



Animail: February 2018

Introduction

Kia ora koutou katoa! Hello again everyone!

Welcome to our first issue of *Animail* for 2018.

The year began excitingly for a number of our members who attended the fourth Minding Animals conference in Mexico City during January. This has become the defining international event for our field, and we couldn't be prouder that AASA stalwart Rod Bennison remains, as he has always been, the central creative energy behind the entire phenomenon. Other AASA stars who attended and presented at the conference included, in reverse alphabetical order, Stephen White, Yvette Watt, Dinesh Wadiwel, Gonzalo Villanueva, Annie Potts, Siobhan O'Sullivan (see her lively conference report below), Norie Neumark, Maria Miranda, Jessica Ison, Justine Groziard, Clare Fisher, and last and deservedly least, Philip Armstrong, who managed to contract a laryngitis virus that silenced him (perhaps blessedly) for much of the time. (For those of you who were there, but are missing from this list, aroha mai! – forgive me! – it was a very large conference.)

What stood out for me was the exceptional hospitality, grace, and courtesy of our Mexican hosts. In my experience and that of everyone I spoke to, this was as true of all the folks they met outside the conference, in the city at large, as it was of the organizers and the local participants. Examples include the amazing friendliness and serenity – in the midst of exceptional difficulties – of the conference convenors, Paulina Rivero Weber and Ana Cristina Ramírez Barreto; the wonderful vegan takeaway meals (which also raised funds for local animal activists) organized by Gerardo Tristan; and the patience and gentleness with which the Mexican participants treated the occasional ethnocentric assumptions and misprisions manifested by participants from wealthy, Anglophone, 'Western' countries.

I came back from Mexico with my head full of the colours of the country and the beautiful sound of Spanish mixed with indigenous American languages. So I couldn't help but choose a poem written by a Mexican poet for this issue of *Animail*: I hope you enjoy it!

Thanks to Clare Fisher and Maree Treadwell Kerr for this issue's two beautifully-written and thought-provoking member profiles. Maree has also provided us with information about 'Australasian Bat Night', an event she coordinates to raise public awareness of a particular and pressing local human-animal relations issue.

As usual, too, we have a terrific lineup of new books demonstrating how diverse and lively our field is.

And finally, I'm very excited to announce that we are including here the initial call for papers for the next AASA Conference! 'Decolonizing Animals' will be held in Ōtautahi/Christchurch, Aotearoa/New Zealand in June-July 2019: please put the dates in your calendar straight away, and start thinking about your abstract soon!

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

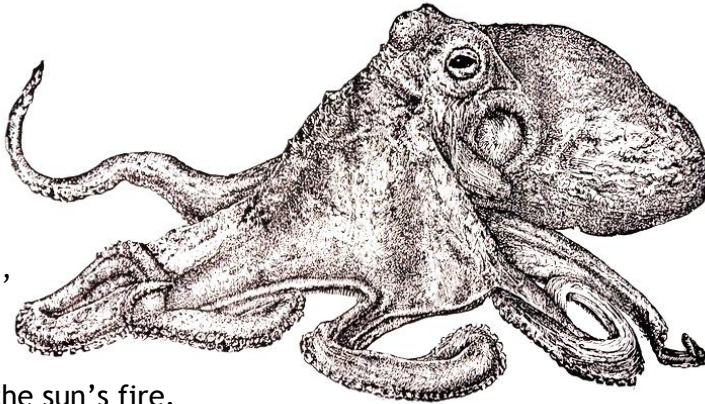
Look for the next issue of *Animail* in two months' time!

Until then, noho ora mai, stay well.

Philip Armstrong, AASA Chair

The Octopus

Dark god of the deep,
fern, toadstool, hyacinth,
among stones unseen,
there in the abyss,
where at dawn, against the sun's fire,
night falls to the sea floor and the octopus sips
a dark ink with the suckers of its tentacles.



What nocturnal beauty its splendor if sailing
in the salty half-light of the mother waters,
to it sweet and crystalline.
Yet on the beach overrun by plastic trash
this fleshy jewel of viscous vertigo
looks like a monster. And they're
/ clubbing / the defenseless castaway to death.

Someone's hurled a harpoon and the octopus breathes in death
through the wound, a second suffocation.
No blood flows from its lips: night gushes
and the sea mourns and the earth fades away
so very slowly while the octopus dies.

José Emilio Pacheco (1983)
(trans. Katherine M. Hedeem and Víctor Rodríguez Núñez)

Member Profiles

Clare Fisher

Throughout my undergraduate years of study, I had never had the opportunity to engage with critical animal studies in my university subjects. I had always had a keen interest in animal issues due to my vegetarian, and later vegan, diet and I often-attended protests and rallies when I could to become more immersed in various animal-based issues. Because of my passion for companion animals and animal rescue in particular, I began volunteering at a Melbourne animal shelter once a week caring for both homeless cats and dogs. I found volunteering at a shelter to be an eye-opening experience, as although I thought of myself as being aware of many of the issues facing homeless companion animals, being in a shelter environment gave me a new appreciation and awareness of the issues facing animal rescue and rehoming, as well as an appreciation for the wonderful work of staff and volunteers. At this stage of my life, I shared my life with two cheeky pug crosses, Scout and Franklin, and my experiences with them, along with my experiences at the shelter, prompted and inspired me to pursue higher degree research in the field of human-dog relations.



Clare with Jock, a blind kelpie at the shelter

More specifically, my PhD research began with a curiosity about an ongoing conundrum that many prospective dog carers seemed to be facing; *what is the most 'ethical' means of acquiring a companion dog?* While perhaps there is a straightforward answer for some, it appeared that the answer to this question had been blurred by conflicting, and sometimes-confusing debates in my home state of Victoria about puppy farming and pet shops, as well as the need for a greater emphasis on companion animal adoption. Thus, my PhD thesis explores the current and ongoing debates relating to the ways in which dogs are bred, bought and sold in my home state of Victoria. I have an undergraduate background in history, and thus I became particularly interested in how contemporary and historical discourses about dog 'breeds' inform and shape our current interactions with companion dogs. Moreover, I am interested in how attitudes about a dog's breed (or lack of breed), as well as a perception about where they have been acquired by their carer, come to shape the 'ethical' and 'responsible' identities of dog caretakers. I have been exploring how these discourses all struggle for authenticity and legitimacy in public debates about dog care and question what implications these knowledge's may present for dog welfare. Now at the beginning of my third year of my PhD research at La Trobe University in Melbourne, I am starting to formulate a clearer idea of my work's overall scope and findings.

Since beginning my PhD research, I have also added a new addition to my inter-species family, a cat named Hugo who has Feline Immunodeficiency Virus, more commonly known as FIV. Since bringing Hugo into my life, I have become increasingly passionate about advocating against the mandatory killing of FIV positive cats in pounds and shelters, as in many cases these cats thrive in a loving environment and go on to lead happy and healthy lives. While I still need to complete my PhD research, I hope to

pursue future projects on the topic of companion cats with FIV as I think it is an important issue of human-cat relations studies.

When I am not working on my thesis, there is nothing I love more than spending time with my two dogs and cat, or volunteering at the shelter. Through my time there, I have formed close relationships with many of the animals who have come into our care and I find a day spent giving an animal some much-needed love, affection and attention is a day well spent.

Maree Treadwell Kerr

Yesterday the back-yard stone-bush curlews hatched two chicks. I live in Kuranda, Village in the Rainforest, up the range from Cairns in Far North Queensland (FNQ) and we share our home with the



Maree with Fritzwell the little red flying-fox

wildlife. We are actually in the village proper, on a traditional house block (1300 m²) and we have two families of curlews (front and back), brush turkeys, sunbirds, all sorts of honeyeaters, fruit pigeons, figbirds, parrots and numerous others, bandicoots, wallabies, melomys, white-tailed rats, insectivorous bats, amethystine pythons, night tigers, skinks, geckos, goannas and loads of bugs including butterflies and green ants. This is the first house we have lived where we haven't had domestic animals.

I grew up with animals, dogs, cats, birds, guinea-pigs, rabbits, and even chickens at one stage. They were part of the family. When I was five, I asked my father where meat came from. I then asked did we need to eat meat. His answer was No, so I became vegetarian. As well as domestic animals we had plenty of wildlife too – there were interesting bugs to watch, birds, and bluetongues to befriend. I found it sad that people killed snakes and strange that they hung the bodies on the fence as a warning. I thought that even despised animals had a right to live, and also that there was no real reason to demonise them. I felt an affinity toward the unloved and feared animals, which brought me to my love and advocacy for bats. And I began to learn as much as I could about Australia's wildlife.

Australia is lucky in that it has so much urban wildlife, but recently with increased urbanisation and increasing rates of rural land-clearing, human-wildlife conflict is increasing. People are becoming intolerant and out of touch with nature, only wanting pretty or useful wildlife. While subjects of conflict include possums, snakes, brush turkeys, bandicoots, magpies, the most controversial and heated urban wildlife-human conflict in recent times concerns flying-foxes. This is partly their "bad" reputation, fairly recent discoveries of viruses and lack of understanding of transmission and risk factors leading to

exaggerated and unfounded fears fuelled by negative media, out for a “good” story and political ill-will in some quarters, and a total lack of appreciation of flying-fox behaviour and their incredible mobility. An individual flying-fox can fly from Melbourne to Brisbane in six weeks. Flying-foxes are the most efficient long-distance pollinators and vital long-distance seed dispersers in Australia. They congregate in large numbers and follow flowering of our forests up and down the east coast of Australia and over the Top End including urban areas. Two of our mainland flying-fox species are threatened and current management practices, much of it based on dispersal of urban camps, is not conserving flying-foxes nor resolving human-flying-fox conflict.

My higher degree research at Griffith University is to examine if education can change attitudes toward flying-foxes and help resolve human-flying-fox conflict, enabling people to live beside flying-foxes. I hope to identify the components of education and interpretive programs to find what is most effective in affecting attitudinal change to help managers of urban flying-fox camps with their community engagement strategies to build a more ecological literate society. To change community attitudes we need to change values toward animals, to lose the ‘*them* and *us*’ viewpoint.

This research is the result of many years of advocacy for flying-foxes. I first became fascinated with bats when reading a comprehension exercise on bats and echolocation at primary school (I can only remember one other topic from that reading program). My first real life experience with a bat was a small insectivorous bat entering the family home, and we released it. But I didn’t become actively involved with them until I joined the Ku-ring-gai Bat Conservation Society, Sydney, in 1985 after reading about this new organisation in the local paper. Nobody knew much about flying-foxes then (we thought they might feed on eucalypt blossom!) and we began an education program to schools and community groups including local community events, taking live unreleasable flying-foxes with us. This appears to make the difference – a live animal creates empathy and is one of the factors I will be testing in my research. We also began working on rehabilitating and regenerating the habitat of the local flying-fox camp and monitoring the population fluctuations.

After I moved to Canberra I became secretary of the Australasian Bat Society (ABS) and in 2012, after a visit to Europe where I heard about European Bat Night, created, on behalf of ABS, Australasian Bat Night. This annual program is run in partnership with local governments, institutions and community groups comprising a series of local events throughout Australia and New Zealand during March through to May, coordinated by ABS, to raise awareness and understanding about all bats, including flying foxes. I am also a convenor of the ABS Flying-fox Expert Group, a community representative of Cairns’ council’s Flying-fox Advisory Group, Vice-Chair of Wildlife Tourism Australia and President of the newly founded Bats and Trees Society of Cairns (BatSoc) Inc.

More information on the Bat Night program can be found at <http://ausbats.org.au/australasian-bat-night/> and I can be contacted for more information on my research or bat issues or wildlife tourism at maree.treadwellkerr@gmail.com.

Member News

- **Yamini Narayanan** is now Consultant Editor for the *Journal of Animal Ethics*.
- Yamini was also successful in the most recent ARC Discovery round. Her project details: Narayanan, Y., Wolch, J., Barua, M. *Animals and urban planning: Indian cities as Zoöpolises* (ARC Discovery 2018-2021).
This project casts animals as vital components of urban societies in India. India's rapid urbanisation and biodiversity decline together have critical global implications, but the complex social dimensions of Indian urban biodiversity are overlooked in current planning. Via archival and empirical methods in six ecologically diverse, rapidly growing, medium-sized cities, the project will examine the everyday realities of selected wild, commensal, and commoditised species who live close to humans. It will show how these realities are also social, to offer an empirical basis for planning to sustain urban biodiversity, and devise species-inclusive zoöpolises as successful cities of the future.
- **Rebecca Sollen** is on the executive committee of Wildlife Tourism Australia, which is holding its 2018 national conference 'Wildlife Tourism values and challenges' in Tasmania in late October. Please see the [call for papers](#) in this bulletin.

Recent Publications

- Esther Alloun**, 2017. 'That's the beauty of it, it's very simple!': Animal rights and settler colonialism in Palestine-Israel, *Settler Colonial Studies*. DOI:10.1080/2201473X.2017.1414138
<http://www.tandfonline.com/eprint/tvy6HwxEJWlaUMz8pyv3/full>
- Teya Brooks Pribac**, 2017. Spiritual Animal: A Journey into the Unspeakable. *Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture*, 11 (3): 340-360.
<https://journals.equinoxpub.com/index.php/JSRNC/article/view/31519>
- Teya Brooks Pribac**, 2017. Complicated Grief: Commentary on Peña-Guzmán on 'Animal Suicide.' *Animal Sentience* 20 (1), 2017.
<http://animalstudiesrepository.org/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1294&context=animsent>
- Rowena Lennox**, 2017. 'Proprioception', *Southerly - the Long Apprenticeship*, 77 (2): 58-66.
<http://southerlyjournal.com.au/project/the-long-apprenticeship-2/>
- Nancy Cushing and **Kevin Markwell**, 2017. The Bird was a Valuable One: Keeping Australian Native Animals, 1803-1939. *Society & Animals*, 25 (6), 592-609.
<http://booksandjournals.brillonline.com/content/journals/10.1163/15685306-12341474>
- Yamini Narayanan**, 2018. 'Cow protection' as 'casteised speciesism': sacralisation, commercialisation and politicisation. *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies*, 41 (3).
10.1080/00856401.2018.1419794.
<http://www.tandfonline.com/eprint/ZtvN2kha8MsuT7az3k4J/full>
- Yamini Narayanan**, 2018. Cow Protectionism and Bovine Frozen Semen Farms in India: Analysing Cruelty, Speciesism and Climate Change. *Society and Animals*, 26 (1), 1-21.
<http://booksandjournals.brillonline.com/content/journals/10.1163/15685306-12341481>

Conference Report: Minding Animals 4, Mexico City, Jan 17-24

Siobhan O'Sullivan, UNSW

I have attended every Minding Animals conference, starting in Newcastle (which was of course also the biennial AASA conference), then Utrecht, Delhi and finally Mexico City. What struck me most at Mexico City was how many lovely people join the field each year. But more than that, I had wonderful chats with numerous people who I had met before, but who I had not really had the chance to engage in a lengthy conversation. The more I talk to my Animal Studies colleagues the more I grow to like and respect them. As such, I can't wait for the next AASA and then Minding Animals conferences!

For me the conference highlight was sharing the stage with Will Kymlicka and Dinesh Wadiwel. Our panel on the Political Turn in Animal Studies speaks to the extent to which political theorists are now engaging with the animal question. Following the panel I had the opportunity to interview Will Kymlicka for my podcast [Knowing Animals](#). One of the things he said during the interview is that he hopes that one day considering the animal question will be a standard part of any political studies degree. I share that hope and am optimistic that we are heading in the right direction.



Will, Siobhan and Dinesh

The second picture I share speaks to the other aspect of Minding Animals which I just adore. In this shot I am on the 'Island of the Dolls' with Yvette Watt, Peta Tait, Jess Ice and Rod Bennison. We visited the Island the day after the conference concluded. It was a beautifully relaxing day, after the fast pace of the conference. But aside from the joy of sightseeing in Mexico City, the day was so memorable because it provided me with a chance to discuss my next research project with interdisciplinary colleagues in a relaxed, collegial way.



I presented my research on the final day of the conference. My paper was presented with my co-author, Clare McCausland. A brief throwaway comment during question time, by Clare, gave me the kernel of an idea that I hope to take forward as my research agenda for the next few years. Who knows, perhaps I will present the idea at the next Minding Animals conference. I am certainly off and running having had the chance to spit ball ideas with a performance studies scholar, a critical animal studies scholar, an environmental ethicist and a fine artist. So many views and ideas, from so many great minds, all while boating on ancient canals of Mexico City. What a joy!

Knowing Animals can be accessed and downloaded for free on iTunes.

Australasian Bat Night – March, April and May 2018

Australasian Bat Night, coordinated by AASA member Maree Treadwell Kerr, is a public awareness programme run by the Australasian Bat Society (ABS) which aims to educate people about bats, in particular species in Australia, New Zealand, the island of New Guinea and the Southwest Pacific region. The programme's objectives are to raise the profile of bats and debunk myths and fears, to achieve better conservation outcomes, and to assist people to live with bats. Nearly 100 events were held throughout Australia and New Zealand during 2017, as bat specialists teamed up with community and local government groups to raise awareness of bats.

The ABS invites local government, community and environmental and individuals to register events and activities for Australasian Bat Night 2018. Please consider holding a Bat Night event this year and promoting the program to your colleagues, friends and family and networks. Please refer to the ABS website for more information: <http://ausbats.org.au/australasian-bat-night/4581984807> .

If you would like to learn more about bats, please come to the ABS Bat Conference, 3-6 April 2018, at the Hawkesbury Institute for the Environment, Western Sydney University, Richmond, NSW. The conference features a public forum on the afternoon of 3 April.

More information: <http://ausbats.org.au/2018-conference-agm/> .

Calls for Papers

Australasian Animal Studies Association Biennial Conference

Decolonizing Animals: AASA 2019

Dates: June 30th — July 3rd 2019

Venue: Ōtautahi/Christchurch,
Aotearoa/New Zealand



Initial Call for papers

Colonial politics and histories have shaped, and continue to shape, the contemporary worlds of humans and other animals. Languages, societies, cultures, species, landforms, ecosystems, waterways and climates all bear the marks of human imperialism, settlement, invasion, migration, translocation, globalization, colonialism and neocolonialism. What would it mean for humans to decolonize their relationships with each other and with other species? Could we ever become decolonizing animals?

Keynote speakers (confirmed to date – more TBA):

- [Professor Alexis Wright](#)
- [Professor Alphonso Lingis](#)
- [Dr pattrice jones](#)
- [Angela Singer](#)

The next biennial conference of the Australasian Animal Studies Association will be held in Ōtautahi / Christchurch, Aotearoa / New Zealand – a city and a country that embody the impacts of colonialism on human and nonhuman animals alike. The conference committee calls for papers that address the themes below in ways that are scholarly, creative, or activist – or all three:

- Animals and indigeneity
- Indigenous approaches to human-animal studies
- Animals in relation to migration and immigration; dislocation and exile; borders, refugees, and camps; asylum and sanctuary
- Colonial histories of animals or human-animal relations
- Decolonial politics and animals or human-animal relations
- Ecological imperialism
- Epistemological, representational, conceptual colonization and decolonization of animals in film, literature, the arts, digital media
- Violence, war, genocide, invasiveness, domination in human-animal relations

- Human-horse relationships across cultures
- Colonization, decolonization, animals, and the environmental crisis
- Indigeneity and veg*nism
- Critiques of animal consumption and food practices
- Animals and cultural conflict and exchange
- Decolonizing the Anthropocene
- Decolonizing carnism
- Decolonizing agriculture, environmental management, 'pest' control, animal breeding, 'pet'-keeping, bloodsports, animal entertainment, or other human-animal practices
- Critiques of ethnocentric, imperialist, anthropocentric, or universalist paradigms for understanding animals
- Human-animal studies and decolonial studies
- Intersections between decolonial perspectives on animals and human-animal relations with those emerging from critical race studies; feminist, gender, queer, and trans studies; Marxist and neo-Marxist approaches; disability studies; etc.

Please send abstracts in the form of an email attachment (MS Word or compatible – not PDF please) containing

- your name
- your institutional affiliation (if appropriate)
- your proposed paper title and abstract (approximately 350 words)
- a brief autobiography (no more than 150 words)
- four keywords identifying the main themes of your paper

to Associate Professor Annie Potts, AASA 2019 Conference Convenor, at annie.potts@canterbury.ac.nz.

Closing date for abstracts: **September 30th 2018**.

Wildlife Tourism values and challenges: Balancing the needs of wildlife, tourists, operators and residents

Australia's 5th national conference on wildlife tourism, combining the latest research and the practical experience of guides, managers etc.

<http://www.wildlifetourism.org.au/blog/coming-events/wildlife-tourism-conference-tasmania-october-2018/>

Venue: Launceston and Cradle Mountain, Tasmania.

Date: **28-31 October 2018**

Contributions are encouraged from academic researchers, tour operators, conservation managers and others.

<http://www.wildlifetourism.org.au/blog/coming-events/wildlife-tourism-conference-tasmania-october-2018/call-for-papers-wildlife-tourism-conference-tasmania-2018/>

Deadlines:

15 March 2018 – intention to submit paper, with proposed title (and relevant theme etc.as above)

15 May 2018 – submission of abstracts.

Meatsplaining: The Meat Industry and the Rhetoric of Denial

A. AIM

The proposed volume, *Meatsplaining: The Meat Industry and the Rhetoric of Denial*, will explore the different rhetorical strategies employed by the meat industry to shield itself from public scrutiny and accountability. It will feature essays by scholars and activists from a variety of backgrounds and critical perspectives. The aim is to bring systematic attention to an integral part of modern capitalist power and domination that has long evaded critical analysis.

B. DESCRIPTION

The meat industry comprises one of the largest and most deeply entrenched sectors of modern industrial capitalism. Over one quarter of all land on earth is devoted to livestock production. Animal farming is a major contributor to climate change and a primary driver of deforestation. Yet, the sheer impact of this powerful industry remains hidden from public view. Through legions of well-paid lobbyists, the meat industry wields vast influence and authority over our governments, laws, and public policies. It influences research in nutrition and medicine. It maintains a formidable grip over the public imagination, shaping our tastes, appetites, and desires through unrelenting, multi-billion dollar advertising campaigns designed to promote meat as the most basic component of a healthy diet, the

culmination of a proper meal, a core element of modern masculinity, and even a fundamental part of American patriotism.

Like other profit-driven industries, the meat industry seeks to shield itself from external threats. The biggest of these threats is negative publicity, which can take a serious toll on industry profits. Negative publicity arises through public awareness of different aspects of the meat industry: violence against animals, the destruction of the environment, adverse health consequences of meat consumption, and the inhumane treatment of workers at animal farms and meat processing plants.

What, then, are the rhetorical strategies by which the meat industry seeks to neutralize public criticism and shield itself from public scrutiny? This volume explores the phenomenon of “meatsplaining”: the meat industry’s rhetoric of denial.

C: SCOPE & CONTENT

- The proposed volume seeks to address topics such as the following:
- The denial of animal suffering
- The false hope of animal welfare
- The myth of sustainable meat
- The myths of “organic,” “free range,” “grass-fed,” and “humane” meat
- The ecological costs of animal agriculture
- The meat industry’s influence upon nutritional science
- The meat industry’s influence upon federal food guidelines

The proposed volume seeks to answer questions such as the following:

- What are the recurring strategies of persuasion by which the meat industry seeks to alleviate public outrage and concern over the treatment of animals?
- What narratives, myths, and fantasies does the meat industry employ to sustain its place in the modern social imaginary?
- How does the meat industry construct its public character? What role does it seek to portray to the public?
- How does the meat industry construct its audience?
- How does it construct its critics and opponents?
- How does it create new audiences? Through what methods of interpellation?
- How does it shape modern conceptions of masculinity?
- How has it responded to public health studies linking meat consumption to cancer, heart disease, and diabetes?
- How has the industry responded to animal justice activism? Through what rhetorical frame do they envision their battle against the animal justice movement?
- How does meat labeling mislead consumers?
- How is animal suffering dignified, euphemized, and denied through the vocabulary of agricultural science?

D. TARGET AUDIENCE

This volume is designed for students and scholars of critical animal studies. It speaks to the many disciplines that contribute to the field of critical animal studies: media studies, rhetorical studies, philosophy, political science, sociology, and literature. This volume will also be of immense interest to the animal rights movement and plant-based health movement. It will thus hold broad appeal across academic and non-academic audiences.

E. ABSTRACTS

If you are interested in participating in this project, please submit an abstract of no more than 200 words, along with a brief bio and institutional affiliation, to j.hannan@uwinnipeg.ca by Friday, February, 16, 2018. Final decisions will be made shortly after. Final drafts will be due June 1, 2018.

Jason Hannan, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Dept. of Rhetoric and Communication
University of Winnipeg
Winnipeg, MB R3B 2E9
Canada
Tel: 204.786.9453
Email: <mailto:j.hannan@uwinnipeg.ca>

[Maritime Animals: Telling Stories of Animals at Sea](#). April 26-27, 2019, National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London, UK. The conference seeks to shed fresh light on maritime history by placing animals centre stage. Papers are sought which uncover all aspects of animals' involvements (and entanglements) with ships and their activities. For instance, what roles did animals play in famous maritime episodes? What were the experiences of animals on board ships, and to what extent is it possible to recover them? In what ways were managing, sharing with, and caring for, animals important concerns of ships' crews? What were the policies and procedures regarding keeping animals on board, and how did the presence of animals affect maritime practices? Moreover, the conference will explore the impact of sea-faring animals - whether political, economic, cultural, or environmental - as maritime activities have knitted the world ever more closely together. What roles have animals played in colonial encounters and voyages of discovery, for instance? And how have animals functioned as cultural agents as well as commodities? Please send a short abstract (200-300 words) for a 20 minute paper to [Kaori Nagai](#) by **May 15**.

New Books

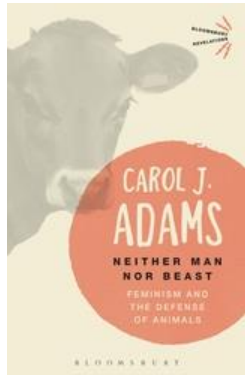
Compiled by Nik Taylor and Rick De Vos

Neither Man nor Beast: Feminism and the Defense of Animals

By Carol J. Adams

Revised Paperback edition: Bloomsbury, 2018

<https://www.bloomsbury.com/us/neither-man-nor-beast-9781350040205/>



In this landmark work of animal rights activism, Carol J. Adams - the bestselling author of *The Sexual Politics of Meat* - explores the intersections and common causes of feminism and the defense of animals. *Neither Man Nor Beast* explores the common link between cultural attitudes to women and animals in modern Western culture that have enabled the systematic exploitation of both. A vivid work that takes in environmental ethics, theological perspectives and feminist theory, the Bloomsbury Revelations edition includes a new foreword by the author and new images illustrating the continuing relevance of the book today. This updated edition considers the work of feminist artists Lynn V Mowson, Yvette Watt, Sunaura Taylor, Nava Atlas, and Susan Kae Grant.

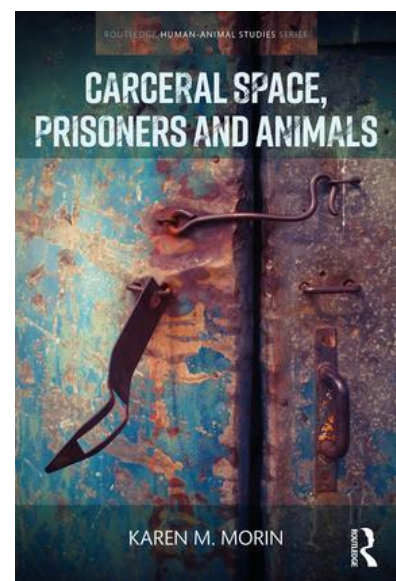
Carceral Space, Prisoners and Animals

By Karen M. Morin

Routledge, 2018

<https://www.routledge.com/Carceral-Space-Prisoners-and-Animals/Morin/p/book/9781138639874>

Carceral Space, Prisoners and Animals explores resonances across human and nonhuman carceral geographies. The work proposes an analysis of the carceral from a broader vantage point than has yet been done, developing a 'trans-species carceral geography' that includes spaces of nonhuman captivity, confinement, and enclosure alongside that of the human. The linkages across prisoner and animal carcerality that are placed into conversation draw from a number of institutional domains, based on their form, operation, and effect. These include: the prison death row/ execution chamber and the animal slaughterhouse; sites of laboratory testing of pharmaceutical and other products on incarcerated humans and captive animals; sites of exploited prisoner and animal labor; and the prison solitary confinement cell and the zoo cage. The relationships to which I draw attention across these sites are at once structural, operational, technological, legal, and experiential / embodied. The forms of violence that span species boundaries at these sites are all a part of ordinary, everyday, industrialized violence in the United States and elsewhere, and thus this 'carceral comparison' amongst them is appropriate and timely.

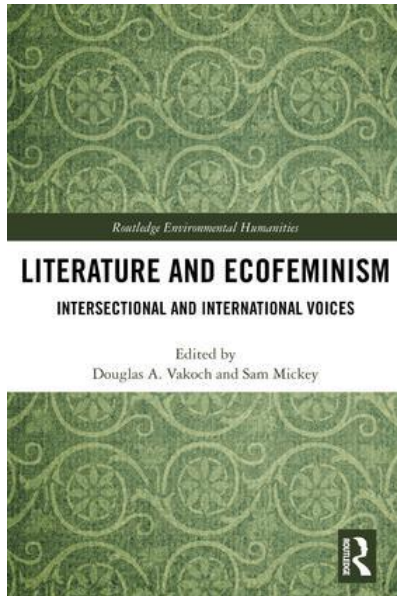


Literature and Ecofeminism: Intersectional and International Voices

Edited by Douglas A. Vakoch and Sam Mickey

Routledge, 2018

<https://www.routledge.com/Literature-and-Ecofeminism-Intersectional-and-International-Voices/Vakoch-Mickey/p/book/9780815381723>



Bringing together ecofeminism and ecological literary criticism (ecocriticism), this book presents diverse ways of understanding and responding to the tangled relationships between the personal, social, and environmental dimensions of human experience and expression. Literature and Ecofeminism explores the intersections of sexuality, gender, embodiment, and the natural world articulated in literary works from Shakespeare through to contemporary literature.

Bringing together essays from a global group of contributors, this volume draws on American literature, as well as Spanish, South African, Taiwanese, and Indian literature, in order to further the dialogue between ecofeminism and ecocriticism and demonstrate the ongoing relevance of ecofeminism for facilitating critical readings of literature. In doing so, the book opens up multiple directions for ecofeminist ideas and practices, as well as new possibilities for interpreting literature.

This comprehensive volume will be of great interest to students and scholars of ecocriticism, ecofeminism, literature, gender studies, and the environmental humanities.

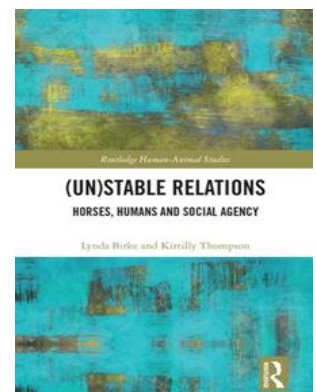
(Un)Stable Relations: Horses, Humans and Social Agency

By Linda Birke and Kiriilly Thompson

Routledge, 2018

<https://www.routledge.com/UnStable-Relations-Horses-Humans-and-Social-Agency/Birke-Thompson/p/book/9781138939356>

This original and insightful book explores how horses can be considered as social actors within shared interspecies networks. It examines what we know about how horses understand us and how we perceive them, as well as the implications of actively recognising other animals as actors within shared social lives. This book explores how interspecies relationships work, using a variety of examples to demonstrate how horses and people build social lives. Considering horses as social actors presents new possibilities for improving the quality of animal lives, the human condition and human-horse relations.

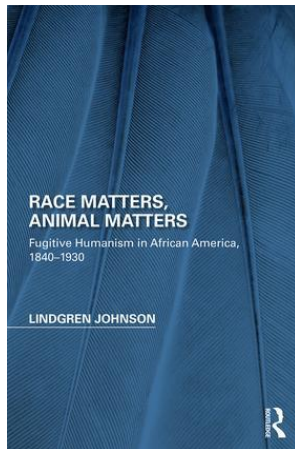


Race Matters, Animal Matters: Fugitive Humanism in African America, 1840-1930

By Lindgren Johnson

Routledge, 2017

<https://www.routledge.com/Race-Matters-Animal-Matters-Fugitive-Humanism-in-African-America-1840-1930/Johnson/p/book/9781138954540>



Race Matters, Animal Matters challenges one of the grand narratives of African American studies: that African Americans rejected racist associations of blackness and animality through a disassociation from animality. Analysing canonical texts written by Frederick Douglass, Charles Chesnutt, Ida B. Wells, and James Weldon Johnson alongside slaughterhouse lithographs, hunting photography, and sheep “husbandry” manuals, Lindgren Johnson argues instead for a critical African American tradition that at pivotal moments reconsiders and recuperates discourses of animality weaponized against both African Americans and animals. Johnson articulates a theory of “fugitive humanism” in which these texts question both white and human exceptionalism, even as they move within and seek out a (revised) humanist space. The focus, for example, is not on how African Americans shake off animal associations in demanding recognition of their humanity, but on how

they hold fast to animality and animals in making such a move, revising “the human” itself as they go and undermining the binaries that helped to produce racial and animal injustices.

Fugitive humanism reveals how an interspecies ethics develops in these African American responses to violent dehumanization. Illuminating those moments in which the African American canon exceeds human exceptionalism, *Race Matters, Animal Matters* ultimately shows how these black engagements with animals and animality are not subsequent to efforts for racial justice — a mere extension of the abolitionist or antilynching movements— but, to the contrary, are integral to those efforts. This black-authored temporality challenges widely accepted humanist approaches to the relationship between racial and animal justice as it anticipates and even critiques the valuable insights that animal studies and posthumanism have to offer in our current moment.

The Ethical Case against Animal Experiments

Edited by Andrew Linzey and Clair Linzey

University of Illinois Press, 2018

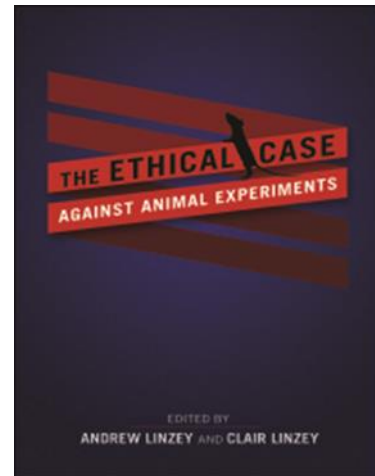
<https://www.press.uillinois.edu/books/catalog/72qng8hp9780252041327.html>

At present, human beings worldwide are using an estimated 115.3 million animals in experiments—a normalization of the unthinkable on an immense scale. In terms of harm, pain, suffering, and death, animal experiments constitute one of the major moral issues of our time. Given today’s deeper understanding of animal sentience, the contributors to this volume argue that we must afford animals a special moral consideration that precludes their use in experiments.

The Ethical Case against Animal Experiments begins with the Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics’ groundbreaking and comprehensive ethical critique of the practice of animal experiments. A second section offers original writings that engage with, and elaborate on, aspects of the Oxford Centre report.

The essayists explore historical, philosophical, and personal perspectives that range from animal experiments in classical times to the place of necessity in animal research to one researcher's painful journey from researcher to opponent. A devastating look at a contemporary moral crisis, *The Ethical Case against Animal Experiments* melds logic and compassion to mount a powerful challenge to human cruelty.

"At a time when the necessity for animal experimentation has been called more and more into doubt, the Linzeys show how deep-seated research paradigms, institutional inertia, and money from the biomedical industry can persuade an esteemed university like Oxford to press on with practices that to any dispassionate observer must seem barbaric. Their analysis is backed up by an impressive set of essays by philosophers, lawyers, and scientists."—J. M. Coetzee, Nobel Laureate for Literature



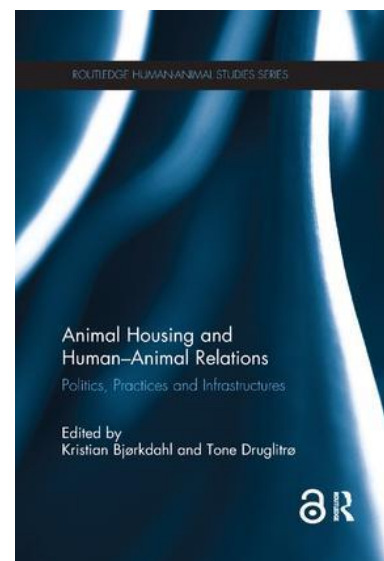
Animal Housing and Human–Animal Relations: Politics, Practices and Infrastructures

Edited by Kristian Bjørkdahl and Tone Druglitrø

Paperback edition: Routledge, 2018.

<https://www.routledge.com/Animal-Housing-and-Human-Animal-Relations-Politics-Practices-and-Infrastructures/Bjorkdahl-Druglitrø/p/book/9781138547155>

This book provides an in-depth investigation into the practices of animal housing systems with international contributions from across the humanities and social sciences. By attending to a range of different sites such as the zoo, the laboratory, the farm and the animal shelter, to name a few, the book explores material technologies from the perspective that these are integrated parts of a larger biopolitical infrastructure and questions how animal housing systems, and the physical infrastructures that surround central human-animal practices, come into being. The contributions in the book show in various ways how *physical* infrastructures of animal housing are always part of a much broader *sociocultural* and *political* infrastructure, where the material reality of housing systems combines with human and animal agents, with politics, and with practices. As such, the book explores what kind of practices and relations develop around the physical structures of animal housing, and by whom, and for whom, they are developed. This innovative collection will be of great interest to student and scholars in animal studies, more than human studies, geography, anthropology, and sociology.

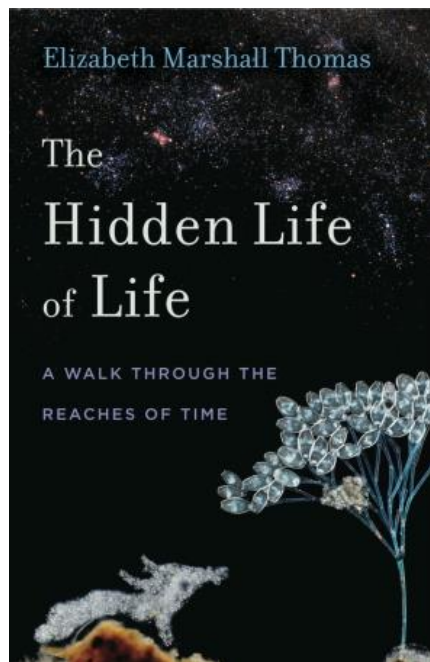


The Hidden Life of Life: A Walk through the Reaches of Time

By Elizabeth Marshall Thomas

Penn State University Press, 2018

<https://www.psupress.org/books/titles/978-0-271-08101-4.html>



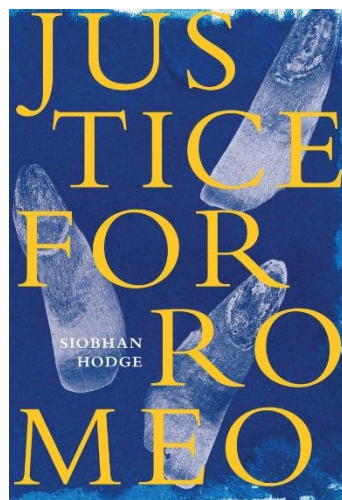
Inspired by the idea of symbiosis in evolution—that all living things evolve in a series of cooperative relationships— Elizabeth Marshall Thomas takes readers on a journey through the progression of life. Along the way she shares the universal likenesses, experiences, and environments of “Gaia’s creatures”, from amoebas in plant soil to the pets we love to proud primates and *homo sapiens* hunter-gatherers on the African savanna. Fervently rejecting “anthropodenial,” the notion that non-human life does not share characteristics with humans, Thomas instead shows that paramecia can learn, plants can communicate, humans aren’t really as special as we think we are—and that it doesn’t take a scientist to marvel at the smallest inhabitants of the natural world and their connections to all living things. A unique voice on anthropology and animal behaviour, Thomas challenges scientific convention and the jargon that prevents us all from understanding all living things better. This joyfully written book is a fascinating look at the challenges and behaviours shared by creatures from bacteria to larvae to parasitic fungi, a potted hyacinth to the author herself, and all those in between.

Justice for Romeo

By Siobhan Hodge

Cordite Books, 2018.

<https://corditebooks.org.au/products/justice-for-romeo>



Who is Romeo? He was not my horse. In life he was a symptom of all that is wrong with industrial-scale equine production. He fell victim to human interests in as many ways as it was possible to fall. Well-meaning ignorance is as dangerous as malice. Amongst horse people, this is also often called love. (Siobhan Hodge)

This collection is the first Australian book of poetry entirely given to horses and human interactions with them.

“Hodge’s poems give the horses’ ‘throttled tongues’ some voice, eradicating a ‘curriculum of silence’ but in our letters and language, so that the poems tell us about human imagination, fear, wish for power and concern with beauty” - Dennis Haskell

Speculative Taxidermy: Natural History, Animal Surfaces, and Art in the Anthropocene

By Giovanni Aloï

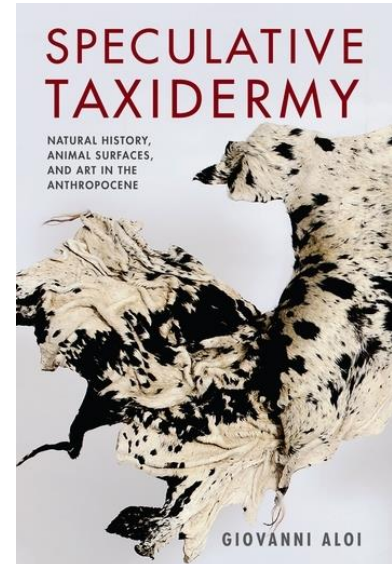
Columbia University Press, 2018

<https://cup.columbia.edu/book/speculative-taxidermy/9780231180719>

In *Speculative Taxidermy*, Giovanni Aloï offers a comprehensive mapping of the discourses and practices that have enabled the emergence of taxidermy in contemporary art. Drawing on the speculative turn in philosophy and recovering past alternative histories of art and materiality from a biopolitical perspective, Aloï theorizes *speculative taxidermy*: a powerful interface that unlocks new ethical and political opportunities in human-animal relationships and speaks to how animal representation conveys the urgency of addressing climate change, capitalist exploitation, and mass extinction.

A resolutely nonanthropocentric take on the materiality of one of the most controversial mediums in art, this approach relentlessly questions past and present ideas of human separation from the animal kingdom. It situates taxidermy as a powerful interface between humans and animals, rooted in a shared ontological and physical vulnerability.

Carefully considering a select number of key examples including the work of Nandipha Mntambo, Maria Papadimitriou, Mark Dion, Berlinde De Bruyckere, Roni Horn, Oleg Kulik, Steve Bishop, Snæbjörnsdóttir/Wilson, and Cole Swanson, *Speculative Taxidermy* contextualizes the resilient presence of animal skin in the gallery space as a productive opportunity to rethink ethical and political stances in human-animal relationships.

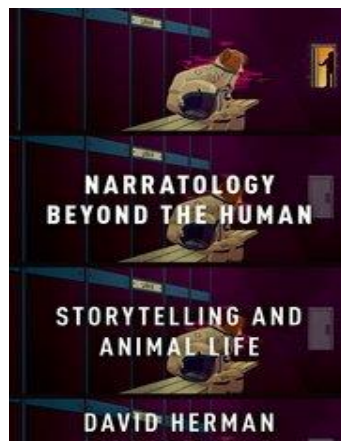


Narratology beyond the Human: Storytelling and Animal Life

By David Herman

Oxford University Press, 2018

<https://global.oup.com/academic/product/narratology-beyond-the-human-9780190850401?cc=au&lang=en&>



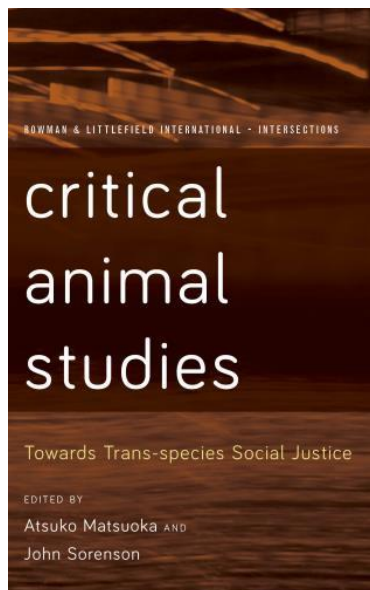
- Develops a new, cross-disciplinary approach to post-Darwinian narratives concerned with animals and human-animal relationships;
- Demonstrates how traditions of narrative research can clarify understandings of animal worlds;
- Explores narratives about animals in a variety of media and genres;
- Contains both a comprehensive bibliography and a glossary of narratological terms, as well as explications of key concepts for the study of animal narratives.

Critical Animal Studies: Towards Trans-species Social Justice,

Edited by John Sorenson and Atsuko Matsuoka

Rowman and Littlefield, 2018

<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781786606464/Critical-Animal-Studies-Towards-Trans-species-Social-Justice#>



This important book charts new territory by showcasing some of the newest developments in the rapidly-growing field of Critical Animal Studies. Critical Animal Studies presents a radical ethical and normative challenge to existing systems of power in the context of neoliberal capitalism and to the existential structure of speciesism. The essays in this book link activist and academic approaches to dismantle the exploitation and oppression of nonhuman animals. Featuring an international team of contributors, the book reflects the transdisciplinary character of Critical Animal Studies, with chapters by activists and academics from disciplines across the social sciences, including historical archaeology, political science, psychology, geography, law, social work and philosophy. The book provides advanced-level students with an ideal introduction to a wide range of perspectives on Critical Animal Studies, amongst other things proposing new ways of considering animal advocacy, decolonization and liberation.

Moose! The Reading Dog

By Laura Bruneau and Beverly Timmons

Purdue University Press, 2018

<http://www.thepress.purdue.edu/titles/moose-reading-dog>

Moose! The Reading Dog is inspired by the true story of a therapy dog. Moose shares his story about finding his forever home and learning how to become a registered therapy dog. In the final chapter, Moose reflects on his journey and describes his love for helping children become better readers. Along the way, readers learn about hard work and the importance of finding and pursuing one's dream.

Laura Bruneau, PhD, is a professor at Adams State University in the Department of Counselor Education. Beverly Timmons, Ed D, is a professor emeritus at Kent State University in the Department of Teaching, Curriculum, and Leadership Studies.

