

# CULTURE AND CONTEST IN A MATERIAL WORLD



AUSTRALIAN  
ANTHROPOLOGICAL  
| SOCIETY |  
CONFERENCE 2012

26-28  
SEPTEMBER  
AT UQ  
ST LUCIA

Hosted by the  
University of Queensland  
Anthropology Program



THE UNIVERSITY  
OF QUEENSLAND  
AUSTRALIA

# Wednesday 26th September

Forgan Smith Building (1)										Abel Smith Building (23)	
Times	E107 (40)	E109 (242)	E212 (44)	E215 (160)	E219 (48)	E232 (40)	E301 (46)	E303 (60)	E356 (55)	Lecture Theatre (366)	
8:30	<i>Registration 8.15am - 9.15 am</i>										
9:00											
9:30	9:15 Welcome & Plenary 1, Keynote: Thomas Hylland Eriksen. "The three crises of globalisation" (Abel Smith Building)										
10:00											
10:30	<b>Morning tea 10.30- 11.00</b>										
11:00	P25	P33	P22	P4	P11		P3		P28	Film: We Still Live Here 11.00 - 12.30	
11:30	Pop Public Health	Architectural Anthropology	What counts? Eickelkamp	Resource contests	Social lives computers		Collaborative processes		Governmental Interventions		
12:00	Mobbs	Memmot, Greenup, Were		Babidge De Rijke Bainton	Marshall		Toussaint		Asche Acciaioli i		
12:30	<b>Lunch 12:30 - 1:30</b>										
13:00											Film: Tribo Planetaria 12.45 - 1.30
13:30	P25	P8	P23	P4	P11		P3	P1	P28	Film: Dreams of Dutiful 1.30 - 3.00	
14:00	Pop Public Health	Heritage Pacific	Sustenance Security Neylon Millard	Resource contests	Social lives computers		Collaborative processes	Anth media	Governmental Interventions		
14:30	Mobbs	Gillespie Were Lilley		Babidge De Rijke Bainton	Marshall		Toussaint	Pertierra Horst	Asche Acciaioli		
15:00	<b>Afternoon tea 3.00-3.30</b>										
15:30	P16	P8		P4			P3	P1	P28	Films: Shooting Freetown Made in Trenchtown Street Fiction 3.15 - 5.30	
16:00	Global Rights	Heritage Pacific		Resource contests			Collaborative processes	Anth media	Governmental Interventions		
16:30	Holcombe Kerins	Gillespie Were Lilley		Babidge De Rijke Bainton			Toussaint	Pertierra Horst	Asche Acciaioli		
17:00											
17:30	<b>Conference Reception &amp; Launch of the UQ Anthropology Museum online catalogue</b>										
18:00											
18:30											
19:00											Opening Night Film As Hiper Mulheres (The Hyperwomen)

10:00	Plenary 2, Keynote: Michèle Dominy "Place Conservation in Post-Settler Worlds" (Abel Smith Building)									
10:30	Morning tea 10.30- 11.00									
11:00	P2	P18	P10	P6	P11		P3	P19	P28	Film: Savage Memory 11.00 - 12.30
11:30	Indigenous Sickness	World Future	Rethinking Biomedicine	Narrating past	Social lives computers		Collaborative processes	Music and dance	Governmental Interventions	
12:00	Heil Dussart	Connor	Claudio, Taylor- Alexander, Smith	Ross Goring	Marshall		Toussaint	Beckett	Asche Acciaioli	
12:30	Lunch 12:30 - 1:30									
13:00	P2	P18	P10	P6	P11	P32	P24	P19	P14	Films: New Indigenous Shorts 12.45 - 1.30
13:30	Indigenous Sickness	World Future	Rethinking Biomedicine	Narrating past	Social lives computers	Indigenous Art	Anth of work	Music and dance	Kinship	
14:00	Heil Dussart	Connor	Claudio, Taylor- Alexander, Smith	Ross Goring	Marshall	Schmidt et al	Moore Macdonald Coldrick	Beckett	McConvell Bell	
14:30	Films: Miyarrrka Media 1.30 - 3.30									
15:00	Afternoon tea 3.00-3.30									
15:30	AAS AGM 3.30-5.30									
16:00										
16:30										
17:00	Soccer "friendly" 5-6pm									
17:30										
18:00										
18:30										
19:00										

# Friday 28th September

Forgan Smith Building (1)										Abel Smith Building (23)
Times	E107 (40)	E109 (242)	E212 (44)	E215 (160)	E219 (48)	E232 (40)	E301 (46)	E303 (60)	E356 (55)	Lecture Theatre (366)
9:30	Plenary 3, Keynote: Lissant Bolton. "Presences and absences: objects, narratives, politics and traditional owners..." (Abel Smith Building)									
10:00										
10:30	Morning tea 10.30- 11.00									
11:00	P31	P18	P9	P7	P30		P27	P21	P29	Films: A Kiss for Gabriela In Pursuit of the Siberian Shaman 11.00 - 12.30
11:30	Museum boundaries	World Future	Anth cultural studies	Monster Panel	ANSA showcase		Contesting Identities	Promises Modernity	Human mobility	
12:00	Hafner Allen	Connor	Trigger Pertierra	Musharbash King			Pechenkina	Cox Dundon	Molland Hoffstaedter Peters	
12:30		HOD meeting			ANSA AGM		Lunch 12:30 - 1:30			
13:00										
13:30	P26	P18	P9	P7	P30		P27	P21	P29	Film: New Indigenous feature 1.30 - 3.00
14:00	Images objects	World Future	Anth cultural studies	Monster Panel	ANSA showcase		Contesting Identities	Promises Modernity	Human mobility	
14:30	Young Deger	Connor	Trigger Pertierra	Musharbash King			Pechenkina	Cox Dundon	Molland Hoffstaedter Peters	
15:00	Afternoon tea 3.00-3.30									
15:30	P26	P12		P7	P30			P21	P29	Film: Matchmaking Mayor 3.30 - 5.00
16:00	Images objects	Wellbeing resilience		Monster Panel	ANSA showcase			Promises Modernity	Human mobility	
16:30	Young Deger	Hemer		Musharbash King				Cox Dundon	Molland Hoffstaedter Peters	
17:00										

## Letter Of Welcome

Welcome to the annual Australian Anthropological Society conference, this year held on the beautiful St Lucia campus of The University of Queensland. UQ is situated in a pocket of the winding Brisbane River on land donated to the University by James and Amelia Mayne.

Anthropology at UQ is situated in the School of Social Science, which also contains the disciplines of Archaeology, Sociology and Criminology. The School of Social Science is excited to be hosting the AAS conference this year. We are looking forward to the rigorous and robust debate that always accompanies the AAS conference. We are particularly thrilled to see such a wide range of panels based around the conference theme of Culture and Contest in a Material World.



A word on the theme. We chose this particular theme as it reflects the range of research activities undertaken by staff, post-docs, and post-graduate students in the Anthropology discipline at UQ. In particular, the theme celebrates the research associated with the new Anthropology Museum in the recently refurbished Michie Building at UQ. The Anthropology Museum houses the largest university collection of ethnographic and visual material culture in Australia. There are artefacts ranging from household implements to diverse performance paraphernalia and musical instruments. There are water-craft, paintings, clothing, hunting gear, a large quantity of stone tools, including grind stones and axes, and some 1,100 spears and arrows. The new display in the Anthropology Museum, *In the Red: on the vibrancy of things*, will be available for viewing during the conference. The recently completed online catalogue will be officially launched during the conference.

We are also excited about the keynote speakers and the distinguished lecturer we have for the conference this year. Lissant Bolton, Thomas Hylland Eriksen and Michèle Dominy are the keynotes and Genevieve Bell is the distinguished lecturer. Dr Bell's lecture is also the Inaugural University of Queensland Public Lecture in Anthropology, which will be held annually from this year.

The conference has been organised by a team of enthusiastic staff and post-graduates in the Anthropology discipline at UQ. Many thanks to Elena Piotto for her tireless attention to the detail of the budget, the bookings, and the day to day management of the conference planning. Sally Babidge, Anna Pertierra, Di Hafner and Annie Ross have done a magnificent job to ensure the success of the final programme.

There are a wealth of activities available to delegates, both formally as part of the conference proceedings and in Brisbane generally. We hope you find plenty to keep you engaged and challenged and that you enjoy your time with us!

**Professor David Trigger**

*Head of School of Social Science*

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## List of Credits

### Chair of AAS 2012 Conference Organising Committee

#### AAS 2012 Conference Organising Committee

Chair	Professor David Trigger
Committee	Dr Sally Babidge
	Dr Diane Hafner
	Dr Anna Cristina Pertierra
	Dr Annie Ross
Secretariat	Ms Elena Piotto

Film Program curators	Dr Lisa Stefanoff Ms Caro Macdonald
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Conference program	Designed by Bonnie Shale, P8 Design.
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#### AAS Executive Committee

President	Associate Professor Rosita Henry
President Emeritus	Professor Alan Rumsey
President Elect	Associate Professor Helen Lee
Secretary	Dr Cameo Dalley
Treasurer	Dr Pamela McGrath
Ordinary Directors	Dr Sarah Holcombe
	Dr. Anthony Redmond

Other office bearers	Dr Martha Macintyre (Editor, The Australian Journal of Anthropology)
	Dr Grant McCall (Public Officer)
	Ms Brooke Nolan (Postgraduate Student Representative)

- P 6, Paper 5:**        **The changing meaning of 'heritage' in post-revolution Egypt**  
Megan Rowland (Archaeological Heritage and Museums, Cambridge University)

Prior to the 2011 Egyptian revolution, the thirty-year reign of Mubarak (1981-2011) espoused strong ideals concerning the legal, economic and academic ownership of Egypt's Pharaonic heritage. Such ideals materialized in strict heritage ownership and exportation laws, new developments in the tourism industry, and the rigid policies governing archaeological practice. In the early days of the revolution, the meaning, uses and value of Pharaonic heritage underwent a dramatic alteration. This is evident in revolutionary imagery, the treatment of, and attitudes to, Pharaonic antiquities, and the emergent political discourses present throughout the events of the uprising. Mubarak-era ideals of heritage ownership engendered a strong sense of alienation in the Egyptian people. Concentrating on the themes of heritage meaning, heritage regulation, and ideals of cultural property ownership, this paper will argue that this alienation has ultimately driven the ways in which Pharaonic heritage has been used and adapted to cope with political change in post-revolution Egypt.

- P 6, Paper 6:**        **Custom, Conflict and the Construction of Heritage: European Huts on the Tasmanian Central Plateau.**  
David Collett\* (Hexis Consulting), Celmara Pocock (University of Southern Queensland), and Joan Knowles (Narrabundah College)

Since the 1990s, cultural heritage managers have become increasingly interested in the intangible as the way that local communities create value for cultural heritage places. The present paper uses historical and ethnographic information on the practices of people living below the Great Western Tiers in Tasmania to examine the way these people turned the huts on the Central Plateau into heritage. Increased environmental regulation in the late 1980s and early 1990s resulting from the inclusion of the Central Plateau in the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area disrupted a range of practices that maintained communal attachment to and 'ownership' of the land. Some of the people living below the Great Western Tiers responded by using the huts on the plateau to memorialise their past attachments to the mountain. But this created a new status for huts as heritage, and both the regulator and the regulated agreed that this category of buildings now needed managing. This fundamentally altered the nature of the communal attachment to parts of the Central Plateau because it required an acceptance of the regulatory framework that had disrupted the practices that were the basis of the original 'communal' ownership of land.

- P 6, Paper 7:**        **Material entanglement: family, fabric and Old Currango**  
Steve Brown (University of Sydney and Office of Environment and Heritage (NSW))

Across Australia cultural heritage is typically managed via a thresholds-based values approach, whereby values attributed to things are assessed against a series of criteria to qualify for local, State or national heritage status. Immaterial values are typically measured in relation to social and/or aesthetic values, requiring demonstration of a 'strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group'. . My aim in this presentation is to scrutinise the conceptual separation of material and immaterial within the Australian heritage system.



## P30 paper 3:

**Improvisation over repetition: 'the beat' in migratory practices of movement**

Kerri-Anne Sheehy, University of Southern Queensland

My focus in this paper is music and migratory movement as practices of body. This focus is a key component of my doctoral research, bringing an exploration of the forging of links between place and body to music and migration as embodied practices and to ways of thinking about home and movement. The analytical focal point of the study concerns the place related meanings of music among individual migrants from a diversity of cultural, social, linguistic and ethnic backgrounds and a choir of migrant and non-migrant women 'singing songs from around the world'. Data were gathered through a series of ethnographic conversations reflecting on music among these migrants and the choir in a major regional inland city in Australia, which has seen increased migration in recent years through a policy of regional settlement. Music's metaphorical correlation with 'life' among these migrants is suggestive of place-body relationships in relation to a common perception that music connects people and people to place by way of 'the beat'. In this paper, I discuss some relevant criticisms of the concept of habitus and how such criticisms demand the use of phenomenological theories of practice. Such lenses provide a useful approach in permitting embodied agency through creativity and innovation. In addition, through musical ways of rethinking habitus and phenomenological theories of sensuous embodied movement, I present a conception of bodily practice which pays attention to recurring bodily patterns in unusual circumstances. I argue that patterned movements of the body in relation to migratory movement involve modification of habit through improvisation.

## P30 paper 4:

**Lord of the Ring(s) Road: change in the modern Australian state**

Chris Speldewinde, Deakin University

'This new road has affected our town, yes; it has really hurt our town.'

My paper explores the effects of a recently opened major arterial road, the Geelong Ring Road. A twenty-five kilometre road in regional Victoria, it was constructed to alleviate traffic congestion through the regional city of Geelong. It bypasses Geelong's suburban areas and central business district facilitating faster travel times to coastal tourist areas and easier movement of heavy transport supporting regional industry including logging and agriculture. The road has impacted upon regional communities that experience traffic flow into their townships via connecting arterial roads leading off the Ring Road. These impacts include adverse economic consequences to business, community division over the need to now bypass a growing rural town and feelings of inadequacy with existing town amenities.

This paper will use ethnographic findings from ongoing fieldwork in Lorne and Winchelsea to discuss how a new road impacts upon these regional communities. It will compare the road's use to deliver political and social outcomes with Dalakoglou's examination of the relationship between a road in Albania and its narratives and politics and Dalakoglou's theory that the physical and social construction, uses and perception of a road can dominate social life. The paper will conclude by using this comparison to argue against Dalakoglou's support of Marc Auge's belief that highways are among the most typical example of non-places or alienating spaces that lack social significance and will demonstrate that a road is an agent of social change in regional Australian towns.