical insight into the human and natural dynamics of this age. They simultaneously reveal demands, strategies, and possibilities for change. What is the future of sustainable and equitable food systems in the age of the anthropocene? How do we balance the demands of ecosystems, producers, and consumers in an age marked by the effects of climate change? What are the particular demands for change produced by the age? What are the broader implications for thinking about the nature of this change, toward more sustainable and equitable food systems in particular, and communities in general? The 2016 meeting will feature a special focus on

this provocative subject. We welcome open debate, discourse and research from participants that center on this special topic, as well as the yearly conference themes described below, and any other issues relevant to food studies.

Website: <http://food-studies.com/2016-conference/format>

Proposal Submissions and Deadlines

We welcome the submission of proposals to the conference at any time of the year before the final submission deadline. All proposals will be reviewed within two to four weeks of submission. The dates below serve as a guideline for proposal submissions based on our corresponding registration deadlines:

Early Proposal Deadlines – **12 March 2016**

Regular Proposal Deadlines – **12 July 2016**

Late Proposal Deadlines – **12 September 2016**

If you are unable to attend the conference in person, you may present in a Virtual Poster session or a Virtual Lightning Talk. [Virtual Sessions](#) enable participants to present work to a body of peers and to engage with colleagues from afar. As a virtual participant, presenters are scheduled in the formal program, have access to select conference content, can submit an article for peer review and possible publication, may upload an online presentation, and can enjoy Annual Membership to the community and subscriber access to *Food Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*.

### **Making Sense of: Food/ Exploring the Food Experience**

*The Food Project: 5th Global Meeting, Thursday 1st September – Saturday 3rd September 2016*  
**Mansfield College, Oxford, United Kingdom**

Food and our experience with it, to it, and by it, requires an integrated approach for its understanding. As such, FOOD5 is inviting presentations from different disciplines and approaches that would enhance the interdisciplinary nature of the topic. The proposed presentations should serve as the beginning of an ongoing dynamic dialogue, with the ultimate goal of moving beyond the limits of the conference itself in order to assist communities in substantive ways. The goal is to have a roomful of food and something enthusiasts, whether it be food and art, food and therapy, food and biostatistics, food and cookbook writing, food and history, the opportunities are endless. With this spirit in mind, presentations, papers, performances, works-in-progress, and/or workshop proposals for FOOD5 are invited to address issues related to any of the following areas (or combination of them):

- appetites (connection between food and sex, desire, hunger, etc.)
- place and space (private vs public eating, formal vs informal food movements, etc)
- authenticity (traditional vs new, cycles or trends, etc.)
- globalization (conquest and contemporary, exchange, standardization, food products all over)
- ability of language to capture, or not, multi-sensorial nature of the food experience
- food activism (social changes, resistance, reactions, solutions, etc.) and creating food literacy
- food practices (diets, vegetarianism, food fads, ritual foods, etc.)
- teaching of food (food literacy, food history, food and identity, etc.)
- food as identity (collectively, regionally, religiously, etc.)
- food in the 21st century (as it intersects with the advent of the internet social media, immigration, globalization, etc.)
- food in industry (restaurateurs, chefs, sommeliers,

The Project Team particularly welcomes the submission of pre-formed panel proposals.

#### **What to Send:**

300 word abstracts, proposals and other forms of contribution should be submitted by **Friday 8th April 2016**. All submissions be minimally double reviewed, under anonymous (blind) conditions, by a global panel drawn from members of the Project Team and the Advisory Board. In practice our procedures usually entail that by the time a proposal is accepted, it will have been triple and quadruple reviewed. You will be notified of the panel's decision by **Friday 22nd April 2016**. If your submission is accepted for the conference, a full draft of your contribution should be submitted by **Friday 3rd June 2016**.

Website: <http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/probing-the-boundaries/making-sense-of/food/call-for-presentations/>

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**ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS: HUMAN-ANIMAL-CONTACTS IN THE ARTS, LITERATURE, CULTURE, AND THE SCIENCES**

<https://www.vetmeduni.ac.at/en/messerli/infoservice/human-animal-news/conference-animal-encounters-human-animal-contacts-in-the-arts-literature-culture-and-the-sciences/>

International Conference at the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Department for German and Comparative Studies

25th to 27th November 2016

Confirmed keynote speakers: Lori Gruen (Wesleyan University, Middletown CT), Roland Borgards (Julius Maximilian University of Würzburg)