



Animail: December 2017

Introduction

Kia ora koutou katoa! Hello again everyone!

Welcome to December's *Animail*. Although this issue isn't strictly due till the end of the month, we've decided to file it a little early to enable our team to have a break over the holidays – and also to provide some enlivening animal-focused reading as a little bit of a seasonal gift to our readers.

In particular we have two exceptionally interesting member profiles from Karina Heikkila and Catherine Schuetze; a highly informative report from Steven White on last month's conference at Griffiths University on the crucial topic of animal protection regulations; and another great roundup of human-animal studies books provided by Nik Taylor.

To complement all this I thought it would be nice to provide you with not one but three marvelous poems about that humble and extraordinary creature, the snail. (Maybe that continues the animal protection theme in a way.) I hope you enjoy them.

And don't miss the notice about the latest issue of *Animal Studies Journal*, on the topic of 'sanctuaries'. The superb essays collected together by Guest Editor Elan Abrell, with the help of the *ASJ* editorial team and especially Editor-in-Chief Melissa Boyde and Copyeditor Sally Borrell, represent a diverse range of perspectives on this topic, from theoretical considerations to practical ones, from linguistic analysis to postcolonial studies, from the USA to NZ, from chimpanzees to condors, from elephants to stoats.

Thanks, as always, to Rick De Vos and Nik Taylor for compiling their respective sections of the newsletter.

Look for the next issue of *Animail* in 2018!

Until then, noho ora mai, stay well.

Philip Armstrong

AASA Chair

Member Profiles

Karina Heikkila



Pyrenees Khan and Karina

After a long career in the IT industry, I undertook a law degree. I hoped it would open opportunity for me to advocate, in some form, for nonhuman animals. I worked like a maniac and graduated with first class honours. I am in my final year of completing my PhD at Victoria University in Melbourne. I am enrolled in the Supreme Court of Victoria as an Australian legal practitioner and have worked as a sessional lecturer and tutor in a number of law subjects.

I also contract to provide legal research, writing services, and trial assistance for a barrister with a nationwide practice. Whilst law is my training, I am drawn to the open and compassionate thinking and acting evident in the works of AASA members. I have also fallen in love with the works of Jacques Derrida and his unflinching demand for justice.

My doctorate thesis examines Australian animal ‘protection’ laws through Derrida’s lens. A key premise of the thesis is that Derrida’s works, and deconstructions generally, demand exposure of human animal beingness and the resultant injustices, including those that impact nonhuman animals. That exposure also demands recognition of Western constructs of rationality that get-to-work in law.

I thought this article demanded a Derridean confession in regard to my relationship with nonhuman animals. Ever since I can remember, nonhuman animals have elicited from me, an exquisite sense of responsibility and what I perceive is a shared vulnerability. I did not understand *how* that worked until I had spent years learning to read Derrida. Now I appreciate that when I ‘connect’ with a nonhuman animal, their gift to me, is an overwhelming, rich and fulfilling affirmation of my own beingness. Their connection to me, enlivens an experience of myself, in who and what I desire to construct of myself: to be conscious of my own response, to hope to respond, without violence of any kind. To let them show me who they are, to try to let them be. Further, I have no reason to believe that *that* experience of self-affirmation is anything special for me because I am a human animal. I hope that the gift is reciprocated. This appreciation of the workings of my own materiality, the automated experience of myself in my encounter with them, is not a reduction in any sense. I am reminded that I don’t need to elevate myself because I am a human animal. It is always a pure pleasure to let that wonderful curiosity and the admission of ‘ungraspableness’ wash over me.

Catherine Schuetze

I grew up in country Queensland surrounded by animals and always wanted to be a veterinarian. Well, except for a brief period when I was around eight years old and saw an episode of James Herriot where he was doing a rectal exam on a cow! I felt a deep empathy for animals and their suffering and wanted to heal them. It wasn't until I saw and heard a pig being slaughtered when I was 17 that I really connected the dots between the meat on my plate and animal suffering, and I immediately became vegetarian.



Catherine with a baby yak in Tibet

While progressing throughout the years of veterinary school, my interest in animal studies was fostered before I even knew what term that meant. I was on the board of Animal Liberation Queensland, advocating against farm animal practices, greyhound racing, vivisection and live export, while simultaneously having to learn and engage in some of those same practices for my studies, like farm work and performing vivisection on unwanted 'slow' greyhounds surrendered to the vet school. The dissonance almost led to a breakdown and I barely made it through vet school. I have worked in various veterinary fields since then including wildlife work in Australia and Africa, marine mammal research, companion animal and equine general practice (I was once a polo vet for Prince Phillip), and a few years as a locum in the UK. Now I mainly concentrate on integrated therapies (acupuncture, herbs, nutraceuticals), palliative care and end of life care for companion animals.

I have spent 15 years working in India and Bhutan on animal welfare, public health, dog management and anti-rabies programs. I founded Vets Beyond Borders in 2004 and helped establish and manage programs across India and Bhutan. We also set up training programs for Indian personnel in surgery, medicine and humane animal handling. I lived in India and Bhutan for 10 years and studied Tibetan language, Buddhism and Tibetan medicine. This led to an Honours Degree at the Australian National University in medical anthropology and Asian Studies where I researched the representations of animals in Tibetan medicine and amongst Tibetan medical doctors and institutions.

My time working in these communities led me to question the role of veterinary science and how it is affected by and affects society. I also reflect on how and why it is so different in different communities e.g. India and Australia. I argue that veterinary systems and society are mutually transforming forces, evolving together interdependently. Therefore, veterinary practices are culture bound and relative. We should more accurately call it veterinary culture rather than veterinary science because relative truths do not translate across international borders or between cultural groups. What is normative in India is unknown or inappropriate in Australia and vice versa. The fundamental reason for some of this is society's differing attitudes towards and relationships with animals. In addition, cultures of practice in differing communities become codified into oral or textual lineages. This is well established in medical anthropology and I am applying similar theoretical frameworks to veterinary science.

I am now in the final year of a PhD, initially at ANU and now at the University of Sydney, researching the veterinary anthropology of Bhutan. This research is an interdisciplinary project, informed by animal studies, medical anthropology and Buddhist studies. I have found 34 traditional Tibetan veterinary texts and am translating some sections of those, along with the oral archiving of a rapidly disappearing traditional of local and historic knowledge of animal healing practices in the Himalayas and Tibet. I have presented at several conferences including Minding Animals, Asia for Animals, AASA, Global Buddhist Congregation, IATS (Tibetan Studies), Australian Veterinary Association, and recently returned from presenting a seminar on my research at Yale University's Himalayan Initiative. I endeavour to blog on www.veterinaryanthropology.com but PhD writing has taken its toll on that endeavour unfortunately. I have published here and there and have several articles coming in the new year. They will be added to my blog when they appear.

I will continue research in the field of veterinary anthropology and ethno-veterinary medicine after my PhD. I also still manage an animal welfare program in Bodhgaya India, where the Buddha attained enlightenment, a fascinating nexus of international Buddhist pilgrims, local Indians and exiled Tibetan communities. I maintain an apartment in Dharamsala, India, down the road from the Dalai Lama, where I spend some of the year, and in Newtown, Sydney, where I spend the rest of my time writing my thesis. I still work as a vet in both places.



Catherine with friends – the resident dogs living outside her Dharamsala apartment

Volunteer Vet Needed for Darjeeling (India)

Christine Townend, on the committee of AASA, started an animal shelter in Darjeeling after she saw street dogs being poisoned with strychnine (in order to control rabies). The shelter now conducts an ABC (Animal Birth Control) programme and the municipality has stopped all poisoning of dogs. A volunteer vet is required at the shelter. A comfortable room with attached bathroom, together with three vegetarian meals per day, are provided. The five staff are friendly and helpful. Nepali, Hindi and English are spoken. Please contact Christine at info@workingforanimals.org.au if you can help.

Conference Report

Conference Report by Steven White:

Exploring the Regulatory Dimensions of Animal Protection

Law Futures Centre, Griffiths University. November 9, 2017

Leading national and international researchers, teachers and practitioners in animal law examined a range of vital animal protection issues at the Law Futures Centre's Animal Law Conference. The Conference focused on the regulatory dimensions of animal protection, including regulatory norms, informational regulation, regulatory actors, protection standards and governance.

(a) Regulatory Norms

Professor Werner Scholtz (University of the Western Cape) investigated the emergence of an international animal welfare norm and its potential consequences for the *International Convention on the Regulation of Whaling*. A reinterpretation of the Convention that takes into account welfare concerns has several consequences for the whaling regime. Werner highlighted the legal consequences of such an interpretation in a critical manner and argued that the recognition of humane killing as an expression of concern for the welfare of animals may ultimately constitute a phase in an incremental process towards the non-lethal utilisation of whales. An evolutionary interpretation of the Convention may support a paradigm shift towards a preservation ethic. This in turn may provide a step along the path where 'soft' international law incorporates an ethic of animal welfare.

Dr Sophie Riley (University of Technology Sydney) outlined her research agenda for a new book, which will address the historical foundations of the now ubiquitous norm of 'animal welfare'. She showed how international veterinary conferences and treaties relating to animal health and quarantine, in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, facilitated the commodification of farm animals. During this time, the focus lay on achieving disease-free shipments that treated animals as bulk commodities, leading to the regime developing without meaningful ethical engagement. Instead, it fostered the use of animals along a commodification pathway that provided post-war intensive farming with a ready-made avenue for marketing animals in a commercially-driven manner. This calls into question whether a welfare paradigm was, and indeed is, sufficiently robust to offset commercial biases that have become increasingly ingrained by the economic gains humans make from farm animals.

(b) Informational Regulation and Free Range Labelling

Professor Christine Parker (University of Melbourne) discussed the results of her ARC grant project which included an investigation of the politics of free range labelling. She argued that the popularity of "free range" and higher animal welfare labelling shows a growing recognition by retailers and food producers that the public are concerned about the extreme confinement of sentient creatures in factory farming systems. She summarised the lessons from an extensive empirical socio-legal study of the impacts of free range and other higher welfare labelling claims on state and non-state governance of factory farming, voices and themes in public discourse concerning animal agriculture, and the lives of the animals themselves in egg, pig and meat chicken production in Australia.

(c) Regulatory Actors

Dr Jed Goodfellow (RSPCA Australia & Macquarie University) addressed the role of government in live export, highlighting ongoing animal welfare failures in the live animal supply chain. The roles and responsibilities of live exporters was considered, including the extent to which exporters can be held accountable for the fate of Australian animals exported to destinations around the world. Separately, Jed highlighted two recent State-based campaigns targeting RSPCA WA and RSPCA Victoria respectively. Organisations hostile to improved animal welfare and an active role for the RSPCA in its

promotion and enforcement, including the Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party and the National Party, led trumped up parliamentary inquiries in the two jurisdictions. Whatever the premise of the inquiries, positives consequences include an affirmation of the important role played by the RSPCA in promoting animal protection, and the suggestion of an independent office of animal welfare in WA. On the other hand, RSPCA Vic has agreed to step back from activist campaigning in favour of more restrained advocacy.

(d) Protection Standards

Katrina Kluss (Queensland Bar & University of Queensland) and **Professor Jonathan Crowe** (Bond University) separately addressed the legal status of animals and the ideal of legal personhood. Katrina outlined a new theoretical approach, bridging the justice arguments of Robert Garner with the sentience-based, utilitarian arguments of Steven Wise and Peter Singer. Jonathan's presentation complemented this theory with an account of some of the ways in which Australian courts or legislatures might take such a step, whether relying on strategic litigation or legislating for a concept of guardianship in Australian law.

Dr Rebekah Eyers (RSPCA SA) provided an overview of her PhD research into the application and enforcement of animal welfare standards at Queensland sale yards. Her empirical, observational study of sale yards was married with a sophisticated regulatory analysis of the prevailing, inadequate compliance monitoring and enforcement processes, and suggestions for how these might be reformed.

Marcelo Rodriguez Ferrere (University of Otago) highlighted *the Animal Welfare Amendment Act 2015* (NZ) as a major milestone in the development of New Zealand's animal welfare legal framework. The legislation introduced the power to create regulations that prescribe specific standards of care complementing the general obligations in the parent Act. In 2016, regulations relating to bobby (young, male) calves in the dairy industry and live export were introduced, and in 2017, 46 new regulations are due to be introduced, coming into effect in October 2018. From one perspective, such new regulatory power is to be applauded: it allows greater enforcement, oversight and certainty of the obligations owed by those in charge of animals and their care. However, it remains unclear how existing specific codes of welfare, will work with the new regulations. Marcelo explored the different regulatory structures available for enforcing animal welfare statutes, their advantages and disadvantages, and what Australia can learn from the New Zealand experience so far.

(e) Governance

Katie Woolaston (Griffith University) described a regulatory mechanism that can be of use to animal lawyers: collaborative governance. This 'new governance' is of growing importance in environmental and natural resource management, and is based on de-centralising decision making and removing permanent hierarchies. She first described the premise of collaborative governance, its uses, successes and challenges. The benefits of legally integrated collaborative processes for wild animal welfare were then identified, including giving animal lawyers and other advocates a more permanent voice in regulation, as well as the ability to promote internalisation of animal-friendly norms. Finally, she applied the possibilities for collaborative governance to two case studies: kangaroos and motor sports in Bathurst, and lethal management of sharks in Western Australia. These case studies not only demonstrate the need for collaborative governance for wild animal welfare, but also the informal and highly effective community based processes already in place.

Whether internationally or domestically, improving animal protection continues to grow as a significant policy, political and ethical imperative. The Conference provided rich insights into the regulatory challenges and opportunities in constructively responding to this imperative.

Calls for Papers

Animals in the Humanities: Relations, Representations, and Ethical Implications. March 23-24, 2018, Roanoke College, Virginia. Virginia Humanities Conference 2018

<https://call-for-papers.sas.upenn.edu/cfp/2017/11/13/animals-in-the-humanities>

Does the presence of animals in culture call the very nature of the humanities into question? The human condition has always been defined in relation to the animal, from the ancients to contemporary "post-humanist" thinkers. Yet our relationships with animals have always been ambivalent and ambiguous. Pampered as pets, raised and killed in horrendous conditions as food, we idolize, exploit, and overlook them. Patriarchal culture has often linked animality with women (and the indigenous) and rationality with men (and civilization). To challenge some of these traditional practices and categories, recent studies of animals in culture have raised important theoretical questions about what constitutes the humanities. For example, why has there been an "animal turn" in the humanities? Why are so many intellectuals challenging the human-animal binary? Are animals no longer the "absolute other"? How did the representation of animals change after Descartes, Darwin, Derrida, and Harroway? [sic] How has the recent interest in animal cognition altered animals' ethical status? This conference welcomes submissions exploring ANY QUESTION concerning animals in the humanities.

For further information, please contact Marwood Larson-Harris (mdharris@roanoke.edu).

Page-long proposals are due by **February 5, 2018**.

(Un)Common Worlds: Contesting the Limits of Human-Animal Communities: Human-Animal Studies Conference. August 7-9, 2018, Turku, Finland.

<https://uncommonworlds.wordpress.com/>

Humans and other animals share spaces and create communities together. They touch each other in various symbolic and material ways, constantly crossing and redrawing communal, ethical and very practical boundaries. As of late, this multifarious renegotiation of human-animal relations has sparked intense debates both in the public arena and in academia. For instance, Bruno Latour argues that the anthropocene (marking the massive human impact on ecosystems) creates a new territory in which traditional subject/object separations are no longer useful. What is called for is the transgressing or dissolving of these limits in order to "distribute agency as far and in as differentiated a way as possible" (Latour 2014, 16). Various inclusive, more-than-human notions, such as 'cosmopolitics' (Stengers 2010) or 'common worlds' (Latour 2004) are brought forward to this end. These discussions highlight what is becoming a core challenge for various disciplines and fields of study: how to live together in complex places, spaces and societies, with intersecting and overlapping borders and traces of cultures, histories and politics. Furthermore, the discussions bring forth the question of how to work against the premises of exclusive human agency and interest in order to explore and imagine multispecies futures. However,

the various conceptualisations of inclusive, common worlds entail a risk of disregarding or devaluing that which is not shared: the aspects of multispecies lives that cannot be or become common but that nevertheless matter for shared existences. There is also the issue of becoming "common" - of territorialisations and inclusions of some beings to the exclusion of others. What will remain the "uncommon" (i.e. unconventional) in common worlds? Moreover, are common worlds envisaged as free of political struggles and borders? What are the politics of becoming common and remaining uncommon? With this Call we invite you to discuss and develop ideas about human-animal worlds both common and uncommon. We invite presentations from the fields including but not limited to social sciences, arts and humanities, natural and environmental sciences and law.

Prospective speakers are invited to submit an abstract by **February 28, 2018** (max. 250 words) to uncommonworlds2018@gmail.com (preferably as a word document or a pdf file). Please include in your submission the title of your presentation, your name, affiliation, and contact information. The organizers also invite artists to present their work. If you are interested in this option, please contact the organizers to discuss your ideas.



Latest issue: Volume 6, issue 2

1. Contents, editorial and bios: <http://ro.uow.edu.au/asj/vol6/iss2/1>
2. Introductory essay by guest editor Elan Abrell: "Interrogating Captive Freedom: The Possibilities and Limits of Animal Sanctuaries": <http://ro.uow.edu.au/asj/vol6/iss2/2>
3. Article: Amy Fultz, "A Guide for Modern Sanctuaries with Examples from a Captive Chimpanzee Sanctuary": <http://ro.uow.edu.au/asj/vol6/iss2/3>
4. Article: Erika Fleury, "Money for Monkeys, and More: Ensuring Sanctuary Retirement of Nonhuman Primates": <http://ro.uow.edu.au/asj/vol6/iss2/4>
5. Article: Catherine Doyle, "Captive Wildlife Sanctuaries: Definition, Ethical Considerations and Public Perception": <http://ro.uow.edu.au/asj/vol6/iss2/5>
6. Article: Guy Scotton, "Duties to Socialise with Domesticated Animals: Farmed Animal Sanctuaries as Frontiers of Friendship": <http://ro.uow.edu.au/asj/vol6/iss2/6>
7. Article: Anna Boswell, "Settler Sanctuaries and the Stoat-Free State": <http://ro.uow.edu.au/asj/vol6/iss2/7>
8. Article: Sabrina Fusari, "What is an Animal Sanctuary? Evidence from Applied Linguistics": <http://ro.uow.edu.au/asj/vol6/iss2/8>
9. Article: Delcianna J. Winders, "Captive Wildlife at a Crossroads – Sanctuaries, Accreditation, and Humane-Washing": <http://ro.uow.edu.au/asj/vol6/iss2/9>
10. Short story: Camila Cossío, "Condors in a Cage": <http://ro.uow.edu.au/asj/vol6/iss2/10>
11. Performance review: Peta Tait, "Species Blindness: Is There a Role for a Quoll?": <http://ro.uow.edu.au/asj/vol6/iss2/11>
12. Article: Richard Twine, "A Practice Theory Framework for Understanding Vegan Transition": <http://ro.uow.edu.au/asj/vol6/iss2/12>
13. Book review by Carol Gigliotti: Annie Potts (ed). *Meat Culture*: <http://ro.uow.edu.au/asj/vol6/iss2/13>
14. Book review by Henrietta Mondry: Ann-Sofie Lönngren. *Following the Animal: Power, Agency, and Human-Animal Transformations in Modern, Northern-European Literature*: <http://ro.uow.edu.au/asj/vol6/iss2/14>
15. Book review by Philip Armstrong: Dinesh Wadiwel. *The War Against Animals*: <http://ro.uow.edu.au/asj/vol6/iss2/15>

New Books

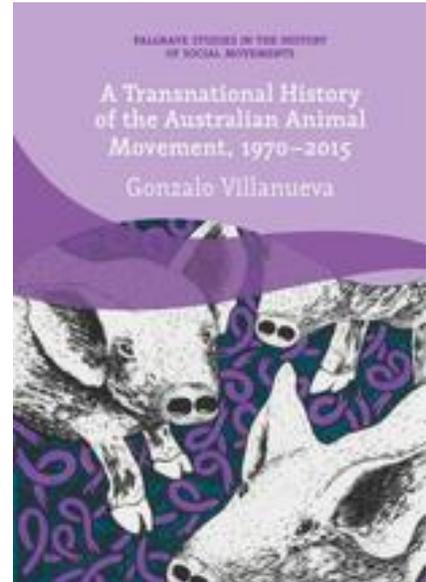
Compiled by Nik Taylor and Rick De Vos

A Transnational History of the Australian Animal Movement, 1970-2015

Gonzalo Villanueva Springer, 2018

<https://www.palgrave.com/de/book/9783319625867>

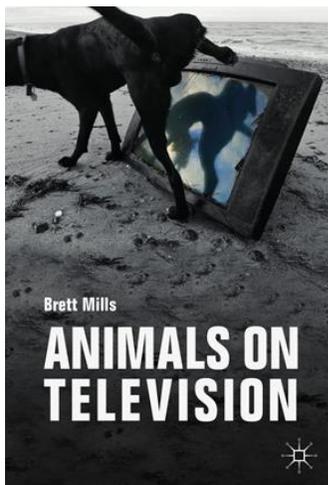
This book offers the first transnational historical study of the creation, contention and consequences of the Australian animal movement. Largely inspired by Peter Singer and his 1975 book *Animal Liberation*, a new wave of animal activism emerged in Australia and across the world. In an effort to draw public and media attention to the plight of animals, such as the rearing of pigs and poultry in factory farms and the export of live animals to the Middle East and South East Asia, Australian activists were often innovative and provocative in how they made their claims. Through lobbying, disruptive methods, and vegan activism, the animal movement consistently contested the politics and culture of how animals were used and exploited. Australians not only observed and learnt from people and events overseas, but also played significant international roles. This book examines the complex and conflicting consequences of the animal movement for Australian politics, as well as its influence on broader social change.



Animals on Television: The Cultural Making of the Non-Human

Brett Mills Palgrave, 2017

<http://www.palgrave.com/gp/book/9781137516824>



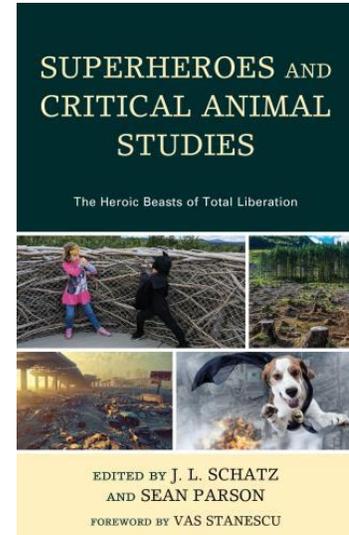
This book is the first in-depth study of the representation of animals on television. It explores the variety of ways animals are represented in audio-visual media, including wildlife documentaries and children's animated series, and the consequences these representations have for those species. Brett Mills discusses key ideas and approaches essential for thinking about animals drawing on relevant debates in philosophy, politics, gender studies, humanism and posthumanism, and ethics. The chapters examine different animal representations, focusing on zoos, pets, wildlife and meat. They present case studies, including discussions of *Peppa Pig*, *The Hunt* and *The Dog Whisperer*. This book will be of interest to readers exploring media studies, contemporary television, animal studies, and debates about representation.

Superheroes and Critical Animal Studies: The Heroic Beasts of Total Liberation

Edited by J. L. Schatz and Sean Parson Lexington Books, 2017

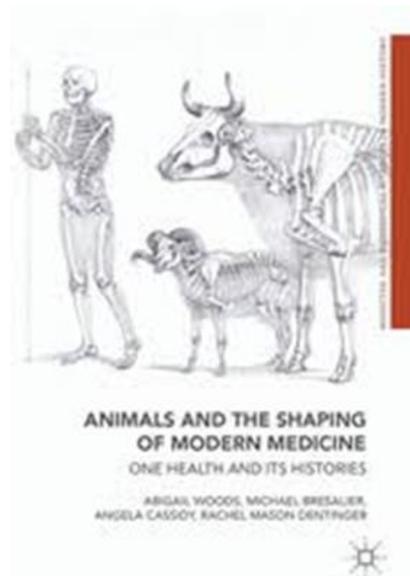
<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781498549264/Superheroes-and-Critical-Animal-Studies-The-Heroic-Beasts-of-Total-Liberation#>

Superheroes and Critical Animal Studies explores and puts into dialogue two growing fields of studies, comic studies and critical animal studies. The book's aim is to create a form of praxis that people can use to actualize many of the values superheroes strive to protect. To this end, contributor chapters are divided into sections on the foundation of superhero representation and how to teach it, criticisms of particular superheroes and how they fall short of truly protecting the planet, and interpretations of specific characters that can be read to produce a positive orientation to the nonhuman world and craft strategies to promote liberation in the real world. Altogether, the book produces a form of scholarship on the media that is both intersectional in scope and tailored to have an impact on the reader beyond theorizing superheroes for theorization's sake.



Animals and the Shaping of Modern Medicine: One Health and its Histories

Abigail Woods, Michael Bresalier, Angela Cassidy and Rachel Mason Dentinger
Springer, 2018 <http://www.springer.com/gp/book/9783319643366>



This book breaks new ground by situating animals and their diseases at the very heart of modern medicine. In demonstrating their historical significance as subjects and shapers of medicine, it offers important insights into past animal lives, and reveals that what we think of as 'human' medicine was in fact deeply zoological. Each chapter analyses an important episode in which animals changed and were changed by medicine. Ranging across the animal inhabitants of Britain's zoos, sick sheep on Scottish farms, unproductive livestock in developing countries, and the tapeworms of California and Beirut, they illuminate the multi-species dimensions of modern medicine and its rich historical connections with biology, zoology, agriculture and veterinary medicine. The modern movement for One Health – whose history is also analyzed – is therefore revealed as just the latest attempt to improve health by working across species and disciplines. The book will appeal to historians of animals, science and medicine, to those involved in the promotion and practice of One Health today.

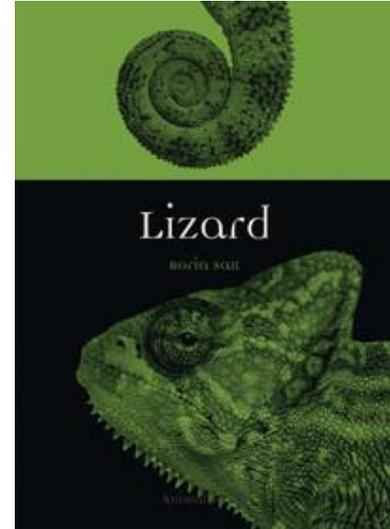
Lizard

Boria Sax Reaktion, 2017

http://www.reaktionbooks.co.uk/display.asp?ISBN=9781780238289&sf1=series_exact&st1=ANIMAL&ds=ANIMAL&sort=sort_date%2Fd&m=1&dc=86

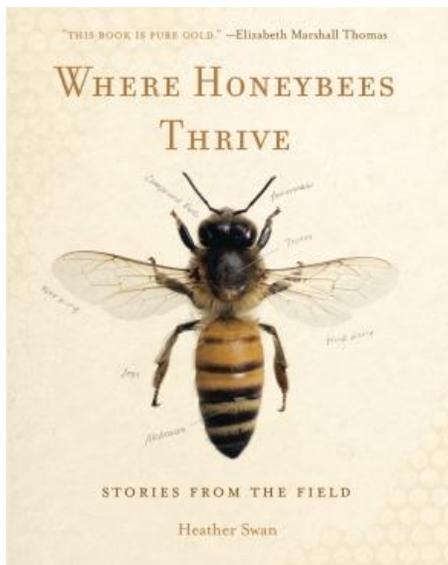
Lizards are at once overhyped and underappreciated. Our storybooks are full of lizards, but we usually call them something else – dragons, serpents or monsters. Our tales vastly increase their size, bestow wings upon them, make them exhale flame and endow them with magical powers.

This illuminating book demonstrates how the story of lizards is interwoven with the history of the human imagination. Boria Sax describes the diversity of lizards and traces their representation in many cultures, including those of pre-conquest Australia, the Quiché Maya, Mughal India, China, Central Africa, Europe and America. Filled with beguiling images, *Lizard* is essential reading for natural history enthusiasts, students of animal studies and the many thousands of people who keep lizards as pets.

**Where Honeybees Thrive: Stories from the Field**

Heather Swan Penn State University Press, 2018

<http://www.psupress.org/books/titles/978-0-271-07741-3.html>



Colony Collapse Disorder, ubiquitous pesticide use, industrial agriculture, habitat reduction—these are just a few of the issues causing unprecedented trauma in honeybee populations worldwide. In this artfully illustrated book, Heather Swan embarks on a narrative voyage to discover solutions to—and understand the sources of—the plight of honeybees.

Through a lyrical combination of creative nonfiction and visual imagery, *Where Honeybees Thrive* tells the stories of the beekeepers, farmers, artists, entomologists, ecologists, and other advocates working to stem the damage and reverse course for this critical pollinator. Using her own quest for understanding as a starting point, Swan highlights the innovative projects and strategies these groups employ. Her mosaic approach to engaging with the environment not only reveals the incredibly complex political ecology in which bees live—which

includes human and nonhuman actors alike—but also suggests ways of comprehending and tackling a host of other conflicts between postindustrial society and the natural world. Each chapter closes with an illustrative full-colour gallery of bee-related artwork.

Not So Different: Finding Human Nature in Animals

Nathan H. Lents

Columbia University Press, 2017

<https://cup.columbia.edu/book/not-so-different/9780231178334>

In *Not So Different*, the biologist Nathan H. Lents argues that the same evolutionary forces of cooperation and competition have shaped both humans and animals. Identical emotional and instinctual drives govern our actions. By acknowledging this shared programming, the human experience no longer seems unique, but in that loss we gain a fuller appreciation of such phenomena as sibling rivalry and the biological basis of grief, helping us lead more grounded, moral lives among animals, our closest kin.

Through a mix of colorful reporting and rigorous scientific research, Lents describes the exciting strides scientists have made in decoding animal behavior and bringing the evolutionary paths of humans and animals closer together. He marshals evidence from psychology, evolutionary biology, cognitive science, anthropology, and ethology to further advance this work and to drive home the truth that we are distinguished from animals only in degree, not in kind.

Animal Comics: Multispecies Storyworlds in Graphic Narratives

Edited by David Herman

Bloomsbury Publishing, 2017

<https://www.bloomsbury.com/uk/animal-comics-9781350015326/>

Animal characters abound in graphic narratives ranging from *Krazy Kat* and *Maus* to *WE3* and *Terra Formars*. Exploring these and other multispecies storyworlds presented in words and images, *Animal Comics* draws together work in comics studies, narrative theory, and cross-disciplinary research on animal environments and human-animal relationships to shed new light on comics and graphic novels in which animal agents play a significant role. At the same time, the volume's international team of contributors show how the distinctive structures and affordances of graphic narratives foreground key questions about trans-species entanglements in a more-than-human world. The writers/artists covered in the book include: Nick Abadzis, Adolpho Avril, Jeffrey Brown, Sue Coe, Matt Dembicki, Olivier Deprez, J. J. Grandville, George Herriman, Adam Hines, William Hogarth, Grant Morrison, Osamu Tezuka, Frank Quitely, Yu Sasuga, Charles M. Schultz, Art Spiegelman, Fiona Staples, Ken'ichi Tachibana, Brian K. Vaughan, and others.

