



Issue 17, September 2012

News Bulletin

<http://www.aasg.org.au>

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AASG News

AASG Annual Meeting

The AGM was held to coincide with Animal Death Symposium at the University of Sydney on June 13, 2012. The meeting saw the resignation of Natalie Edwards from a position on the committee. Tess Williams (see [Profiles](#) below) has filled the vacant position as general committee member and Sally Borrell has taken the place of Secretary vacated by Natalie.

The committee would like to acknowledge the important initiatives undertaken by Natalie to encourage the development of AASG to official status. Her foundation work in forming the Group and serving on its committee has helped ensure that Australia has a strong and thriving focus for animal studies academics.

The committee welcomes the involvement of Tess Williams, who brings with her skills in creative writing and communication.

Animal Studies Journal

The AASG has a new online journal, the *Animal Studies Journal* <http://ro.uow.edu.au/asj/>. It is interdisciplinary and international, publishing animal studies scholarship from Australia, New Zealand, Asia-Pacific areas and beyond. It will appear twice-yearly in an open-access format. Calls for papers for the 2013 editions are now open – see the [Journals](#) section below for a preview of the contents of the first issue and call for papers.

Editor: Melissa Boyde boyde@uow.edu.au Associate editors: Sally Borrell sb1211@live.mdx.ac.uk and Natalie Edwards n.j.edwards@massey.ac.nz

Membership

Has your membership expired? These fees support and improve the initiatives of AASG. They ensure we can continue to provide you with services such as the *Bulletin* and the website—where you can access information about animal studies, find funding opportunities, and access past issues of this publication. Membership will also ensure listing of your profile on the website: <http://www.aasg.org.au/participants>

JOIN AASG

You can join AASG online:

Pay fees by EFT, accessible by hitting the **JOIN US** button on the Group's website: <http://www.aasg.org.au/>

Or scan, fax or email a completed membership form, available online or at the bottom of this *Bulletin*, with your payment to: yvette.watt@utas.edu.au, fax: 6226 4308 or post to: Dr Yvette Watt, Treasurer, Australian Animal Studies Group, Box 4648, Bathurst St PO, Hobart TAS 7001

Annual membership fees: \$40 for waged applicants, \$20 for student, concession, or unwaged members

National News

UPDATE – AASG@Sydney: Life in the Anthropocene

8-9 July 2013

The conference website is now up: www.aasgconference.com

There will be 6 Keynote Speakers who complement the disciplinary interests and breadth of AASG (Law, Vet Science, Arts and Social Sciences, Geography, for instance). Below is a preview of what's coming – as members of AASG you need to know what we're up to!

Art Exhibition

The conference will include an Art Exhibition at Verge Gallery (on campus) curated by Maddi Boyd, in association with Eben Kirksey and the Environmental Humanities group at UNSW. We will be holding drinks and canapés at the Exhibition on the afternoon/evening of July 8th. Maddi has set up a blog (including photos of Gallery and conference site) so you can follow progress on the exhibition: <http://intraactionart.wordpress.com/venue/>

Writers' Event (7 July)

The day before the main conference there will be a Writer's Event (organised by Natalie Edwards and Barry Spurr) that will be held in the New Law Building (same location as conference) and the end of that event will segue into the Conference launch (also in new Law Building). Attendance at the Writer's Event will be free (tbc).

Workshop (11 July)

We are planning to hold 3 concurrent workshops the day after the conference with Cary Wolfe, Sarah Whatmore (tbc) and Peter Sankoff. The workshops will be limited to 20 places per workshop, involve pre-circulated reading material and will only be open to conference attendees. These workshops represent a fabulous opportunity for members to get better acquainted with our international speakers and their work. More information will follow on how to apply. Lunch will be provided (modest fee will most probably apply)

Twitter Account

Agata Mrva-Montoya has also set up a Twitter account for HARN that will also be posting regular information about the conference – the Twitter address is:

http://twitter.com/HARN_SydUni

Registration and Abstract Submission

Via our conference site: www.aasgconference.com See also **CALL FOR PAPERS** under **Conferences** below.

Here is a sneak preview of the costs – NOT INCLUDING GST (So add 10%)

Until November 16th 2012 (NOTE: it's pretty cheap . . .)

NightOwl Student/Underemployed 3 Days: 200.00	5% discount for HARN and AASG members.
NightOwl Fully Employed 3 Days: 400.00	5% discount for HARN and AASG members.

Until March 15 2013

Earlybird Student/Underemployed Daily Rate: 100.00
Earlybird Student/Underemployed 3 Days: 250.00
Earlybird Fully Employed Daily Rate: 180.00
Earlybird Fully Employed 3 Days: 500.00

From March 16 2013

Student/Underemployed Daily Rate: 120.00
Student/Underemployed 3 Days: 300.00
Fully Employed Daily Rate: 220.00
Fully Employed 3 Days: 600.00

We hope to see you there!

2012 Australian Animal Activists Forum

20-21 October 2012. Sydney NSW

The Animal Activists Forum is an annual gathering of advocates for animal protection from around Australia. This year's AAF will be bigger than ever, with international guest speakers, workshops and panel sessions to interest all from beginners to seasoned members of the movement. The AAF is for animal advocates and organisations of any persuasion, looking for an opportunity to learn, network and share their stories and skills in the hope of making the world a better place for all species.

The event runs from 8:30 am - 5:30pm on two days, all tickets are offered for both days. There are no single day tickets. All attendees must present on the 20th October at 8:30am.

**Register
soon**

To attend the event, you need to purchase a ticket prior to the event. All ticket sales end on the 15th October 2012. Unwaged: \$70, Standard: \$100, Solidarity: \$200 (for those who wish to financially support the event).

Venue: The Portside Centre
Level 5, Symantec House
207 Kent Street
Sydney, New South Wales 2000

For bookings and more details see:
<http://www.trybooking.com/Booking/BookingEventSummary.aspx?eid=28525&embed=28525> or
email the convenors: info@activistsforum.com

Institute for Critical Animal Studies, Oceania

The Institute for Critical Animal Studies now has an Oceania chapter. ICAS, founded in 2001, is the first interdisciplinary scholarly centre in higher education dedicated to establishing and expanding the field of Critical Animal Studies (CAS). Critical Animal Studies (CAS) is the academic field of study dedicated to the abolition of animal and ecological exploitation, oppression, and domination. CAS is grounded in a broad global emancipatory inclusionary movement for total liberation and freedom.

ICAS believes that in order to eliminate the domination and oppression of animals in higher education animal advocacy/rights/liberation/abolitionist scholars must come together under one common field of study, similar to that of other marginalized fields of study (e.g., Women's Studies, Ethnic Studies, Latina/o Studies, Native American Studies), while constructively debating theories, tactics, and strategies for the advancement of animal liberation and freedom.

ICAS identifies animal oppression and domination as torturing, marginalizing, or killing animals. ICAS has identified four major initiatives that create academic and social change to end animal oppression in higher education they include:

1. Forums, such as conferences, debates, and lecture and film series
2. Research, such as analysis that result into books, articles, journals, and policy papers
3. Networking, such as associations and groups for faculty, staff, and students to communicate
4. Campus activism, such as working with students, faculty, and staff on veganizing their campus, banning animals in entertainment and animal mascots, and eliminating vivisection and dissection.

For more information about ICAS Oceania see: <http://icasoceania.wordpress.com/> or contact icas@criticalanimalstudies.org

Regional News

VICTORIA

Melbourne Writer's Festival

You Animals

One of the events on 26 August at the annual 'big occasion' in the writing world – the Melbourne Writer's Festival – was a panel discussion on the subject of animals.

Tim Flannery, environmentalist and author of *Here on Earth* among many other books; broadcaster Hilary Harper, Sonya Hartnett, author of *The Children of the King*, Anna Krien, writer of the Quarterly essay 'Us and Them'; and Charlotte Wood, author of *Animal People* (reviewed under New Books below) discussed our complex relationships with domesticated, farmed and wild animals. To treat animals as we do, we must separate ourselves from them. Where do they fit in our urbanised world? And where do we fit in the animal kingdom?

For a blog about this discussion see:

<http://earlybirdcatchestheworm.wordpress.com/2012/08/30/melbourne-writers-festival-you-animals/>

Readings Bookshop

Melissa Boyde launched the electronic version of Peta Tait's book *Wild and Dangerous Performances: Animals, Emotions, Circus* at Readings bookshop, Lygon St, Carlton on 14 August. It is published as an e-book and in hardback.

Wild and Dangerous Performances offers a compelling history of trained animal performers in fin de siècle and twentieth century circus. Tait provides far-reaching insights into the complexities of animals as performers and how we interpret emotion through their physical feats and performances. The book is a major contribution to circus history, performance and emotion studies, and to the contemporary field of animal studies.

Wild and Dangerous was listed in the New Books section of the *AASG Bulletin* 14, December 2011. See past issues at <http://www.aasg.org.au/bulletins>

Melbourne University

Animal Issues Melbourne

As usual, the activities and readings of the Animal Issues Melbourne group, under the guidance of Siobhan O'Sullivan, have been many and varied:

June 25 reading was: Arluke, A. (2012), 'Bystander Apathy in Animal Abuse Cases: exploring barriers to child and adolescent intervention', *Anthrozoos*, 25 (1)

30 July the group read a paper co-authored by: Otter, C., O'Sullivan, S. and Ross, S. (2012), 'Laying the Foundations for an International Animal Protection Regime', *Journal of Animal Ethics*, 2 (1):53 – 71. The three authors joined the discussion.

August 27 the group read Walby, K. and Monghan, J. (2011), 'Private Eyes and Public Order: Policing and Surveillance in the Suppression of Animal Rights Activists in Canada', *Social Movement Studies*, Vol. 10, No. 1, 21–37.

Upcoming Events:

October 14 the Group are having a special outing to see a documentary about the making of the play *War Horse* at ACMI, Federation Square (the play and topics associated are outlined under [Films and Plays](#) below). Tickets are \$18 and can be purchased here: <http://www.melbournefestival.com.au/program/production?id=4094>

24 September meeting will read and discuss a paper by group regular David Mence 'Seeking a Right to Life: Whales, Whalers and the International Whaling Commission'. David would like to put the paper forward for publication but would like some critical feedback before he does so.

December 6 is the date for the group's end of year seminar and dinner. The seminar will feature international scholars: Anat Pick, Tom Tyler and Robert McKay.

For more information contact Siobhan O'Sullivan: siobhano@unimelb.edu.au

[Animal Liberation Victoria](#)

The Australian premiere of the film *Peaceable Kingdom: The Journey Home* was screened on August 2 at Classic Cinema Elsternwick.

The evening started with an array of vegan finger food and was followed with comments by Phil Wollen OAM and a Q&A discussion facilitated by ALV Founder, Patty Mark.

For more about the film see in [Films and Plays](#) section below.

TASMANIA

[University of Tasmania](#)

Art Forum

On 17 August at the Tasmanian School of Art, Sam Leach considered the problems posed for contemporary art that addresses science, as increasing numbers of contemporary artists consider the implications of science and work on art-science collaborations.

Leach's paintings deal with the relationship between humans and nonhuman animals, and between science and art. He has had numerous solo exhibitions and numerous group exhibitions, in Australia and abroad. Recent solo exhibitions include *The Ecstasy of Infrastructure*, TarraWarra Museum of Art, and *We have never been modern* at the Hong Kong Art Fair. Leach has been the subject of considerable media attention, featuring on the front page of Melbourne's *Age* newspaper, and in an ABC documentary about his work. Leach's work has won several awards, including the Metro Prize and the Geelong Gallery prize in 2006, the Eutick Memorial Still Life award and the Siemens Art Prize and travelling scholarship in 2007 and both the Wynne and Archibald Prizes at the Art Gallery of New South Wales in 2010. He is currently completing a PhD in Fine Art.

You can find the details of the Art Forum and Events here: <http://www.utas.edu.au/tasmanian-school-of-art/events>

Sam Leach's work is featured in [Art Works](#) below.

Colonialism and its Aftermath (CAIA)

On 25 June a public lecture by Harriet Ritvo, Arthur J. Conner Professor of History at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, took place at the Centenary Lecture Theatre, Sandy Bay Campus, University of Tasmania.

'Going Forth and Multiplying: Migration, Assimilation and Invasion in the Nineteenth Century'

The nineteenth century saw numerous transfers and attempted transfers of animal populations, mostly as the result of the spread of European agriculture. The exchange of animal populations facilitated by the acclimatization societies that were established in Europe, North America and Australia, among other places, had more complicated meanings. Introduced aliens were often appreciated or deplored in the same terms that were applied to human migrants. Some animal acclimatizations were part of ambitious attempts to transform entire landscapes. Such transfers also broached or blurred the distinction between the domesticated and the wild. The intentional enhancement of the fauna of a region was a forceful assertion of human power. But most planned acclimatizations failed, if they moved beyond the drawing board. And those that succeeded also tended to undermine complacent assumptions about human control.

The lecture was presented by the Centre of Colonialism and its Aftermath, University of Tasmania.

NEW SOUTH WALES

[Macquarie University](#)

Tomorrow's Laws: The Future of Animal Law

18 October 2012

The Centre for Legal Governance at Macquarie Law School is pleased to announce that it will be partnering with RSPCA Australia to host a one-day conference on the future of animal law at the Mint in Sydney. The conference will bring together Australian and international experts from a range of sectors including government, industry, animal welfare, and the academy, to explore the latest developments concerning animals and the law. Pivotal issues such as the regulation and governance of animal welfare policy and standard-setting, the intersection between human liberties and animal protection laws, and the future role and impact of public interest litigation for animals will be discussed and debated.

Keynote Address: Prof Robert Garner, University of Leicester, UK: 'Animal Rights in a Non-Ideal World'

Speakers:

- 'Bearing the Burden: Shifting Responsibility for the Welfare of the Beast' - Ms Elizabeth Ellis, Honorary Senior Fellow, Faculty of Law, University of Wollongong
- 'Animal Welfare Policy in the Australian Agricultural Sector' - Mr Phillip Glyde, Deputy Secretary, DAFF
- 'Captured by Design: The Story of Farm Animal Welfare Regulation in Australia' - Mr Jed Goodfellow, PhD candidate, Macquarie Law School & Policy Officer, RSPCA Australia
- 'What Indeed has Athens, Jerusalem and Bodhgaya to do with Animal Law? Religion and its Relationship with the Future of Animal Law' - Ven. Alex Bruce, Buddhist Monk, Associate Professor, ANU College of Law
- 'Improving Welfare Outcomes in the Live Export Trade? The Supply Chain Assurance Framework One Year On' - Ms Celeste Black, Senior Lecturer, Sydney Law School, University of Sydney
- 'Strategic Public Interest Litigation' - Mr Graeme McEwen, Barrister, Victoria; Chair, Barristers Animal Welfare Panel
- 'Intensive Factory Farming, Administrative Law Values and the Rule of Law' - Dr Melissa Perry QC, FAAL Barrister, NSW
- 'Animal Welfare: Lost in Translation' - Ms Kathleen Plowman, General Manager Policy, Australian Pork Limited

For more information please contact Shideh Modabber shideh.modabber@mq.edu.au

**Register
NOW**

Deadline for registration 28 September

Further information is available here:

http://arts.mq.edu.au/news_and_events/events/faculty_symposiumscolloquiums/animal_law_symposium_2012

University of Sydney

Living with(out) Animals: Nonhuman Ethics for the 21st Century

22 October 2012

A half-day symposium. Darlington Centre Conference Room – 12:30-5:00pm. Confirmed speakers include:

- Jan Deckers (University of Newcastle UK) – ‘Why everyone should support the vegan project, both up there & down under’
- Rob Irvine (University of Sydney) – ‘What is This Thing Called Animal Ethics?’
- John Hadley (University of Western Sydney) – ‘What’s the use of animal rights extremism? Violence on behalf of nonhuman animals in liberal democratic states’
- Jane Johnson (Macquarie University) – ‘The Vulnerability of Nonhuman Animals: Implications for Animal Ethics’
- Chris Degeling (University of Sydney) – ‘Future Frontiers: Animal Human Conflict & Infectious Disease’

**Register
NOW**

Free admission. All welcome, but places are limited.

If you wish to attend, please register by email at: chris.degeling@sydney.edu.au

Presented by the Centre for Values, Ethics and the Law in Medicine & the Human Animal Research Network University of Sydney

Reports

Living with Climate Change: Professor Dale Jamieson

University of Sydney. 20 August 2012

This lecture was co-presented with the Sydney Network on Climate Change and Society, in partnership with the Australian Centre for Climate and Environmental Law and the Environmental Humanities Group.

Abstract: Climate change is occurring and is effectively irreversible on time scales that are meaningful to us. Our failure to prevent or even to respond significantly to climate change reflects the impoverishment of our systems of practical reason, the paralysis of our politics, and the limits of our cognitive and affective capacities. As a result of our failure, the physical conditions of our existence are likely to become more trying. Virtually everything that matters to us in human culture and civilization occurred in a 10,000 year period in which the Earth was extraordinarily quiet and planetary conditions unusually stable. This was likely to change in any case, but it is particularly tragic that we are currently the major force in their disruption. In his presentation for Sydney Ideas, Dale Jamieson provided some consolation and motivation in the face of these sobering realities. Perhaps more than ever it matters what we do. The rate and extent of climate change is still to some extent under our control. It matter how much and how quickly we emit, and in a radically unequal world it matters who does the emitting. It also matters whether and how we adapt and who bears the costs. Most of all it matters how we and our children will find meaning in a strange world that we have made.

Dale Jamieson is Director of Environmental Studies at New York University, where he is also Professor of Environmental Studies and Philosophy, and Affiliated Professor of Law. Formerly he was Henry R. Luce Professor in Human Dimensions of Global Change at Carleton College, and Professor of Philosophy at the University of Colorado, Boulder. He is the author of *Ethics and the Environment: An Introduction* (2008), and *Morality's Progress: Essays on Humans, Other Animals, and the Rest of Nature* (2002). He is on the editorial boards of several journals including *Environmental Values*, *Environmental Ethics*, and *Science, Technology, and Human Values*. He is currently writing a book on the moral and political challenges of climate change, a topic on which he has worked for more than twenty-five years.

HARN: Human-Animal Research Network

Animal Death Symposium

University of Sydney. 12-13 June 2012

Report by Sally Borrell and Sandra Burr



The Animal Death Symposium was launched by Professor Annamarie Jagose, Head of School of Letters, Art and Media, with keynote lecture by Professor Deborah Bird Rose. HARN lecture by Assoc Professor Annie Potts, NZ Center for Human Animal Studies. Animal Death is the first conference of the Human Animal Research Network (HARN), and was organised by Fiona Probyn-Rapsey and Jay Johnston. The call for papers was so popular that an extra day had been added to proceedings in order to accommodate more prospective delegates, and this proved entirely worthwhile.

The event was opened with a Welcome to Country by Donna Ingram and then Deborah Bird Rose gave a keynote entitled 'In the Shadow of All this Death'. She addressed the way our lives always follow and are followed by others into death, and the 'crazy love' of loving those who will perish, taking the example of a pair of albatrosses in Hawai'i observed mourning the loss of their egg. Rose suggested that while death cannot be prevented, we can choose not to abandon the dying. She reflected on Janet Lawrence's exhibition *After Eden* and the practice of keeping bodies as specimens, trophies or other taxidermy. Finally she explored the ways in which the theme of expulsion is repeated, for instance in recent attempts to expel flying foxes from Sydney's botanic gardens. She concluded that perhaps to live in the shadow of death is to live with shame, ending with a poem by Peter Boyle.



Professor Debbie Bird Rose, Macquarie University

The HARN lecture was given by Annie Potts and entitled 'From Alectromancy to McNuggets: An Illustrated Cultural History of the Chicken'. This included a wide range of perspectives on chickens from mythology to meat production, illustrated with personal experiences and many striking images. Potts demonstrated that prior to the industrialisation of chicken farming, chickens were held in high regard in many contexts and associated with protectiveness and bravery rather than cowardice. She also discussed the ongoing resistance to the commodification of chickens within activism, ethology and popular culture. For information on Annie Potts' recent book *Chicken*, see <http://www.reaktionbooks.co.uk/book.html?id=487>



Associate Professor Annie Potts, NZ Centre for Human-Animal Studies, University of Canterbury, NZ

The panel sessions across the two days included an impressive range of papers, grouped around themes including care, population control, hunting, consumption, extinction and mourning. Here are just a handful of examples:

Rick de Vos discussed the position of huskies in communities in north western Greenland. Combining local accounts, observations and images, he explained that while huskies have been integral to hunting practices, changing hunting conditions and climate are impacting on this dynamic, with adverse effects for the dogs.

Dinesh Wadiwel examined the question of sovereignty and human-animal relations in Derrida's *The Beast and the Sovereign* lectures. He applied this to Herman Melville's *Moby Dick*, focusing on the relationship between Ahab and the whale of the title. He raised the possibility that animal violence might be regarded as sovereign and that humans might cede, as a way of rethinking human-animal relations.

Peta Tait explored the use of dead animals in live performance, and audience responses to it. She compared Jill Orr's 'The Sleep of Reason Produces Monsters – Goya' (2003) and Nikki Heywood's 'Museum of the Sublime: Relic #5' (2011). In the first case, Tait explained, the use of raw bones and meat animated by the artist confronted the viewer first at visceral (because olfactory) and then at cognitive levels. In the second case, the juxtaposition of the naked female body with an animal fur worked to disturb the boundaries between life and death. She contrasted the effects of eliciting bodily engagement versus visceral response.

Yvette Watt discussed her latest project *Animal Factories*, which continues her use of art for the promotion of animal welfare. In this project, she has been travelling all over Australia photographing factory farms. This is done from the outside, with the intention that rather than turning away from the horrific, the viewer will be encouraged to imagine what goes on inside, and thus more easily engage with the ethics of factory farming.

Helen Tiffin used the case of shearwater deaths from ingested plastic flotsam, which they are unable to distinguish from food sources, to open up the controversial question of human population control. She advocated rethinking humans' place in the world, suggesting that our conception of ourselves is the greatest obstacle to this.

Jill Bough discussed the contribution made to donkeys to the development of Australia and questioned the current methods used to cull these animals that are now classified as feral pests. Her explanation of the Judas donkey used to lure wild donkeys to their deaths was particularly poignant.

Dan Lunney addressed the underappreciated issue of road kill and the need to establish policies and behaviours to reduce this carnage while pointing to the disrespect implied by leaving the carcasses of dead animals on the roads.

Thought-provoking questions about the morality and ethics of euthanasia were raised by Anne Fawcett in her discussion of justifiable killing by veterinarians and Dominique Thiriet who spoke about the right to live in the context of chronic suffering of injured wildlife.

Atilla Orel and Rowena Braddock both offered unusual papers on animal issues with Orel tracing the rise of vegetarianism and the origins of the phrase Sweet Fanny Adams, while Braddock discussed notions of death masquerading as life in the pom pom taxidermy of contemporary artist Troy Emery.

Cultural attitudes to animal death were discussed in a very interesting paper by Rowan Savage, while Teja Brooks Pribac looked at grieving from the animal's perspective, raising the idea that if grieving is so hard for humans, how must it be for animals. In the same session Melissa Boyde discussed the textual deaths of animals in the films *Wake in Fright* and *Red Dog* in relation to matters including: deviation and disappearance, shame and shamelessness, and vested and invested interests.

Milad Milani offered insights into the status of dogs in Islam through historical and cultural perspectives while Chloe Cooper in her discussion about respect for the dead asked us to consider hierarchies of eating and the implications if humans were simply to become food for other animals.

Overall the Animal Death conference was a great opportunity for scholars, artists and activists to come together around this most pervasive aspect of human-animal relations. The range of thought-provoking, idiosyncratic and sometimes challenging ideas, across a diversity of disciplines served as a reminder that animal welfare continues to be an important issue in this country. Abstracts and video coverage of the keynote talks and interviews with some speakers is available on the HARN website: <http://sydney.edu.au/arts/research/harn/>



Front row: Dr Jay Johnston (left) and Dr Fiona Probyn-Rapsey (centre) – conference organisers

Publications

Articles and books by Australasian Animal Studies scholars, or about Australasian subjects, that have been published recently or are forthcoming

Lesley Instone

'Regulating Rover: Legislating the public place of urban pet dogs', *Australian Animal Protection Law Journal* 6 (2011): 75-90

'Companion Acts and Companion Species: Boundary transgressions and the place of dogs in urban public space'. In Jacob Bull, Ed. *Animal Movements, Moving Animals: Essays on Direction, Velocity and Agency in Humanimal Encounters*. Uppsala: Crossroads of Knowledge series at the Centre for Gender Research, University Printers, Uppsala.

Andrew Lamey

'Primitive Self-Consciousness and Avian Cognition', *The Monist*, 95.3 (2012).

Elizabeth Leane and Guinevere Narraway

'Things from Another World: Dogs, aliens and Antarctic cinema'. In ed. Adrienne McLean, *Cinematic Canines: Dogs and their Work in the Fiction Film*. Piscataway, NJ: Rutgers UP. Forthcoming.

Freya Matthews

'The Anguish of Wildlife Ethics', *New Formations* 76 (2012). Forthcoming.

Siobhan O'Sullivan

'Celebrating 150 Years of Captivity', *The Conversation*, 25 April 2012:
<https://theconversation.edu.au/celebrating-150-years-of-captivity-6569>

'Pet or Pet-food: A confused rabbit's tale', ABC Environment Online, 6 Mar, 2012:
<http://www.abc.net.au/environment/articles/2012/03/06/3446094.htm>

Perdita Phillips

'Fieldwork with Bowerbirds', *Antennae: The Journal of Nature in Visual Culture* 20 (2012): 98-105:
<http://www.antennae.org.uk/ANTENNAE%20ISSUE%2020.docx.pdf>

J. Randall

'Becoming Animal', *Popular Anthropology* (Australia Edition), 2.3 (2011):
http://www.popanthro.com/media/issue%202-3/Australia_issue-Final.pdf

Denise Russell

'Japanese Whaling and the Language of Science', *Tamking Review*, 42.2 (2012): 59-85.

Nik Taylor

'Animals, Mess and Method: Post-humanism, Sociology and Animal Studies'. In L. Birke and J. Hockenhull, *Crossing Boundaries: Investigating Human-Animal Relationships*. Brill Academic Press, 2012.

Book review: *Every Twelve Seconds* by Timothy Pachirat, *Anthrozoos* 25.3 (2012).

Stephen White

'Companion Animals, Natural Disasters and the Law: An Australian perspective', *Animals* 2.3 (2012): 380-394.

Conferences and Symposiums: International conferences and seminars

- **AASG @ Sydney: Life in the Anthropocene.** 5th Biennial Conference of the Australian Animal Studies Group
8-10 July 2013. University of Sydney, Australia

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Anthropocene describes a period of geological time dominated by *homo sapiens* and marked by the significant impact of human activity on the planet. At a time when the natural world is ever more subject to human intervention, interspecies relations face many challenges. If the cultural and scientific moment of the Anthropocene puts 'us' in our place, then it is time to reconsider our place *with* them, the other animals.

This 5th Conference of the Australian Animal Studies Group will bring together voices from a wide range of disciplines and beyond the Academy to examine how new knowledge of human–animal relations requires novel starting points, critical tools and cross-disciplinary connections.

We welcome papers that explore the implications of living in the Anthropocene for human–animal relationships. What is the impact of human activity upon non-human life? How do lessons from the past shed light on present and future orientations? How do different disciplines, institutions and groups (community, government and activist) respond to the myriad issues raised by living in the Anthropocene?

Potential themes include:

- Wildness, re-wilding and conservation
- Rethinking evolution
- Biodesign, breeding, domestication
- Imagining human–animal futures
- Animals and the law, media and public policy

Keynotes:

Professor Cary Wolfe
Professor Sarah Whatmore
Professor Peter Sankoff
Assoc Professor Kate Rigby
Professor Paul McGreevy
Dr Siobhan O'Sullivan

**Coming
up soon**

Deadline for submissions: 7 December 2012

Abstract Submission page can be viewed at <http://www.regonline.com.au/AASG2013abstracts>
Acceptances/rejections will be sent out before Christmas.

Conference organizers: Fiona Probyn-Rapsey, Celeste Black, Nikki Savvides, Dinesh Wadiwel, Maddi Boyd, Michelle Hyde, Matthew Chrulew, Barry Spurr, Chloe Wyatt and Agata Mrva-Montoya. For enquiries contact: Fiona Probyn-Rapsey fiona.probyn-rapsey@sydney.edu.au

- **International Conference on Multispecies Education (ICME)**
20-21 October 2012. Nambour, Queensland/Bogor, Indonesia/London, London, UK

Multispecies Education International (MEI) will run the second ICME (International Conference on Multispecies Education) conference in Nambour Queensland. The first conference was held in Bogor, West Java, Indonesia in October 2010. This second conference will have a base conference on the Sunshine Coast, Australia, with international links via the internet in the UK, Indonesia, and USA. For further information on this conference please email the director, Muria Roberts via: <http://www.supportmei.org/contact-us.html>

- **The Australian Veterinary Forensics, Law and Animal Conference**
12-13 December, 2012. Gold Coast, Queensland

This conference aims to promote the recognition of Veterinary Forensics as an emerging tool in the Veterinary Legal arena. Delegates will also see applications of Veterinary Forensics to industry and the need for Veterinary Forensic training in legal disputes involving animals and animal derivatives. The conference will also provide delegates with an understanding of some issues relating to the Law surrounding animals, animal cruelty and the professional regulation of veterinarians. The crossover between Animal, Sociology and Psychology and the 'bigger picture' is covered in the Human-Animal interaction lectures.

The conference and speakers shall introduce delegates to the requirement for specialism and understanding in three intersecting areas: Animal law, Veterinary forensics and Human Animal interaction. The conference theme is: THE NEXT STEP

Stream one is dedicated to updating delegates to some of the current issues involved in animal welfare in a domestic setting and the recognition of non-accidental injuries in animals and animal abuse as a tool in domestic violence. This leads into discussion and presentation of the wider issues involved in domestic violence and the recognition of same with the final day showing how animals can be used as a therapeutic tool in prisons and young offender communities.

A second stream is dedicated to animal law and the legal process pertaining to legal disputes involving veterinarians, animals and animal derivatives. This also includes a lecture on the professional regulation of veterinarians.

A third stream is devoted to the new and emerging subject of Veterinary Forensics and delegates will find out what it is and how they may apply it to clinical practice as well as forensic investigations in a legal or industry application.

**Register
NOW**

Early bird registration ends 30 September

For registration contact: info@forensicvet.com A \$65 discount is available to AASG members!!

For more information about the conference, including speakers and program see:

http://www.forensicvet.com/pages/index.asp?title=The_Australian_Veterinary_Forensics_and_Law_conference

- **Animal Welfare: Emotion, Cognition and Behaviour**
1) 24-26 September 2012. Edinburgh Zoo, UK

Topics will range from animal emotion, animal minds, play, personality, pain assessment, human-animal relationships, sleep & resting, looked at in a large variety of species, from mammals to birds and fish.

Three panel discussions have been scheduled to discuss together and the seminar features 7 international speakers from different universities and organizations:

Jonathan Balcombe
Dr. Jaak Panksepp
Dr Esteban Rivas
Charlotte Phebe Post
Sabrina Brando
Dr. Laura Hänninen
Dr. Matthew Leach
Dr. Alexander Weiss
Dr. Melissa Bateson

2) 1-2 October 2012. Almere, The Netherlands

Topics will range from animal emotion, animal minds, play, personality, human-animal relationships, looked at in a large variety of species, from mammals and birds, to fish.

Two panel discussion have been scheduled to discuss together and the seminar features four speakers:

Jonathan Balcombe
Dr Esteban Rivas
Charlotte Phebe Post
Sabrina Brando

Both these events are organised by AnimalConcepts. For registration details and more information see: <http://www.animalconcepts.eu/styled-4/styled/index.html>

- **Ambivalent Playful Musical Practices in the Middle Ages and Early Modern Times, 1200-1800**

18-19 October, 2012. Bielefeld University, Germany

Interdisciplinary Workshop

Luther's chamber music, the court masquerades of Louis XIV, processions and mystery plays in late medieval towns, musical theatre and opera or Brueghel's wedding dance are all famous examples of musical practices in European pre-modern times. However, there are a multitude of lesser known musical practices, particularly in the connection between music and play. By moving beyond existing conceptions of musical practices, this workshop aims to incorporate the study of hitherto neglected and under-studied practices. By doing so, the workshop will focus on peripheral practices, through which different and unexplored sounds can be investigated. This will bring delimitations such as of the sacred and the profane, or "the animal" and "the human" to the fore.

The first panel explores the church as an institution where playful practices seem unexpected. The second panel looks into the inclusion and exclusion of animals in practices formerly regarded as purely human. By comparing liturgical singing with animal voices and with historical experimentations on animal sounds in bird keeping, we hope to broaden the concept of music. To this end, the third panel gives the opportunity to discuss a new field of study: the nuances of sound, voices and noise.

The scope of the workshop is to grasp the numerous playful music practices in their border zones with an interdisciplinary approach in order to generate fresh approaches to the cultural history of pre-modernity.

For more information (in German) see:

<http://www.unibielefeld.de/bghs/programm/workshops/2012.html>

- **Finding a Niche for all Animals**

9-11 November 2012. Wesleyan University, Middletown Connecticut

Marti Kheel, an important ecofeminist philosopher, died on November 19, 2011. "Finding a Niche for All Animals" will celebrate her life and continue her work. The conference will feature four panels devoted to the subjects of ecofeminist theory and practice, contextual moral veganism, activism and dialogue, and feminist ethics of care. This conference is being organized by Carol Adams and Lori Gruen.

Confirmed speakers include :

Ralph Acampora
Batya Bauman

Chris Cuomo
Deane Curtin
Karen Davis
Josephine Donovan
Karen Emmerman, Greta Gaard
pattrice jones,
Lauren Ornelas
Rosemary Ruether,
Jasmin Singer and Mariann Sullivan
Deborah Slicer
Kim Stallwood
Richard Twine

The conference is being co-sponsored and supported by: Wesleyan Animal Studies, the College of the Environment, the Ethics in Society Project, the Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program, the Center for the Study of Public Life, and the Philosophy Department at Wesleyan. Other sponsors are the Animals and Society Institute, Feminists for Animal Rights, Arnold S. and Ellen Kheel Jacobs, AJ Jacobs, Jane Kheel Stanley and other members of the Kheel family, Carol Adams and other friends of Marti Kheel.

For registration and schedule see: <http://martikheel.conference.wesleyan.edu/>

- **Non-human in Social Science III: Past Trajectories – Future Prospects**
November 17-18, Charles University, Prague

CALL FOR PAPERS

Across social sciences, the non-human has become a fashionable topic of inquiry and research since around 1980s. In the preceding two conferences (of 2010 and 2011), the focus was on relationship of humans and non-humans as well as on nonhuman modes of existence or on the agency of non-human actors.

The 2012 conference seeks to create an intellectually stimulating environment for the debate about the non-human and its role in (re)shaping the future of social science. The organizers welcome papers addressing theoretical, methodological, and epistemological issues; papers dealing with past developments of the non-human concept, the evaluation of its strengths and weaknesses as well as empirical examples of its usage.

As in the last two years, they will be offering participants an opportunity to publish their scholarly work in a collective monograph, the topic of which will crystallize during the two-day meeting.

**Submit
NOW**

Deadline for abstracts: 10 September

For submission details and more information see: <http://www.fhs.cuni.cz/nonhuman/> or contact nonhuman@email.cz

- **Conference on Ecopoetics**
22-24 February 2013. University of California, Berkeley, USA

CALL FOR PAPERS

What is ecopoetics? What representational strategies and sociopolitical commitments might characterize this practice? How might we periodize ecopoetics and situate its modes of cultural production? This conference aims to bring scholars, poets, and creative artists into sustained dialogue on the historical and contemporary practices of ecopoetics.

Panel proposals or individual paper proposals are invited that examine the various relationships—historical, material, aesthetic, activist—between poetry, poetics, and ecology. Possible topics

include: ecological genres: pastoral, georgic, elegy, documentary; formal innovations in ecopoetics: sound- and performance-based practices, concrete and minimalist ecopoetics, intermedia ecopoetics; biopoetics, biopolitics, and posthumanism; pataphysics, biosemiotics, and information theory; discourses of pollution, garbage, toxicity, unsustainability, apocalypse; evolution and extinction; queer ecology; cross-cultural, indigenous, mestizo, subaltern ecopoetics; climate change and geosystems; creaturely life, life forms, nonhumans; life and non-life; site-specific poetics, bioregionalisms, transregionalisms, poetry and “sustainability”; Romantic and post-Romantic ecopoetics; Modernist and postmodern ecopoetics; the affective and ethical turns in ecopoetics; surrealist, digital, and conceptual ecopoetics; ethnopoetics; environmental justice and environmental racism; precarity and the multitude; disaster capitalism, petrocapi-talism, “green” capitalism, political ecology; violence and abjection; urban and exurban ecologies; ecopoetics and object-oriented ontology; avant-gardening; poetry, activism, revolution.

**Submit
NOW**

Deadline for submissions: October 1, 2012

The conference will also feature poetry readings, art/film exhibits, and excursions to Bay Area forests and wilderness areas.

For more information including submission guidelines see:

<http://ecopoeticsconference.blogspot.com.au/>

Please direct questions and submissions to ecopoetics.conference@gmail.com

- **3rd International Veterinary Social Work Summit**
April 11-13, 2013, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

The 3rd international Veterinary Social Work Summit is a scholarly conference accepting 1 hour workshop, 30-minute podium, poster presentation, and table topic abstracts in the four areas of Veterinary Social Work:

- The Link Between Violence to Animals and Violence to People
- Grief and Bereavement
- Animal Assisted Interactions
- Compassion Fatigue Management

There will be an additional track on:

- Ethical Dilemmas in Social Work and Animals.

Keynote speakers:

Dr Temple Grandin
Dr Hal Herzog

**Coming
up soon**

Deadline for abstracts: November 1

For more information see: <http://trace.tennessee.edu/utvswsummit/Third/>

Special Report

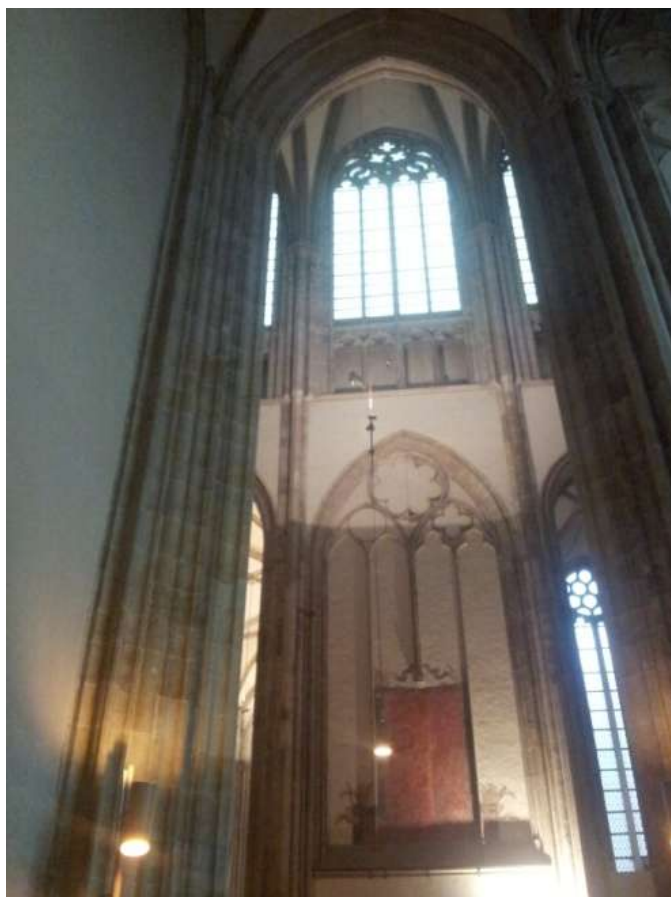
Minding Animals International 2

Utrecht University, The Netherlands. 4-6 July 2012

Report by **Carol Freeman** (AASG *Bulletin* editor), **Evelyn Tsitas** and **Iris Bergmann** (RMIT University, Melbourne). With comments by PhD candidates, Atilla Orel and Greg Murrie (HARN, Sydney University).

Photos by Carol Freeman

The second Minding Animals conference in Utrecht, The Netherlands, was a seminal event. With over 400 presenters and 700 delegates it was, by far, the biggest human-animal studies



The Dom church in Utrecht: venue for the welcome reception and J. M. Coetzee's opening address.

conference we have yet seen. It showed just how this burgeoning transdisciplinary field is developing internationally. The following reports cover a range of events and sessions through the eyes of some of the 40 Australian presenters who attended.

In his opening address in the historic Dom Church in the centre of the medieval city of Utrecht, J. M. Coetzee noted the rise of animal studies and read an unpublished piece relating to Elizabeth Costello, a fictional character from his book *The Lives of Animals*, who has now retired to South America and is taking in stray cats. The reading concerned a conversation with Costello's son that raised perennial questions in human-animal relations, as well as some new ones: Do animals have souls? How do humans and animals differ? What do we do about feral cats? Cats are both hunters and hunted – is this a moral problem? But Elizabeth Costello also makes the point that “a cat is not a set of problems” – her efforts to rescue cats is a personal response to the sight of a mother cat giving birth in a culvert.

Greg Murrie

“The conference started . . . in the Dom, the cathedral in the centre of Utrecht, with the opening reception held in the cloisters and beautiful open air garden between the old and new parts, perfect for sipping white wine in on a fine Northern Hemispheric summer's day (sorry to those still enduring a Southern Hemispheric winter). Then J.M. Coetzee gave the opening address of the conference in the cathedral itself – a suitably dignified setting for a Nobel Prize winner – a reading of an Elizabeth Costello story more recent than the eponymous novel.”

Atilla Orel

“I suppose it makes sense that, coming from a literature background, the highlight for me was probably Coetzee's story. This is not to say that the rest of the conference was lacking at all, but I found it a particularly interesting and productive way to begin. One of the most interesting themes running through this story was the idea that invisibility is a quality of the perceiver, i.e. we see (or do not see) according to what is convenient or desirable to us. The idea is relevant and familiar to most of us but its delivery was pretty special I thought.”

Evelyn Tsitas

"No report on the Minding Animals Conference can be complete without including mention of the highlight; the opening public lecture by John Coetzee, winner of the Nobel Prize for literature. Held at the magnificent Dom Church, a capacity audience listened as Coetzee read a didactic narrative that continues the series of books about academic Elizabeth Costello. Here, Coetzee subtly explored the arguments and counter arguments of vegetarianism and the question of how human kind has assumed control over the reproductive life of domestic animals. Coetzee deftly played with our assumptions about animals, the way in which we anthropomorphise them to understand them and posed an interesting argument; that it is our faces that make us human. While humans have noses, animals have snouts, but with what then do animals "face the world?"

This fundamental species difference was taken up the following day at the conference opening address by Henk Bleker, Minister of Agriculture and Foreign trade, The Netherlands. Bleker said; *"In my way of thinking, there is a hierarchy between man and animals. We have to be responsible for animals, but there is something more important, there are people thinking about animals as if they were nearly man, a kind of humanization of animals that I have my doubts about. Maybe we think about that in Amsterdam or The Hague, but it is different in other countries, and in the countryside"*. Bleker's comments drew undisguised hissing from a sizeable section of the outraged audience. Ways of understanding, thinking and engaging about animals is different, I discovered, even in the Minding Animals conference."



A selection of J. M Coetzee's books on display in a Utrecht bookshop

The Conference overall, from Evelyn Tsitas

"As a relatively new field, the issues discussed at the Minding Animals Conference in Utrecht in 2012 were wide ranging, but predominantly concerned with both identity and urgency. Identity issues concerned not just ourselves as a species and our relationship to non human others, but factional identity among the conference delegates.

The matter of urgency regarding the state of animal use, exploitation and suffering, especially in the face of the grim reality of intensive factory farming practices that had been making the news, was a feeling universally shared by all at the conference. While the conference promoted "building bridges between science, the humanities and ethics" and the multidisciplinary approach presented a wide range of views, it also, perhaps inevitably, exposed frictions. At its best, this served to

intensify the debates, at worst, those with strongly held ethical positions clashed with others in a less productive manner.

Among the long time activists and philosophers and scientists, I felt like part of the marginal fringe – a creative writer whose work on exploration into the boundaries of humanism had drawn me to the animal, specifically the animal-human hybrid in science fiction. I have to confess that I had an identity crisis coming to the conference, although I had presented at two animal studies conferences in Australia the previous year. Even so, I wondered what I, as a writer, could contribute. Should I even be here? I wasn't a scientist – was science fiction a valid way to explore the human and animal relationship? Wasn't it more important to explore ecology and animal ethics? Nature and politics? Animal advocacy?

However, after five days of listening to conference papers, observing different factional disputes and engaging in informal and formal debates, I ended up being quite changed by the experience, and felt I had contributed to the ongoing narrative and showed the importance of storytelling in any movement designed to compel people to change their long held perceptions and beliefs. In the robust question sessions at the end of each paper, and particularly at the conclusion of keynote addresses, it was the stories of people's personal journey of discovery about living with animals that resonated. How can we imagine being an animal? What does an animal think, feel, need and desire? As one particularly interesting discussion explored, we know what animals want because what living sentient creature doesn't want to feel safe, content, and free? In that sense, there is no boundary between the species.



Plenary session: "If A Lion Could Speak . . ." with Colin Allen, Professor of Cognitive Science and History & Philosophy of Science, Indiana University

This was never more clearly illustrated to me than when I went back into the "real" post-conference world and found that the casual use of animal products and animal representation was particularly jarring. After engaging with high level discussion on valuing and revaluing the nonhuman animal in the world, I had come away literally *Minding Animals* – my thought process and approach was very clearly now seeing the blur between the species.

If I was grappling with issues of legitimacy in this Human Animal Studies arena, many others were as well. For instance, if someone studies animals in their academic work, does this make it animal studies? Then again, as HAS is a relatively new field, methods and approaches haven't been clearly defined and I realised that many of the people presenting at the conference had taken from other disciplines to start their own framework. Certainly, this was highlighted in the question: *what*

do we eat? It may seem a prosaic entry point into a report on the Minding Animals conference, but food choices illustrate the divisions and the deep held ethical and political commitments among those drawn to HAS through a determination to end animal exploitation and suffering. For this group, veganism was a political statement and for an even more hard-core set of ‘nuanced vegans’ it was a religious or spiritual commitment as well, with denial being an intrinsic part of the process of further eroding the boundaries between species.

Another flashpoint was an interesting keynote by Robert Garner, professor of Political Theory, University of Leicester in the UK. Speaking about animal rights in a non-ideal world, he asked, can animals be worthy recipients of justice? What do animals gain from justice? And what are animals due as a matter of justice? His suggestions that any ethic based on according rights to animals, even if not based on species egalitarianism, must engage with non-deal theory came in for heated criticism among those who identified with the Critical Animal Studies area. There was swearing. There was anger. There was no way there would be any concessions.

Similarly, at the podium discussion on the penultimate night on the future of animal politics, Peter Singer, Professor of Philosophy, Princeton University, USA, put forward his view that the only way forward for animal rights was artificial meat. When I suggested to someone the implications for the environment of establishing vast factories to manufacture meat, the response was *‘as long as animals don’t suffer I don’t care what happens to the environment’*. Again, we see a disconnect and tension between people with strongly held ideals. Surely we all have to live in the Anthropocene and realise the impact that we, as humans with our hand on the trigger, have on the environment as well on other species?”



Sheep grazing in a field near the Utrecht Botanic Gardens, just behind the conference venue at the University of Utrecht

MAI Round Tables

Twelve roundtable meetings of MAI Study Circles in the lunch breaks at the Conference were well attended and often animated discussions took place. Minding Marine Mammals; Animals and Philosophy; Animals and the Queer Communities; Compassionate Conservation, and Animals and Science; Minding Great Apes; Animals and Religion; Meat; Animals, Politics and the Law; Minding Equines; Animals and Sentience; Animals and Feminism; Extinction, and Animals and Climate Change showed the diversity and focus of the study groups.

To give some idea of the participants and direction of discussions:

18 people attended the **Animal and Religions** meeting moderated by Arabella Unger. They discussed a set of prepared questions such as: What in the religious traditions we know best are the most hindrances to a more humane ethical approach to the treatment of animals? What might be the most fruitful area to focus an interdisciplinary approach to ethical treatment of animals? With regard to religion, what connections might be between the ethical approach to treatment of individual animals, and our responsibility to the environment as a whole (is there hidden within a constant conflict of aims)?

The **Great Ape Study Circle** moderated by Judith Benz-Schwarzburg included attendees from disciplines as diverse as psychology, biomedicine, art history, philosophy, and wildlife biology. The main points of discussion were the situation of great apes in captivity, particularly the differences between Europe and the US, and Great Ape experimentation. The Circle concluded that in the US the different quality of sanctuaries, breeding, trade, and public visits are all issues that need to be addressed. In Germany, mixed reviews have been published in the German edition of the journal *National Geographic*. Some zoos keep great apes under very questionable conditions. Evaluation was difficult, as most zoos don't want to cooperate with animal welfare / animal rights initiatives. In the EU, great apes have not been used for research since 1999. According to new legislation from autumn 2010, the use of great apes in animal experimentation is not forbidden, but strictly limited to research. The shifting of pharmaceutical research to developing countries is of concern; the threat of relocation is also being used as a pressure tactic to prevent the introduction of strict legislation.

The **Meat Study Circle** roundtable co-convened by Carrie Packwood Freeman and Jan Deckers had 37 participants and free-flowing discussions around the topics What or who is "meat" – what does the term mean to you? Why is "meat" an ethical issue? In summary, they touched on a great variety and breadth of issues surrounding "meat" and ethics that call for further exploration and were worthy publishing projects. No commitments for joint papers were made, however, as they are still seeking input and hope that participants will proactively collaborate. Further input and recommendations will be sought and they will continue the conversation via the Google group.

Some of the most contentious issues at the conference concerned horses. This is Iris Bergmann's report on the **Equine Roundtable**:

"Passions seem to run high when it comes to discussing matters of human-equine relationships. Consequently, the convener and the scribe of the equine roundtable discussion introduced the session by stating that everyone has their own favourite approach to working with horses, that we are here to learn from each other and urged all to treat each other with respect. Indeed, it seemed that the majority of the twenty or so participants ride or in other ways handle horses. So it should come to no surprise that the first topic discussed was horse training.

One participant suggested that disappointingly, the understanding of training of horses appears to be twenty years behind that of the training of dogs. Others added that there are many "strange" approaches emerging under the umbrella of "natural horsemanship", that inexperienced people keep switching between methods which results in a lack of consistency which in turn causes handling problems, and that ethologists may be contributing to these problems. In addition, some participants made it clear that there are profound differences between the conditions that gave rise to practices coined "natural horsemanship", and the classical European traditions of horse training.

While there were palpable differences in the room in terms of training horses, there seemed to be an underlying consensus that a lot is going wrong in our dealings with horses. It was also acknowledged that people are using horses, for sport, work and play, and that this is unlikely to end any time soon. Nonetheless, participants suggested that we can still make progress by addressing questions such as: Should we ride horses at all? What is reasonable and unreasonable use of horses? What level of stress is acceptable to impose on a horse? I believe a way forward also needs to address improving cooperation and communication between animal rights activists and those who have a deep understanding of training and care of horses at the

practical level, and researchers addressing all of these areas and human-equine relationships from their various fields.

Shortly before closing the session, a young woman came forth and asked the most provocative question of all: “*Is riding horses akin to eating meat?*” While we cannot exclude the possibility that there are horses who are willing, or even like, to be ridden, I doubt we find an animal willing to be eaten. Nonetheless, I believe it is a question worth asking purely for its provocative nature. From my experience, too much is being taken for granted in terms of using horses by the various equestrian communities, from the leisure rider to the elite level, as well as by people who are not directly involved with horses, and horses suffer even at the hands of well-meaning people. The roundtable made an important contribution by spelling out difficult questions that no interest group can avoid any longer in times of changing human-animal relationships”.

Visual Art Program

Film and art presentations at the conference included continuously running video art curated by Jessica Ullrich. This consisted of 16 short films, from 2 mins to 16 mins long. For instance: Harald Hund and Paul Thorn's *Mouse Palace*, Cyrill Lachauer's *I Killed the Butterflies*, and Varsity of Maneuvers' *The Way of the Goat*.

There was a plenary screening of the film *Animals: A Misunderstanding* that looked at the question of human-animal living in close proximity and whether this was two-sided relationship – what does the love of an animal owner mean for the animal itself?

Another plenary screening, *Facing Animals* directed by Dutch filmmaker Jan van Ijken, drew some criticism for its confrontational content. The film asked why do we look away from millions of animals in industrial farms while pampering and humanizing others, and claimed to “look at the world from the perspective of the animals”. See more about the film under [Films and Plays](#) below.

There was also an exhibition of Charlotte Dumas' work curated by Jessica Ullrich in one of the session rooms.



Charlotte Dumas' photographs of burial horses at Arlington National Cemetery, displayed in Boothzaal (University Library)

Some closing remarks from Greg Murrie . . .

“ . . . one of the highlights for me was the Marc Bekoff talk on the final night. Marc has a way of - excuse my language - cutting through a lot of crap and getting to an activist core which I think it important not to forget in animal-human academic settings. As such, he encapsulates what many of us try to do in our work: bring respect to non-human animals and attempt some revisionist repair to the damage done by thousands of years of nonhuman animals being misrepresented and denigrated in practice and discourse.

And another highlight for me – for other reasons – was the astute question a delegate asked a panel consisting of a Utrecht University Professor and a Utrecht Dean; the Head of the Animal Welfare Unit, European Commission; Peter Singer; Will Kymlicka; the Chair of the Animal Welfare and Health Advisory Council in the Netherlands; etc. on the second to last night of the conference: *"What does it feel like to be an animal yourself?"* This produced two hesitating and philosophically casuistic responses from two of the panel members on how they as humans were different from nonhuman animals, etc., etc. In other words, both respondents failed to address the question head on.

Maybe this is the next important question for us in animal-human studies. If we can't identify with nonhuman animals as fellow animals, how can we really advocate for them effectively? Otherwise are we literally, solely, speaking over their heads to each other? Something to consider ...”



A therapy dog at one of the plenary sessions

The full program and abstracts from the conference are now available online at:
<http://www.uu.nl/faculty/humanities/EN/congres/mindinganimals>

ISAZ 2012: The Arts and Sciences of Human–Animal Interaction
Cambridge University, UK, 11-13 July 2012

Report by Assoc Prof Pauleen Bennett, Anthrozoology Research Group, La Trobe University, Bendigo and President of the International Society for Anthrozoology (ISAZ)

The International Society for Anthrozoology held its annual conference for 2012 at Murray Edwards College, Cambridge, UK, from 11-13th July. It was my first conference as ISAZ president and marked the 25th anniversary of the ISAZ journal, *Anthrozoös*. The setting was excellent, in close proximity to the busy town of Cambridge and with easy access to the main tourist attractions. These were incorporated into a variety of social events, topped by the conference dinner at Old Hall, Queen's college, after a leisurely punt from Magdalene Bridge.

As anticipated the conference attracted leading international scientists, as well as a supporting cast of vibrant and enthusiastic graduate students. A special treat for everyone was the first plenary, "On being an Anthrozoön", delivered by the inspirational and erudite Mary Midgley. Mary is 92 years young and still able to gently goad an audience into agreeing with ideas that challenge some of our deepest assumptions. She clearly has one of the sharpest philosophical minds in the field and left everyone dazzled by her responses during question time.

Three additional plenary speakers also challenged our existing mindsets, although Mary was a hard act to follow. In keeping with the theme of the conference, "The Arts and Sciences of Human-Animal Interaction", Jonathan Burt spoke about animal imagery in film and Karen Rosa spoke about the important work done by the American Humane Association in awarding films the famous "No Animals Were Harmed" accreditation. Sam Gosling, meanwhile, reviewed his work in the area of animal personality and speculated about potential implications of this work in scientific and applied settings.



Cambridge, from the ISAZ conference website

The conference program was multi-disciplinary and packed with studies investigating all aspects of anthrozoology. A number of papers explored the use of animals in various therapeutic contexts. It is great to see that the science behind such interventions is growing, although scholars will have a hard time keeping up with the popularity of animal interventions. Also of note were studies exploring more diverse topics. A highlight for me was a presentation by Rick Gibson, an independent scholar from Canada, who spoke about the use of insects in art and entertainment. Who knows where a new appreciation of insect lives might lead us in terms of animal ethics! Gwyneth Thayer, from Tennessee State Library and Archives, also gave a terrific presentation about greyhound racing in the United States, and Lokesh Coomar, from the Kerulos Centre in the USA, spoke about human-elephant attachment styles and how they influence elephant health. Closer to home, Sarah Batt, from the University of Wales in the UK, gave a thought-provoking

analysis of displaced camels living in outback Australia. As usual the complexity behind issues that initially seem quite straightforward was mind-boggling – do Camels represent an invasive pest species intent on destroying the fragile Australian landscape, or are they genuine refugees, displaced from native habitats that no longer exist?

Noticeably absent from the conference was one of the most important scholars in the field, Penny Bernstein, from Kent State University. Penny was unable to attend due to ill health and her presentation on the art of naming cats was delivered by her friend and colleague Erika Friedmann. We were all greatly saddened to hear of Penny's death just a few days post conference. Our thoughts are with Penny's family. Her many achievements will be celebrated in an upcoming edition of *Anthrozoös*.

Moving on to a brighter note, the final session of the conference comprised a short film, *NokotaHeart*, directed by Sean Garland. This moving documentary about a Vietnam war veteran struggling to preserve a group of otherwise unwanted horses, able to be traced back to the horses relinquished by the legendary Sitting Bull, won the Best Feature Documentary at the 2010 White Sands International Film Festival in New Mexico, USA, as well as the Special Jury Prize for Cinematography at the 2011 Arizona International Film Festival. As with most of the audience I was blown away by the cinematography but quietly devastated by the story it told. If you ever get a chance to see this documentary, don't miss it.

For me the one downside of the conference was that more people weren't there. Many people who wanted to attend were unable to do so, with registrations at capacity many weeks in advance. Those unable to attend are able to catch up with the science, with most oral presentations being made available for viewing via YouTube and the posters soon to be uploaded to the ISAZ website. This is not the same as actually being present, however, so we are all looking forward to a much bigger 2013 conference, which will be held in Chicago in collaboration with the International Association for Human Animal Interaction Organisations (IAHAIO) and the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA). July 2013 looks like being a busy month for all of those interested in the science and practice of human-animal interactions.

For videos of presentations at this conference see: <http://www.youtube.com/user/isaz2012>

Taking Animals Apart: Exploring Interspecies Enmeshment in a Biotechnological Era University of Wisconsin–Madison. 31 May-2 June 2012



Report on graduate student workshop by Peter Hobbins, PhD candidate, Department of History, University of Sydney

It often seems that the fundamental species divide in animal studies is the partitioning that separates humans from each other. Thus the pressing barriers to be overcome in meaningfully exploring concepts of interspecies enmeshment are all-too-often those between scholarly disciplines and personal practices. Achieving such a community – one that accommodates consideration of all manner of animal and human actors – was the drive behind the Taking Animals Apart graduate workshop run by the Holtz Center for Science & Technology Studies at the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

Certainly the workshop encouraged productive dialogues between the participants: postgraduates, poets and creative artists from across the USA, Canada and the UK – plus two of

us from Sydney University (myself and sociologist, Rachel Carr). Following workshop sessions that provided cross-disciplinary feedback on our contributions, each group of four participants then convened a roundtable to address specific conference themes. These were, respectively, 'taking animals apart', 'touching animals', 'seeing animals' and 'tasting animals'. Bridging the epistemological and artistic divides between us was often challenging, but the roundtable discussions helped to create a shared language and some genuine insights that each of us could incorporate into our future work. The same was true of the workshop's keynote address by cross-disciplinary feminist scholar – and chicken farmer – Susan Squier. In illustrating the historical and philosophical barriers that had limited 1960s iterations of theoretical biology and cybernetics, Susan suggested new ways in which we could interpret the philosophy of Conrad Waddington.

Beyond words, however, *Taking Animals Apart* was primarily about practice. Each of the participating artists displayed works within a dedicated installation space outside of the conference room. In addition, the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art curated a superb exhibition, *One must know the animals*, specifically to coincide with the workshop. The organisers invited members of the local community to join us both for the exhibition opening and for a screening of Steven Spielberg's *ET: the Extra-Terrestrial* at a local cinema. If this seems an unexpected choice, it was intended as an accessible opportunity to open discussion about animality and otherness. Moreover, field trips were integral to the message of the conference. Participants visited a bee farm, an organic dairy and creamery, and a local-produce butchery, where we witnessed an entire pig carcass being 'broken down'.

Furthermore, we were also welcomed into the University of Wisconsin's Veterinary Hospital, including their MRI facility and dissection room. While encounters with dead animals dominated the Zoology Museum's taxidermy laboratory and storage rooms, their colony of flesh-eating dermestid beetles which strip specimen skeletons clean were certainly very lively! As can be imagined, some of these visits were confronting or even uncomfortable for the participants, but they were fundamental to thinking through the many practices by which we take animals apart. All of our hosts at these sites were open to our numerous questions about their philosophies and practices, ensuring that we left with a better sense of animal enmeshment within, for instance, veterinary medicine or the commercialisation of meat production.

It was such encounters outside of the academy or the gallery that, to me, brought home the true value of *Taking Animals Apart*. There were plenty of opportunities for discussing and for processing all that we had seen and experienced, building new friendships in the process. Yet the entire workshop could not have occurred without generous funding, faultless logistics and – above all – a genuine vision. Our big-hearted and open-minded hosts were absolutely critical to its success, so I'd like to publicly thank Peter Boger, Jen Martin and Heather Swan from the Holtz Center for welcoming us to Madison and putting on such an inspiring workshop. *Taking Animals Apart* will prove a hard act to follow, but that's precisely why it could serve as an exemplar for our own attempts to bridge some of the divides that characterize animal studies.

For more information see: <http://takinganimalsapart.weebly.com/>

Conference Updates

Glasgow BASN meeting 'Wild'

Most of the papers from the first meeting of BASN, Glasgow are now available to listen to via links on their webpage:

<http://www.britishanimalstudiesnetwork.org.uk/PastBASNMeetings/WildGlasgowMay2012.aspx>

Interview: Academics, activists, researchers

Dan Lyons interviewed by Siobhan O'Sullivan

Dan Lyons is a leading UK animal protection lobbyist and one of the country's leading authorities on the politics of animal experimentation. He studied Social and Political Studies at Sheffield University, where he gained a PhD for work on the evolution of British animal research policy and is now a Honorary Research Fellow. His current work focuses on animal research policy, the development of the policy network analysis, the relationship between environmental political theory and the philosophy of animal rights, and the representation of animals' interests in policy-making. He is Campaigns Director of the organisation Uncaged and CEO of the Centre for Animals and Social Justice.

Siobhan: What is the Centre for Animals and Social Justice (CASJ)?

Dan: The Centre for Animals and Social Justice is a new, UK-based think tank dedicated to high-quality academic research and policy advocacy in the area of animal protection politics. We're independent - i.e. not formally part of any research institute or advocacy groups - and a registered charity. Angela Roberts, my partner and the founder of the advocacy group Uncaged came up with the idea to create the CASJ while we were at the inspiring 2009 Minding Animals International Conference in Newcastle, Australia, which brought together many of the world's leading academic supporters of animal protection together with advocacy groups.

Siobhan: What do you hope to achieve?

Dan: The CASJ's mission is to embed animal protection as a core policy priority of governments at all levels. As I explain below, we see this goal, based on political science analysis, as essential to enable ethical principles and public opinion to be reflected in policy outcomes that affect hundreds of millions of animals every year. In order to achieve real-world impacts and fulfil our mission, we will disseminate our findings to policy-makers, sometimes in conjunction with advocacy groups.

Siobhan: You have a background in advocacy. Why move in this direction?

Dan: I've been an animal advocate with the advocacy group Uncaged all my working life, which I've combined with part-time PhD research in the Politics Department at the University of Sheffield, finally gaining my doctorate in 2007 with an award-winning thesis on the evolution of UK animal research policy. The CASJ has been established primarily by Angela and I because of the knowledge gained through my research and the practical experience we've both gained as campaigners for 20 years each. That has taught us that animals and their defenders face a critical paradox.

On the one hand, there is huge potential for animal protection improvements, as public opinion is far more sympathetic to animal protection than the attitudes embodied in public policy. Closing that gap would save millions of animals from pain and death in the UK alone every year. However, even moderate animal protection reforms face major structural obstacles which substantially hinder the impact of advocacy groups. Those obstacles consist of institutionalised power imbalances, and they need to be tackled as a pre-condition for any significant advancement of animal welfare. For example, my PhD was based on leaked evidence proving the starkest breaches of animal welfare rules imaginable, yet the Government went to extreme lengths to cover up law-breaking by the researchers in collaboration with Government Inspectors. Sadly these life-or-death decisions tend to be governed by brute power rather than any rational or ethical deliberation. So there's also a major question of democratisation and human emancipation here: part of the problem is an elitist power structure which effectively excludes citizens from decisions about animals that they care deeply about.

However, until now there has been surprisingly little academic interest in animal protection politics (as opposed to ideal ethics), despite it being an issue of major public significance and the proliferation of advocacy groups, and this neglect can only further constrain the animal protection cause. So we've formed the CASJ as the unique organisation to build research capacity to overcome this regrettable gap in academia, and hence pursue this critical research agenda.

Siobhan: Have you found academics enthusiastic so far?

Dan: Very much so! We're blessed to have the strong support of Professor Rob Garner (Leicester), Dr Alasdair Cochrane (Sheffield) and Dr Siobhan O'Sullivan (Melbourne) who are among the leading academic experts in animal protection politics, plus backing from Professor Peter Singer. The Universities of Leicester and Sheffield (where I'm an Honorary Research Fellow) are keen to partner us in creating PhD studentships in our field and explore joint research projects. Furthermore, the UK Political Studies Association has also expressed support for the CASJ, which is a major boost.

There is already significant research capacity in fields such as animal ethics and sociology, which I believe reflects the logically compelling nature of non-speciesist animal protection ethics, whether you prefer a 'liberation' or 'rights' approach. We've engaged with these fields in our initial seminars and a prominent feedback theme has been that the animals are crying out for a body such as the CASJ that bridges the gap between academia, advocacy groups and policy-makers. So we hope to provide something of a conduit to enable academics to improve their impact which, handily, is now a growing priority for university researchers.

One very positive development has been the support we've received from a range of academics - not simply those with an established research interest in animals - for a progressive policy submission on the new UK animal research law (see <http://www.casj.org.uk/reports/principles-underpin-uk-governments-transposition-directive-201063eu-animal-experimentation/>). This suggests that, relative to advocacy groups, the CASJ can harness greater academic expertise, which is a very significant new political resource for the animal protection cause.

Siobhan: What is the biggest challenge in setting up something like CASJ?

Dan: So far, the main problems have been seemingly mundane, bureaucratic ones. In my experience, animal advocates hit an 'attitudinal glass ceiling' in UK Government, where you start coming across obstruction and antagonism. We found this with our application for permission to be called an 'Institute'. Although we meet the stated criteria, the civil service went out of their way to cause trouble for us, requiring us to meet criteria they didn't demand of other applicants who appeared to be less deserving of the name 'Institute'. Unfortunately, that rather typifies British elite attitudes to animal protection - though, ironically, it further highlights the need for a body such as the CASJ which can communicate the true strength of the animal protection case and give it the credibility it deserves.

The CASJ is very much a 'bottom-up' type of endeavour, based largely on our skill and experience instead of significant institutional or financial support. As an independent research centre, we aren't eligible on our own for funding from Government Research Councils. However, the signs are very positive - we've also received endorsements from Members of Parliament and public figures like Brian May. We think there's a compelling need for the CASJ which will bring something unique to animal protection (not to mention the discipline of political science), so hopefully we can inspire animal advocates to support us.

Siobhan: If people reading this want to get involved, how do they do so?

Dan: In the first place, please make contact with us (office@casj.org.uk) as one of our most basic tasks is to build a network of international researchers with an interest in this area. In addition to our research projects, we will be publishing newsletters and blog articles which will provide an opportunity for contributors as well help exchange knowledge. We're at an embryonic stage in our development, so to some extent it's 'watch this space'.

You can attend our seminars in the UK, and we're also open to invitations to present papers on the CASJ and our research to international audience – and simultaneously learn about animal protection policy-making in different nation states/regions. Our first steps in building research capacity involve us establishing PhD scholarships with universities, so undergraduate and master's students in particular will find it worthwhile keeping in touch to monitor these opportunities. We can provide consultancy services for advocacy groups, carrying out research and advising on strategy and policy issues. We're also working with a university on a Distance

Learning Masters programme aimed at both the Continuing Professional Development of campaigners and as a pathway to PhD research – hopefully that will be up and running September 2013.

For more information see: <http://www.uncaged.co.uk/> and <http://www.casj.org.uk/>



Dan with Angela Roberts, his partner and the founder of the advocacy group Uncaged

Siobhan O'Sullivan is a Research Fellow in the School of Social and Political Sciences at the University of Melbourne

Groups, Institutes and Networks: Fellowships, programs, prizes, membership

Australian Museum

Eureka Prizes 2012

Winner of the prize for Scientific Research that contributes to Animal Protection is Professor Clive Phillips, Centre for Animal Welfare and Ethics, University of Queensland.

From the Australian Museum website:

“Professor Clive Phillips is only too well aware of the forms of abuse and neglect to which animals are subjected. Let us consider just a few. The routine euthanising of dogs because their behaviour does not pass a simple, but often inappropriate, test when they enter a shelter. Unwitting kidney and liver damage to rangeland animals caused by over-exposure to the chemical element cadmium from fertilisers and sewage sludge. And hoof damage causing major health problems in horses, many of which came from the racing industry.

Professor Phillips, Foundation Chair in Animal Welfare at the Centre for Animal Welfare and Ethics at the University of Queensland, has used his research - which is renowned for its rigour - into such subjects to engage the world's scientific, legal and business communities in order to improve the lot of animals. Housed dairy cows have him to thank for the development of better

flooring and lighting conditions, while his most recent focus has been on assessing the welfare of cattle and sheep during live export from Australia.

For research providing scientific evidence to support government and community management of animal welfare, Professor Phillips has been awarded the 2012 Voiceless Eureka Prize of \$10,000 for Scientific Research that Contributes to Animal Protection. The prize is part of the most comprehensive and prestigious national science awards, the Australian Museum Eureka Prizes.

Professor Phillips' research output is prodigious, and the range of animals which have benefited from his studies is broad. Animal welfare science is a relatively recent area of research and he has developed new tools to evaluate animals' feelings and new research methodologies," says Frank Howarth, Director of the Australian Museum. Using often novel approaches, Professor Phillips has devoted his research to two key outcomes: improving the welfare of animals, and increasing understanding of people's attitudes towards animals. He and his fellow researchers have developed and implemented remote monitoring systems to analyse captive animals, thereby removing potential biases and minimising the stress on animals because of invasive research.

The breadth of Professor Phillips' findings relating to animal welfare is remarkable. For example, he has discovered that the threat of violence against pet dogs is often used by violent husbands to force their female partners to submit to their control. Pioneering techniques to measure 'visual laterality' in cattle - linked to their fight-or-flight response - have revealed the potential for stress in human-animal interactions that was previously unknown to producers and others involved in the industry. Furthermore, his work has revealed that live animals transported on ships for export are often adversely affected by high levels of ammonia, a scenario that can easily be improved by more frequent cleaning of their holding pens.

Professor Phillips is a vocal supporter of the need for animal welfare science to be funded and conducted independently of industry influences. His findings have not endeared him to all, but he has not been afraid to challenge the status quo and fight for change. Widely published in respected peer-reviewed journals, Professor Phillips has also embraced modern communication technology to augment his research capability and spread the message of his results quickly and broadly. That educational role has included a stint as the inaugural editor-in-chief of *Animals*, an online journal publishing contributed articles on animal welfare."

More information can be found at <http://www.australianmuseum.net.au/eureka>

Sentient: The Veterinary Institute for Animal Ethics

Sentient: The Veterinary Institute for Animal Ethics, is an independent, veterinary-driven association aiming to bring the recognition of animals as sentient beings to the national agenda and to ensure that their needs are appropriately and ethically addressed by governments, industry and the public. They work towards improved animal welfare partly by forming strategic alliances with government and industry groups as well as like-minded organisations. In order to foster the value of a multidisciplinary approach, membership also includes people of other disciplines such as law, philosophy, the humanities, and science.

Sentient's executive met when they studied at the University of Sydney's Faculty of Veterinary Science and were executives on the then-named student organisation, Veterinary Science for Animal Welfare. Recently, Sentient's founding president Katherine van Ekert received the Veterinary Faculty's Alumni Award 2012 for Outstanding Young Achievement through her work in establishing Sentient.

Their core objective is to provide a forum and proactive lobby group for veterinarians to use their expertise to collaborate and contribute towards the broader social justice movement of animal protection. The observation and professional experience of the executive has been that, despite having expertise in animal welfare as a profession, veterinarians have not had a significant role in promoting a greater focus on the humane treatment of animals in Australia. Their intention is to fill this niche.

Current areas of focus are the live animal export trade, companion animal welfare and intensive farming systems.

Further details can be found on the Sentient website www.sentient.org.au/ or by emailing contactus@sentient.org.au

Multispecies Education International (MEI)

Multispecies education is a new concept. It is essentially an extension of the already mainstream and respected concept of multicultural education. Multicultural education was developed to meet the challenge of how humans of different races and cultures could learn how to live together fairly on this Earth. Multispecies education has the same goal, but extends beyond the species divides.

If you take as a starting premise that humans cannot survive on this planet without other species ... then the challenge we face is not just conserving species, but learning to live with biodiversity.

If you recognise that beyond pure survival needs, human quality of life can often be enriched by the existence of other species, then our challenge is also about learning to respect, understand and potentially cooperate with other species. Whilst some segregation of species may be necessary, most areas of the Earth are going to have to be shared, multispecies environments or communities. Currently, a range of inter-species conflicts exist around the world, resulting in conservation, health and welfare problems for both humans and animals.

At Multispecies Education International, they believe that education is a critical key to solving the challenge of sharing this Earth. Not just education of humans, but when appropriate, education of non-human species also. Given the advances in animal education methodologies based predominantly on positive reinforcement, new possibilities are becoming evident for opening up lines of communication between species that may eventually enable us to find solutions to the interspecies conflict, health and welfare issues that exist today.

Multispecies education international is working hard to develop an internationally replicable and adaptable model for the cultivation of Multispecies Community Zones, supported by Multispecies Education Centers. They are currently working on their first project in Bogor, Indonesia.

For more information or to contact see <http://www.supportmei.org/index.html>

Voiceless: The Animal Protection Institute

Eureka Prize

The \$10,000 Eureka Prize for Scientific Research that Contributes to Animal Protection, sponsored by Voiceless, has been awarded to Professor Clive Philips. For details see under [Australian Museum](#) above.

Animals and Society Institute

Course Awards Nominations

The 13th annual Animals and Society Course Awards, presented by the ASI and The Humane Society of the United States, is now accepting nominations.

The awards recognize excellence in courses concerning the human-animal bond, human obligations toward animals, the status of animals, and related topics. Competitive entries for the awards would be courses that bring the study of animals and society into new arenas; approach the field from a novel perspective, or make use of novel teaching methods; provide exposure to

students who would not otherwise address academic issues related to animals and society; or are tailored to participants whose learning experience will have a direct impact on animals and/or animal protection.

Two awards will be presented for courses at either the undergraduate or graduate level, at colleges and universities worldwide (one for an established course and one for a new course). Each award carries a prize of \$1,500.

*Coming
up*

Nomination deadline October 15.

For complete application details see: <http://www.animalsandsociety.org/pages/animals-and-society-course-awards>

Annual Fellowship Program, May 28 – July 3, 2013

The Animals and Society Institute and Wesleyan Animal Studies invite applications for the seventh annual summer fellowship program for scholars pursuing research in Human-Animal Studies.

This interdisciplinary program enables 6-8 fellows to pursue research in residence at Wesleyan University at the College of the Environment. Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut is a selective private, coeducational, non-sectarian school of liberal arts and sciences known for the excellence of its academic and co-curricular programs. Wesleyan's College of the Environment was created in 2009 with a belief in the resilience of the human spirit and a desire to engage students and scholars in discussions about environmental issues and their social and political impact.

The fellowship is designed to support recipients' individual research through mentorship, guest lectures, and scholarly exchange among fellows and opportunities to contribute to the intellectual life of the host institution. Fellows should expect a diversity of approaches, projects, and commitments to animal protection issues. All fellows must be in continuous residence for the duration of the program.

The fellowships are open to scholars from any discipline investigating a topic related to human-animal relationships. Selected topics from previous years' programs include:

- Animal Ethics in Cold War Literary Culture
- Animal Experimentation and Animal Welfare in Twentieth Century Anglo-American Science
- Animal Stories as Literature of Dissent
- Animals and Colonialism
- Animals, Technology and Future
- Children's Experiences of Animal Death
- Cloning Extinct Species of Mammals
- Ethics and Politics in Environmental Discourse in India
- Food, Economy, Conservation, and Welfare in Veterinary Ethics
- Gender Relations in Cattle Ranching
- Human Animal Relationships at the Duke Lemur Center
- Humane Movements and Pet-Keeping in Late Nineteenth-Century England and America
- Legal Personhood, Animal Advocacy, and Human-Animal Relationships
- Literary Representations of Dogs
- Mourning Extinct Species
- Species, Race, and Humanity in Nineteenth-Century American Literatures
- The Animal Rights Movements in France and the United States
- The Human-Animal Relationship for Veterinary Students
- The Moral Significance of Animal Cognition and the Irrelevance of Species
- Victorian Quaker Women's Contributions to Feminist-Animal Ethics
- Village Dogs in the Rural Coast of Mexico
- Xenotransplantation and Black Market Organs

Featured Speakers: Carrie Rohman, John Gluck, Timothy Pachirat

The fellowship is hosted by Wesleyan faculty Lori Gruen and Kari Weil. Scholars selected to participate in the fellowship program will be awarded a stipend of \$3,000 to help cover travel costs, housing, living expenses, books and other research expenses. The fellowship does not pay for housing; fellows will be responsible for finding, and paying for, their own housing.

*Coming
soon*

Application deadline: November 30, 2012

For details about submission guidelines, selection process, and information about past fellowships see: www.animalsandsociety.org/fellowship

HASResource

ASI is working on a new resource that will be available on their website called HASResource. This page will be full of online resources available to human-animal studies scholars, such as bibliographies, film lists, videos, powerpoints, and course materials, all to help you in your classroom teaching and related research. Some of these materials will be available only to ASI Scholar members, but other materials will be available for free to anyone.

The ASI is looking for contributions from scholars around the world for the free section of the site. In particular, for course syllabi, exams, homework assignments, and paper assignments that you use in your class and that you'd like to share with others. Your contribution will of course be credited however you would like.

Please send your contributions to margo@animalsandsociety.org

National Museum of Animals & Society

Call for Artifacts

Animal Protection Museum Asks Advocates to "Clean Out Their Closets!"

The National Museum of Animals & Society seeks donated artifacts from the animal advocacy movement to add to its permanent collection. The treasures that tell the story of this largely grassroots movement are hidden in everyday people's attics, closets, and garages. Campaign buttons, old newsletters, posters, leaflets, books, photos, costumes, masks, props, and other pertinent materials related to animal protection, humane education, and human-animal studies are all appreciated. NMAS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization based in Los Angeles, CA and all donations are tax-deductible.

NMAS, now in its third year of operation, is dedicated to enriching the lives of animals and people through exploration of our shared experience. The museum addresses animal protection history, human-animal studies, and humane education in its exhibitions, collections, programming, and educational efforts. It is the first museum of its kind – domestically or abroad – and is currently fundraising for a permanent facility. The museum's most recent online exhibit, Be Kind: A Visual History of Humane Education, 1880-1945 (for details see [Exhibitions](#) section below), was launched in July and featured international collaboration from academics, activists and organizations.

Individuals or organizations interested in donating or loaning relevant artifacts to NMAS can visit www.museumofanimals.org/the-collection to find out more about donating to the collection. Alternatively, interested donors can contact the museum's Collections Manager, Abbie Rogers, directly at abbie@museumofanimals.org.

Universities Federation for Animal Welfare

Hertfordshire, UK

The Universities Federation for Animal Welfare (UFAW) is an independent registered charity established in 1926, that works to develop and promote improvements in the welfare of all animals through scientific and educational activity worldwide. The organisation:

- Promotes and supports developments in the science and technology that underpin advances in animal welfare.
- Promotes education in animal care and welfare.
- Provides information, organises symposia, conferences and meetings, publishes books, videos, technical reports and the international quarterly scientific journal *Animal Welfare*.
- Provides expert advice to governments and other organisations and helps to draft and amend laws and guidelines.
- Enlists the energies of animal keepers, scientists, veterinarians, lawyers and others who care about animals.

One of UFAW's priorities is to promote and support high quality science that will lead to substantial advances in animal welfare, and to promote education in animal welfare - particularly at the university and college level. A lack of knowledge and understanding of animals' environmental and psychological needs, and how these can be recognised and met, remains greater than is often assumed. A great deal of both fundamental and applied research remains to be done in these areas. Awards are made to support a wide range of project types:

Hume Animal Welfare Research Fellowships
Research Training Scholarships
Vacation Scholarships
Small Project and Travel Awards
Research and Major Project Awards
UFAW 3Rs Liaison Group Research Studentships (formerly PHHSC)
Wild Animal Welfare Awards

UFAW also publishes a quarterly journal, *Animal Welfare*, runs workshops and symposiums, operates a Universities Links Scheme and provides advice, information and consultancies.

The Garden Bird's Health Initiative, established in 2003 aims to publish science-based best practice guidelines on feeding garden birds and to promote research into the impact on their welfare of the supplementary feeding of garden birds, including disease prevention, and their conservation.

For more information on all these aspects of the UFAW see: <http://www.ufaw.org.uk/index.php>

Catholic Concern for Animals

Essay Competition 2012

Topic: 'What hope is there for the animal kingdom in the Christian vision?' Open to all, seminarians and students particularly invited.

2000 words max. Prize \$500.

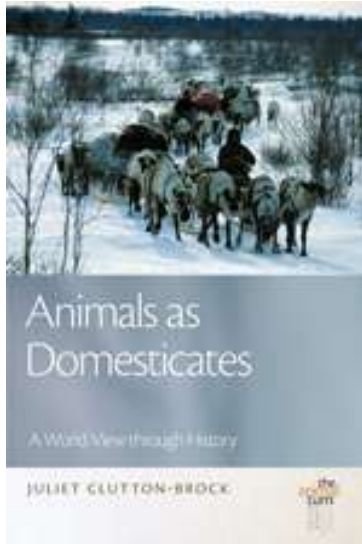
Deadline: 31 October, 2012

Full details: deborahjark@aol.com

**Coming
soon**

New Books: Summaries from publishers' websites

ANIMALS AS DOMESTICATES: A World View through History by **Juliet Clutton-Brock**.
University of Michigan Press, Animal Turn series, 2012.

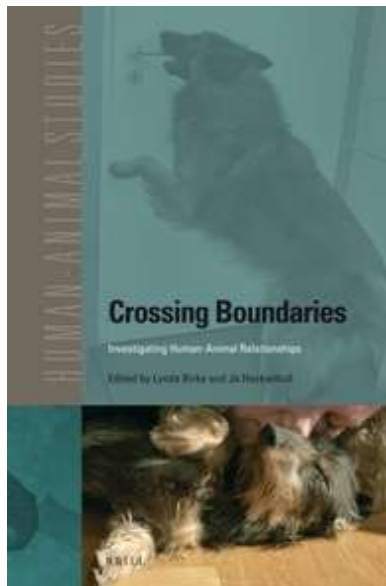


Drawing on the latest research in archaeozoology, archaeology, and molecular biology, *Animals as Domesticates* traces the history of the domestication of animals around the world. From the llamas of South America and the turkeys of North America, to the cattle of India and the Australian dingo, this fascinating book explores the history of the complex relationships between humans and their domestic animals.

With expert insight into the biological and cultural processes of domestication, Clutton-Brock suggests how the human instinct for nurturing may have transformed relationships between predator and prey, and she explains how animals have become companions, livestock, and laborers. The changing face of domestication is traced from the spread of the earliest livestock around the Neolithic Old World through ancient Egypt, the Greek and Roman empires, South East Asia, and up to the modern industrial age.

Juliet Clutton-Brock is a Research Associate of the Department of Zoology at the Natural History Museum in London and Associate Editor of *Archives of Natural History*.

CROSSING BOUNDARIES: Investigating Human-Animal Relationships by **Lynda Birke** and **Jo Hockenhull**. Brill, Human-Animal Studies series, 2012.

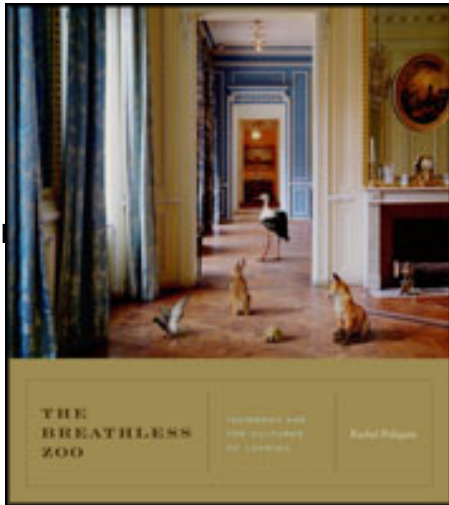


Many people feel strong bonds with nonhuman animals, and these relationships are central to much emerging scholarship in human-animal studies. Yet to study *relationships* is not straightforward; research often focusses on how humans affect animals or vice versa rather than on the relationships themselves. Partly, this is a consequence of the history of disciplinary divisions, particularly between natural and social sciences. In this book, contributors from a wide range of disciplinary backgrounds reflect on the methodological challenges they face, and how they go about studying relationships between people and animals. The book provides fascinating insights into how research on human-animal relationships can rise to the challenges of interdisciplinarity, and help us to understand the animals with whom we bond.

Lynda Birke is Visiting Professor, Anthrozoology, University of Chester. She was trained in biology (animal behaviour), but has also done work in human-animal studies. Her most recent book (co-authored) is *The Sacrifice: How scientific experiments transform animals and people* (Purdue University Press, 2007).

Jo Hockenhull Ph.D. (2010) in Equine Welfare, University of Liverpool, is a research assistant in the Animal Welfare and Behaviour Group at the University of Bristol School of Veterinary Sciences.

THE BREATHLESS ZOO: Taxidermy and the Cultures of Longing by Rachel Poliquin. Penn State University Press, Animalibus: Of Animals and Cultures series, 2012.



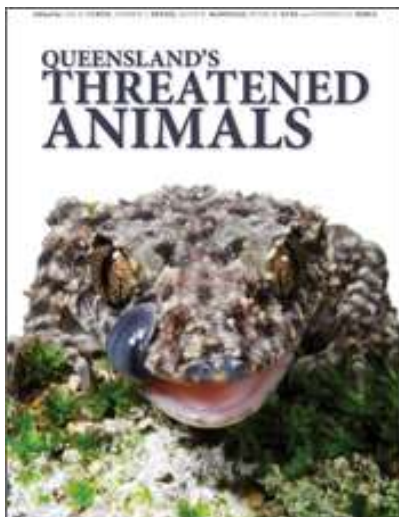
From sixteenth-century cabinets of wonders to contemporary animal art, *The Breathless Zoo: Taxidermy and the Cultures of Longing* examines the cultural and poetic history of preserving animals in lively postures. But why would anyone want to preserve an animal, and what is this animal-thing now?

Rachel Poliquin suggests that taxidermy is entwined with the enduring human longing to find meaning with and within the natural world. Her study draws out the longings at the heart of taxidermy—the longing for wonder, beauty, spectacle, order, narrative, allegory, and remembrance. In so doing, *The Breathless Zoo* explores the animal spectacles desired by particular communities, human assumptions of superiority, the yearnings for hidden truths within animal form, and the loneliness and longing that haunt our strange human existence, being

both within and apart from nature.

Rachel Poliquin is a writer and curator engaged with the cultural and poetic history of the natural world. She has curated taxidermy exhibits for the Museum of Vancouver and the Beaty Biodiversity Museum at the University of British Columbia. Poliquin is the author of www.ravishingbeasts.com a website dedicated to exploring the cultural history of taxidermy.

QUEENSLAND'S THREATENED ANIMALS by Lee K Curtis, Andrew J Dennis, Keith R McDonald, Peter M Kyne, and Stephen J S Debus. CSIRO Publishing, 2012



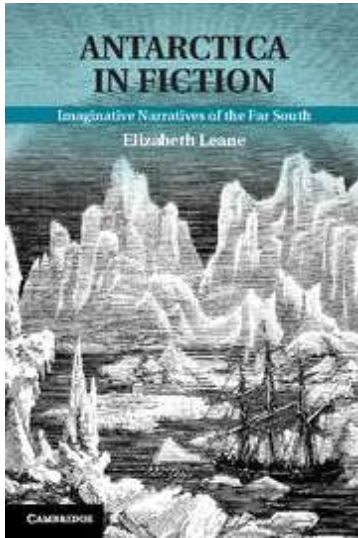
Queensland is home to 70% of Australia's native mammals (226 species), over 70% of native birds (630 species), just over half of the nation's native reptiles (485) and native frogs (127), and more than 11 000 native plant species. Hundreds of these have a threatened status in Queensland. In order for Queensland to maintain and recover a healthy biodiversity we must address the serious problems faced by our natural environment – habitat loss, inappropriate land management, change in fire regimes, pollution of natural resources, proliferation of invasive species and climate change.

This book features up-to-date distribution data, photos and maps for most of Queensland's threatened animals. It also includes a comprehensive list of resources, with key state, national and international organisations involved in the recovery and management of threatened species.

Lee Curtis is a freelance journalist and copywriter who is passionate about Australia's natural environment and wildlife. Andrew Dennis has a PhD in tropical ecology. Keith McDonald has worked in Queensland government conservation agencies for the last 40 years. Peter Kyne has a background in the biology, fisheries and conservation of chondrichthyan fishes (sharks, rays, skates and chimaeras). Stephen Debus studied biology at Macquarie University, now works as an ecological consultant and is an honorary research associate at UNE.

For more information see: <http://www.publish.csiro.au/nid/18/pid/6473.htm>

ANTARCTICA IN FICTION: Imaginative Narratives of the Far South by Elizabeth Leane.
Cambridge University Press, 2012.

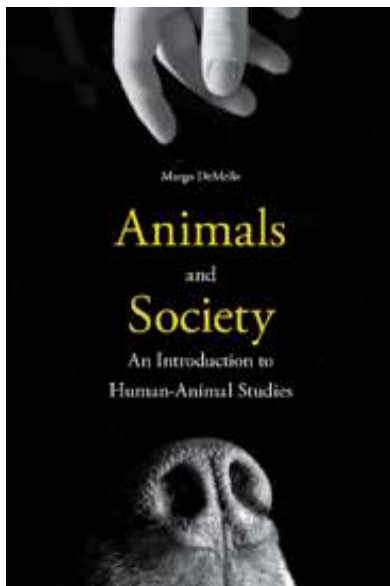


This comprehensive analysis of literary responses to Antarctica examines the rich body of texts that the continent has provoked over the last three centuries, focussing particularly on narrative fiction. Novelists as diverse as Edgar Allan Poe, James Fenimore Cooper, Jules Verne, H. P. Lovecraft, Ursula Le Guin, Beryl Bainbridge and Kim Stanley Robinson have all been drawn artistically to the far south.

The continent has also inspired genre fiction, including a Mills and Boon novel, a Phantom comic and a Biggles book, as well as countless lost-race romances, espionage thrillers and horror-fantasies. *Antarctica in Fiction* draws on these sources, as well as film, travel narratives and explorers' own creative writing. It maps the far south as a space of the imagination and argues that only by engaging with this space, in addition to the physical continent, can we understand current attitudes towards Antarctica.

Elizabeth Leane is a senior lecturer in English literature at the University of Tasmania. She is author of *Reading Popular Physics: Disciplinary Skirmishes and Textual Strategies* (2007) and editor of *Considering Animals: Contemporary Studies in Human- Animal Relations* (2011) with Carol Freeman and Yvette Watt

ANIMALS AND SOCIETY: An Introduction to Human-Animal Studies by Margo DeMello.
Columbia University Press, 2012



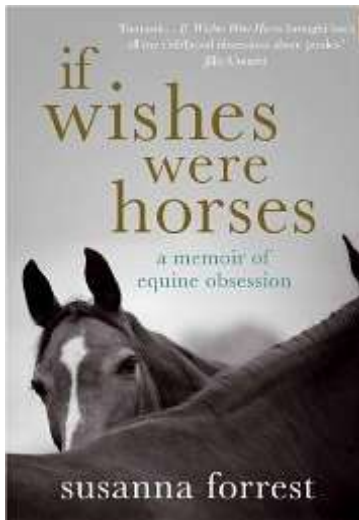
Considering that much of human society is structured through its interaction with non-human animals, and since human society relies heavily on the exploitation of animals to serve human needs, human–animal studies has become a rapidly expanding field of research, featuring a number of distinct positions, perspectives, and theories that require nuanced explanation and contextualization.

The first book to provide a full overview of human–animal studies, this volume focuses on the conceptual construction of animals in American culture and the way in which it reinforces and perpetuates hierarchical human relationships rooted in racism, sexism, and class privilege. Margo DeMello considers interactions between humans and animals within the family, the law, the religious and political system, and other major social institutions, and she unpacks the different identities humans fashion for themselves and for others through animals. Essays also cover speciesism and evolutionary continuities; the role and preservation of animals in the wild; the debate over zoos and the use of animals in sports, an

analysis of major philosophical positions on human social policy and the future of human–animal relations and many other issues. Sidebars highlight contemporary controversies and issues, with recommendations for additional reading, educational films, and related websites.

Margo DeMello teaches anthropology and sociology at Central New Mexico Community College. Her books include *Speaking for Animals: Animal Autobiographical Writing*; *Teaching the Animal: Human-Animal Studies Across the Disciplines*; *Stories Rabbits Tell: A Natural and Cultural History of a Misunderstood Creature*; and *Why Animals Matter: The Case for Animal Protection*.

IF WISHES WERE HORSES: A Memoir of Equine Obsession by **Susanna Forrest**. Atlantic, 2012.

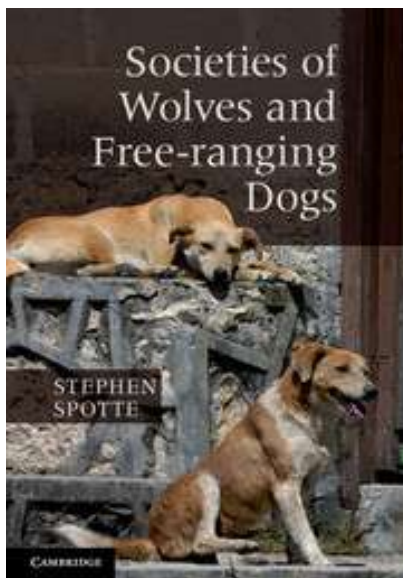


Susanna Forrest grew up in the 1980s near Norwich, and like many a girl, she yearned for a pony. She was never to get one, but this didn't stop her becoming obsessed with all things equine. *If Wishes Were Horses* is the story of that all-consuming interest, and of the author's nervewracked attempts later in life to ride once again. However, as Susanna Forrest's journey unfolds, it leads her to horse-obsessed princesses, recovering crack addicts, courtesans, warriors, pink-obsessed schoolgirls, national heroines and runaways across the ages.

From girl-riders of the Bronze Age, to lavishly adorned equestrian Victorians and twenty-first-century children on horseback in Brixton, she explores the development of this Pony Cult from its earliest times to the present day. In doing so, she takes to the saddle once more and rediscovers her own riding legs in this frank, eclectic and captivating memoir of an ever-changing equine world.

Susanna Forrest graduated from Cambridge in Social Anthropology and Modern Languages and then worked for literary agent Vivien Green at Sheil Land Associates for a while, before spending two weird and wonderful years as assistant editor at the *Erotic Review*. She is now a freelance editor and journalist who has written for the *Guardian* and *Daily Telegraph*, among others.

SOCIETIES OF WOLVES AND FREE-RANGING DOGS by **Stephen Spotte**. Cambridge University Press, 2012

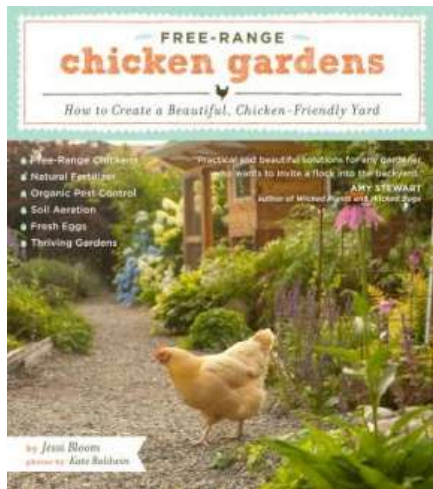


Wolves are charismatic emblems of wilderness. Dogs, which descended from wolves, are models of urbanity. Do free-ranging dogs revert to pack living or are their societies only reminiscent of a wolfish heritage? Focusing on behavioral ecology, this is the first book to assess societies of both gray wolves and domestic dogs living as urban strays and in the feral state. It provides a comprehensive review of wolf genetics, particularly of New World wolves and their mixture of wolf, coyote and dog genomes. Spotte draws on the latest scientific findings across the specialized fields of genetics, sensory biology, reproductive physiology, space use, foraging ecology and socialization. This interdisciplinary approach provides a solid foundation for a startling and original comparison of the social lives of wolves and free-ranging dogs.

Societies of Wolves draws on a wide range of disciplines, integrating such specialties as genetics, sensory biology, social ontogeny and reproductive physiology. It proposes a new view of the social lives of wolves and free-ranging dogs, offering a unique resource for anyone interested in the biology underlying social behaviours. It provides the most comprehensive review of wolf genetics available, with particular focus on New World wolves and their combination of wolf, coyote and dog genomes

Stephen Spotte is a marine scientist with research and field experience ranging from the Arctic to the Amazon basin. He has been curator or director of three US public aquariums, was a research scientist at the Marine Sciences and Technology Center, University of Connecticut, and is presently Adjunct Scientist at Mote Marine Laboratory in Sarasota, Florida.

FREE RANGE CHICKEN GARDENS: How to Create a Beautiful, Chicken-Friendly Yard by Jessi Bloom, with photographs by Kate Baldwin. Timber Press, 2012

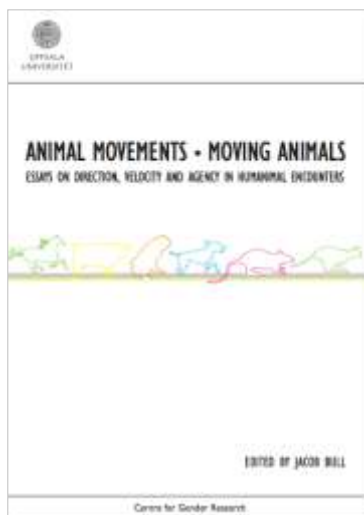


Many gardeners fear chickens will peck away at their landscape, and chicken lovers often shy away from gardening for the same reason. But you can keep chickens and have a beautiful garden, too. Fresh eggs aren't the only benefit — chickens can actually help your garden grow and thrive, even as your garden does the same for your chickens.

In this essential handbook, award-winning garden designer Jessi Bloom covers everything a gardener needs to know, including chicken-keeping basics, simple garden plans to get you started, tips on attractive fencing options, the best plants and plants to avoid, and step-by-step instructions for getting your chicken garden up and running.

Jessi Bloom is a designer whose work emphasizes ecological systems, sustainability, and self-sufficiency. She is a certified professional horticulturalist and certified arborist, as well as a long-time chicken owner with a free-ranging flock in her home garden.

ANIMAL MOVEMENTS, MOVING ANIMALS: Essays on Direction, Velocity and Agency in Humanimal Encounters edited by Jacob Bull. Crossroads of Knowledge series, Uppsala University Press, 2012.



The encounters between animals and humans are not static. They are practiced, dynamic and ongoing. Therefore direction, velocity and the way that different power relations converge to enable or prevent movement is fundamental to understandings of humanimal encounters. Indeed we may consider animals as movements — that we expect them to move and to move in particular ways. A cat stalks in a feline manner, a pig trots, falcons dive, and whales breach. Scaling these movements beyond the individual we get shoals, flocks and herds, which circle, migrate and define territories.

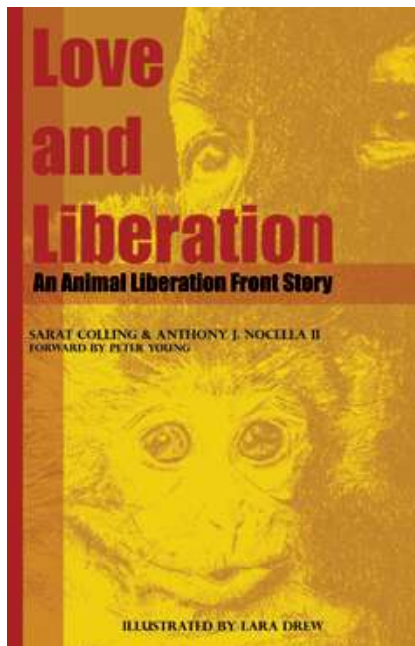
Thus to comprehend the animal question is to comprehend the primacy of movement. This book brings together a variety of work from a range of disciplines to begin to address the complex and diverse ways that speed, direction and velocity shape humanimal interaction.

Contributors: Bob Carter, Nickie Charles, Simone Dennis, Rebekah Fox, Carol J Griffin, Lesley Instone, Kathy Mee, Richie Nimmo, Jessica Ulrich, Anna Rabinowicz, Perdita Phillips, Peta Tait, Katie Walsh, Amanda Huffington, Frederik Carlsson, David Redmalm.

Full text available at: uu.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:420252/FULLTEXT01

Jacob Bull is a social and cultural geographer based at the Centre for Gender Research at Uppsala University

LOVE AND LIBERATION: An Animal Liberation Front Story by Sarat Colling and Anthony J. Nocella II. Piraeus Books, 2012.

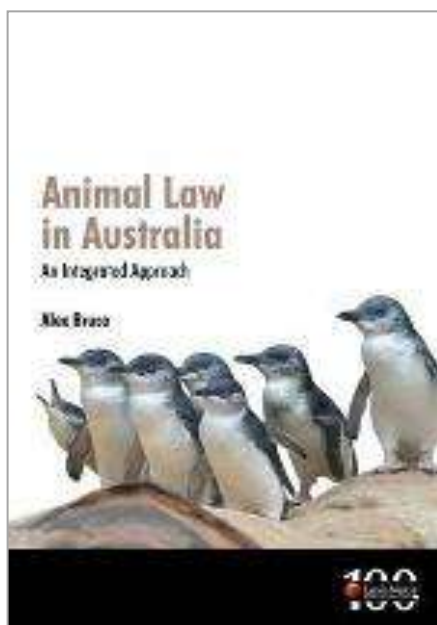


Gabriella and Andre are an everyday couple working up the corporate ladder in Houston, Texas. With a brand new condo, plans for marriage and successful careers, their lives are set – or so they think. One night while taking out the trash, Gabriella inadvertently gets a glimpse into the underground world of animal liberationists. Unsure what to make of it, she begins an investigation which leads to some shocking realizations. Soon the couple is delving deeper into a covert movement of radical animal liberationists labeled by the FBI as a top domestic threat. Armed with nonviolent tactics and love in their heart, the couple educates and trains to free those who are caged. With captivating black and white illustrations, this is an action-packed, fun and informative read.

A powerful one of a kind short-story of a romantic couple in Houston, Texas that joined the notorious Animal Liberation Front, an illegal nonviolent covert underground organization to liberation nonhuman animals. *Love and Liberation* covers topics such as intersectionality, the Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act, social justice, racism, straightedge, and even capitalism

Sarat Colling has a degree in Writing, Rhetoric and Discourse and is pursuing a Master's in Critical Sociology from Brock University. Her research is in the area of Critical Animal Studies. Anthony J. Nocella II is an award-winning author, educator, and community organizer and a professor at Hamline University in the School of Education.

ANIMAL LAW IN AUSTRALIA: An Integrated Approach by Alex Bruce. LexisNexis, 2012.



Written in a clear, engaging and accessible style, it is suitable as a teaching text for Animal Law courses, and for the wider legal community and general reader interested in animal welfare. This is the first Australian text to offer a truly integrated and comprehensive coverage of animal law issues. It combines the philosophical and ethical dimensions to animal law with the practical, legal and regulatory frameworks governing animals in Australia.

The book features comprehensive, balanced coverage of animal law issues in Australia, and ensures readers will gain a solid understanding of the wider regulatory regime in Australia. Each chapter integrates the philosophical/ethical discussion with practical issues and the legal context to demonstrate the relationship between these dimensions, allowing readers to gain an understanding of the background driving current regulatory regimes. Chapters include clear learning objectives, stimulus questions and further reading to facilitate depth and breadth of learning for both students and the general reader.

Alex Bruce is an Associate Professor at the Australian National University College of Law, and a former Senior Lawyer with the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission. Alex is an ordained Buddhist Monk in the Tibetan Buddhist Tradition.

ANIMAL SUFFERING: Philosophy and Culture by **Elisa Aaltola**. Palgrave Macmillan, The Palgrave Macmillan Animal Ethics series, 2012.

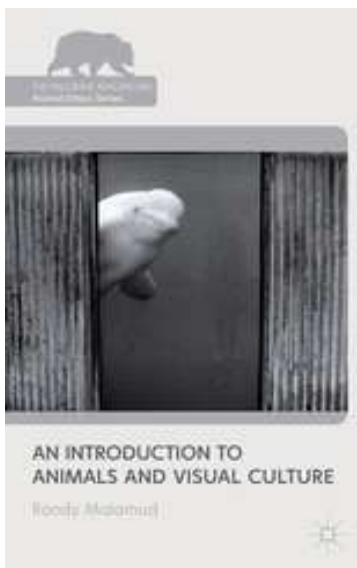


Animal Suffering: Philosophy and Culture explores how animal suffering is made meaningful within Western ramifications. It is often argued that today's culture is ambivalent in its attitudes toward non-human animals: on the one hand, many speak of the importance of 'animal welfare', and on the other, billions of animals each year are treated as little more than production units.

The book gains its impetus from here, as it seeks to map out both the facts and norms related to animal suffering. It investigates themes such as animal welfare and suffering in practice, scepticism concerning the human ability to understand non-human suffering, cultural and philosophical roots of compassion, and contemporary approaches to animal ethics. At its centre is the pivotal question: What is the moral significance of animal suffering? The key approach brought forward is 'intersubjectivity', via which the suffering of other animals can be understood in a fresh light.

Alisa Aaltola is a Senior Lecturer in Philosophy at the University of Eastern Finland. She has been researching the theoretical ramifications behind, and practical implications of, the moral status of non-human animals for a number of years and has previously published two Finnish books on animal ethics.

AN INTRODUCTION TO ANIMALS AND VISUAL CULTURE by **Randy Malamud**. Palgrave Macmillan, The Palgrave Macmillan Animal Ethics series, 2012.

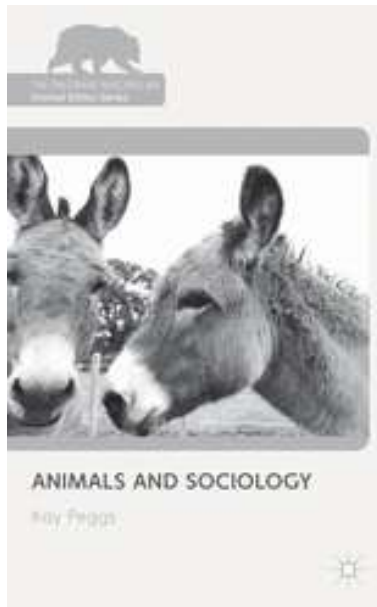


How and why do people 'frame' animals so pervasively, and what are the ramifications of this habit? For animals, being put into a cultural frame (a film, a website, a pornographic tableau, an advertisement, a cave drawing, a zoo) means being taken out of their natural contexts, leaving them somehow displaced and decontextualized.

Human vision of the animal equates to power over the animal. We envision ourselves as monarchs of all we survey, but our dismal record of polluting and destroying vast swaths of nature shows that we are indeed not masters of the ecosphere. A more ethically accurate stance in our relationship to animals should thus challenge the omnipotence of our visual access to them.

Randy Malamud is Professor of English at Georgia State University, USA. He is the author of *Reading Zoos: Representations of Animals and Captivity* (1998); *Poetic Animals and Animal Souls* (2003); and *A Cultural History of Animals in the Modern Age* (2007). He is a Fellow of the Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics and a Patron of the Captive Animals' Protection Society.

ANIMALS AND SOCIOLOGY by **Kay Peggs**. Palgrave Macmillan, The Palgrave Macmillan Animal Ethics series, 2012.



In using sociological perspectives to examine other animals in society *Animals and Sociology* challenges traditional assumptions about the very nature of sociology. Sociology often centres on humans; however, other animals are everywhere in society. Humans eat the flesh of other animals and wear their skins and hair as clothing. Other animals live with humans in their homes and work for humans in a myriad of ways. Human entertainment is often serviced by the capture and performances of other animals and human speech often invokes other animal metaphors.

Kay Peggs investigates these relationships with other animals, and many more, using sociological theories and perspectives. In doing so, she explores the significant contribution that sociology can make to our understanding of human relations with other animals and the important contribution that the study of other animals in society can make to sociology. In conclusion, she considers the role of sociology for other animals.

Kay Peggs is Principal Lecturer in Sociology at the University of Portsmouth, UK. Her current published work centres on animals in society. She has previously published on women and ageing, gender and health, and couple relationships.

ANIMALS AND PUBLIC HEALTH: Why Treating Animals Better is Critical to Human Welfare by **Aysha Akhtar**. Palgrave Macmillan, The Palgrave Macmillan Animal Ethics series, 2012.



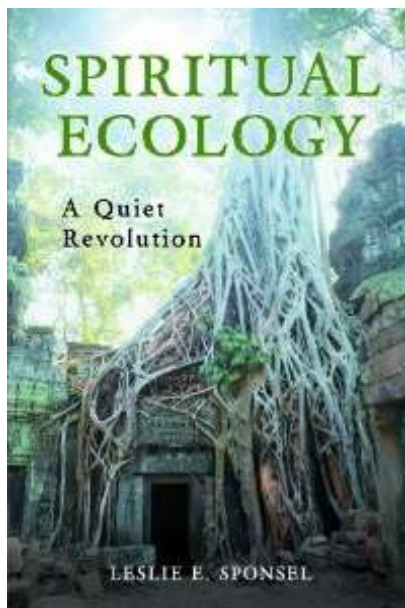
It is often assumed, particularly by those in the health fields, that the welfare of animals is in opposition to that of humans. Aysha Akhtar, M.D., M.P.H., dispels that notion by presenting scientific evidence that demonstrates just how intricately related human and animal health and welfare are.

In a lively and engaging manner, this highly accessible text takes the reader through a diverse array of health topics and explores the link between the way we treat animals and how it affects human health. Dr. Akhtar explores the lives of animals in violent homes, factory farms, experimental laboratories, the entertainment industry and the wildlife trade. She reveals how their poor treatment is both directly and indirectly related to some of the most significant and urgent health issues we face today. This ground-breaking and timely book draws from examples as diverse as domestic violence, Michael Vick's dog-fighting ring, the world's most ominous infectious diseases, animal attacks, high-profile drug failures and global warming. The result is a powerful and compelling argument on the critical need to improve our treatment of animals not only

to alleviate their suffering but also to alleviate our own.

Aysha Akhtar is a neurologist and public health specialist, a Fellow of the Oxford Center for Animal Ethics and works with the Office of Counterterrorism and Emerging Threats of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

SPIRITUAL ECOLOGY: A Quiet Revolution by **Leslie E. Sponsel**. Praeger, 2012.



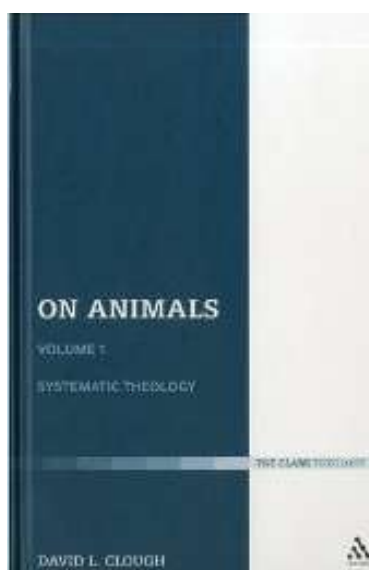
Spiritual ecology is a complex, diverse, and dynamic arena at the interfaces of religions and spiritualities on the one hand and on the other environments, ecologies, and environmentalisms with intellectual, spiritual, and practical components.

A prominent scientist and scholar documents and explains the thoughts, actions, and legacies of spiritual ecology's pioneers from ancient times to the present, demonstrating how the movement may offer the last chance to restore a healthy relationship between humankind and nature. An internet search for "Spiritual Ecology" and related terms like "Religion and Nature" and "Religion and Ecology" reveals tens of millions of websites. *Spiritual Ecology: A Quiet Revolution* offers an intellectual history of this far-reaching movement. Arranged chronologically, it samples major developments in the thoughts and actions of both historic and contemporary pioneers, ranging from the Buddha and St. Francis of Assisi to Wangari Maathai's Green Belt Movement and James Cameron's 2010 epic film *Avatar*.

This foundational book is unique in that it provides a historical, cross-cultural context for understanding and advancing the ongoing spiritual ecology revolution, considering indigenous and Asian religious traditions as well as Western ones. Most chapters focus on a single pioneer, illuminating historical context and his/her legacy, while also connecting that legacy to broader concerns. Coverage includes topics as diverse as Henry David Thoreau and the Green Patriarch Bartholomew's decades-long promotion of environmentalism as a sacred duty for more than 250 million members of the Orthodox Church worldwide.

Leslie E. Sponsel has a PhD in Biological and Cultural Anthropology from Cornell University. Over the last four decades he has taught at seven universities in four countries, two as a Fulbright Fellow. Although retired since August 2010, he still teaches the Ecological Anthropology Program at the University of Hawai'i and devotes the rest of his time to research and publications.

ON ANIMALS: Volume 1 – Systematic Theology by **David L. Clough**. T&T Clark, 2012.

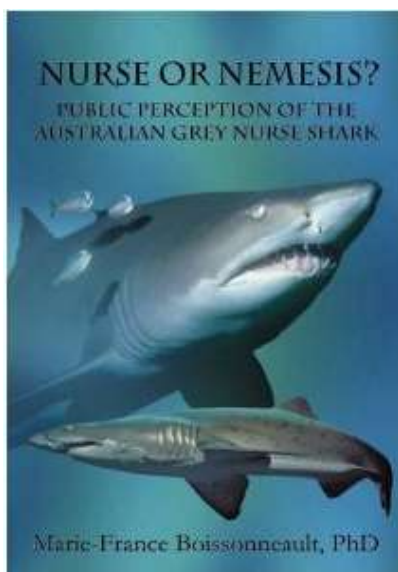


This volume is a project in systematic theology: a rigorous engagement with the Christian tradition in relation to animals under the doctrinal headings of creation, reconciliation and redemption and in dialogue with the Bible and theological voices central to the tradition. The book shows that such engagement with the tradition with the question of the animal in mind produces surprising answers that challenge modern anthropocentric assumptions. For the most part, therefore, the novelty of the project lies in the questions raised, rather than the proposal of innovative answers to it. The transformation in our thinking about animals for which the book argues results in the main from looking squarely for the first time at the sum of what we are already committed to believing about other animals and their place in God's creation.

Volume 2 explores the ethics of human relationships with other animals in the context of the theological position outlined in Volume 1.

David L. Clough is Professor of Theology in the University of Chester. His recent publications include *Ethics in Crisis: Interpreting Barth's Ethics* (2005) and *Faith and Force: A Christian Debate about War* (2006).

NURSE OR NEMESIS? Public Reception of the Australian Grey Nurse Shark by Marie-France Boissonneault. Equilibrium Books, 2012.



Nurse or Nemesis? examines the portrayal of sharks throughout history in various forms of media and popular culture, including literature, myth and fine art, to establish how views of sharks have affected and been formed to include relatively harmless species such as the Grey Nurse. The findings show an overwhelmingly negative perception of sharks whereby they have often been portrayed as a predator to humans and the embodiment of their struggle with nature.

The general lack of knowledge throughout society pertaining to sharks has led to the depletion of the more placid species such as the Grey Nurse (*Carcharias taurus*). In addition, the worldwide increase in the use of beaches and ocean shorelines for recreational purposes has led to a rise in shark-human interactions. These factors allow the relatively rare issue of shark attacks to receive widespread media attention resulting in a distortion of people's perception to an all-inclusive generalisation of shark behaviour.

The negative perception of sharks plays a substantial role in how differing species are viewed, as the public rarely has a clear conception of species differentiation and does not recognise the differences in the behavioural qualities between shark species. This book will, in all hope, not only have a positive influence on the conservation of the Grey Nurse shark, but also help shift understanding towards a more thorough and compassionate perception of shark species in general.

Marie-France Boissonneault resides with her husband, two cats, and her dog in Quebec, Canada. She holds a PhD in Communications, a BSc (honours) degree in Marine Sciences, a BA in Psychology and Film Studies, and Diplomas respectively in Multimedia Design, Professional Photography, and Creative Arts.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Animals, Culture, and Society series. Temple University Press

Temple University Press is interested in receiving book proposals and manuscripts for this series. Proposed or completed works should represent sociological, anthropological, historical, or other social scientific discussions of some aspect of human interaction with nonhuman animals. Proposed manuscripts should have sufficiently broad appeal to attract an audience outside, as well as within, academe.

Please contact the co-editor Clinton R. Sanders at clintonsanders@hotmail.com.

Animal Turn series. Michigan State University Press

Series editor: Linda Kalof

The Animal Turn Series focuses on how animals figure in human lives, how humans figure in animal lives, and how both are tethered together in an increasingly fragile biosphere. The series will present an interdisciplinary examination of the human-animal relationship as grounded in specific historical, cultural, and environmental contexts.

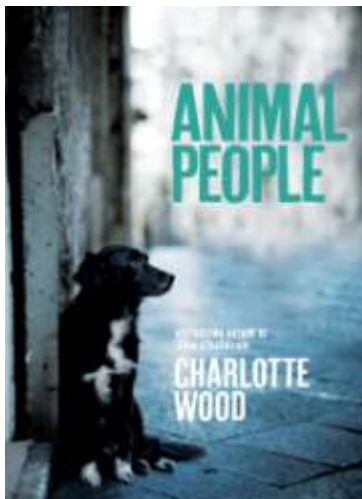
For more information see: <http://msupress.msu.edu/series.php?seriesID=52>

Book Review

ANIMAL PEOPLE by Charlotte Wood. Allen and Unwin, 2011. 272pp. \$29.99 pb.

Review by Susan Pyke. PhD candidate, Department of Culture and Communications, University of Melbourne.

The Animal That is Stephen



Charlotte Wood's latest accomplished novel traces a day in the life of Stephen, the book's manic and paranoid narrator who works at a zoo. Behind the pull of this novel's narrative is a timely intellectual premise. As the title suggests, the 'animal question' drives the thematic logic of this book.

Stephen, who some will recognise as the difficult brother in Wood's previous novel, *The Children* (2007), is first introduced in his pelt, at the mercy of the day's heat. Later, when he is asked, 'What sort of animal are you?' (250), Wood invites her readers to ask themselves the same question. For Stephen, the answer holds something of Marx's *Capital* and Shakespeare's *King Lear*. He and his co-workers, and by implication, all other disenfranchised city workers, are 'just captive animals, performing tricks for food' (158). Stephen faces his conclusion with more of Lear's bitter resignation than Marx's determined resistance.

Stephen is not, however, someone whose perspective necessarily garners the reader's affiliation. In this witty and profound novel, Wood leaves the 'animal question' open, providing for the complexity with which humans treat other animals through Stephen's kaleidoscopic observations. His refreshing non-judgement of the human and non-human animals he encounters is driven by his determined self-condemnation.

Stephen's ruthless decentring of himself, and the human more generally, means he is unable to thrive in the relentless struggle for human fitness around him. He is out of joint both in his body and in the oddities of his social behaviour. The more socially integrated deride him without sanction and with cause. Ironically and inspiringly, the social ineptitude that excludes him from mainstream human acceptance is that which frees him to take humane actions that others find socially deviant. Stephen finally understands that the toxicity of inhumanity is dependent on the contingent barbarity of civilisation, rather than the result of an innate noxious core.

The weight of these considerations is skilfully lightened through the playfulness of Wood's novel but nonetheless, Stephen does take us, in his blundering way, towards a generous perspective also offered in Anna Krien's recent essay, 'Us and Them.' Krien makes her position clear: "I am not weighing up whether our treatment of animals is *just*, because it isn't. That age-old debate is a farce. Deep down we all know it. The real question is, just how much of this injustice are we prepared to live with?" (8).

Like Krien, Wood leads her readers to face this question, through specific quandaries. Are zoos voyeuristic or do they bring the non-human into focus? Is a circus ticket a gift or a curse? How guilty is a child-killing dog? A pet-dangling child? What sense can be made of hierarchies in medical experiments? Is there any real difference in being a guardian or an owner of a non-human? These dilemmas are always personalised and never didactic.

For example, plenty of readers will have shared the 'strange discomfort' Stephen and Fiona feel after an unexpected encounter during pork underbelly preparation. They are confronted with a 'hard little nipple looking back at them from the chopping board, tender, clean and pink as Fiona's own' (52). The novel's ethic is such that there is more credibility in the Stephen and Fiona's hesitations as they eat the 'soft sweet meat' than is found in the unthinking position of two vegan family members who refuse meat with the same self-fashioning motives that prohibit their alcohol consumption.

Dealing with the various complexities of the 'animal question' in the space of Stephen's emotionally challenging day would be risky for a less assured writer, but Wood's lyrical, grounded and often hilarious writing never sermonises. Instead, it offers a space for readers to interrogate the processes that drive their own relations with non-human animals.

For his part, Stephen is both gormless and cynical as he observes the inconsistencies in his co-existence with other animals. He woefully acknowledges his discomfort with members of other species and is equally aware of his misfit with most human creatures. All the same, he emerges as one of the most responsive creatures we meet, always alert, his instincts often leading him to responses beyond the social limitations of the human. Through Stephen, Wood shows positive change is possible when we act as animal first.

As well as considering the animal that is human, the novel's title also flags Wood's interest in the identification of 'animal people'. She examines this fruitfully in the opening stages of the book, when a garrulous self-proclaimed 'dog-person', gleefully watches as Balzac, the German Shepherd that shares her space, greets hyper-allergic Stephen in the crotch. Wood contrasts her unthinking cruelties with Stephen's awkward grace.

Stephen's refreshing ability to let other animals be, despite his fears of them, brings into play Donna Haraway's exposure of the narcissism present in the idea of a non-human's unconditional love for humans and her call for new relations of trust and respect (33, 39). Stephen's alert position implies his fear will migrate towards respectful empathy and trust, given the right contingencies.

The first glimpse we have of Stephen's potential to move towards this condition is in his concern for a woman dismissed by others as junky road kill. His attention to her, despite her howls and hisses, shows how care meted out with watchful fear can be part of a process of reciprocity that moves towards Haraway's more productive position of mutual trust and respect. In the same way, Stephen's fear of Fiona's children ensures their trust through by his refusal to take a position of mastery (35).

It is no mistake that Stephen's shift from fear to respect and trust takes place under the shadow of death. The position taken by Cora Diamond is that our shared animal vulnerability, which is, in the end, tied to the inevitability of death, is that which brings human and non-human animals together (474). This is seen when Stephen's memory of a goldfish killed through childish ignorance brings him to the realisation that his mother's friends are dying. This beautifully foreshadows a later direct consideration of the potential death of his mother, despite all his efforts to 'escape from the knowledge of awful things' (67).

In general, Stephen's capacity to respect and then trust other animals, both human and non-human, is greater than that of any of the 'animal people' we meet in this novel. Stephen has no interest in taking charge. If there is a moral compass in this novel, it is one that directs readers to see, with Stephen, that 'the most appealing thing' about non-human animals is not the anthropocentric idea of unconditional love but rather that they want 'nothing from you' (126). Wood leaves us with this question: is it possible for needy, fragile humans to take a more-than-human position of reciprocity and ask for nothing in return? It is a mark of the intelligence behind *Animal People* that even as it gently seeks an emotional response to the 'animal question', this is left to the circumstances of the reader. *Animal People* is an honest and entertaining book, which, along with the familiar pleasures of an unreliable narrator, a stalwart lover, an anxious mother and a bossy sister, provides plenty of thought for food.

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Anna Krien. 'Us and Them'. *Quarterly Essay*, 45 (March 2012): 125pp.

Journals: Human-animal related journals, special issues and articles



Animal Studies Journal

Volume 1, no. 1, Spring 2012 **will soon be online!**

Animal Studies Journal is the new online scholarly journal of the Australian Animal Studies Group. ASJ reflects the Australian Animal Studies Group's vision that animals and their relationships with humans and environments be at the forefront of humane and rigorous scholarly, scientific and artistic enquiry. The journal, which is published twice yearly, is fully refereed (double-blind peer reviewed) and open access.

Essays include:

- 'Pest' and Resource: A Legal History of Australia's Kangaroos: Keely Boom, Dror Ben-Ami, David B. Croft, Nancy Cushing, Daniel Ramp and Louise Boronyak
- This Animal Which is Not One: Diasporic Giraffes in the African Puppet Play *Tall Horse* and JM Ledgard's novel, *Giraffe*: Wendy Woodward
- *Museum of the Sublime: Relic # 5: Notes Towards a Fragmented Performance*: Nikki Heywood

To access see: <http://ro.uow.edu.au/asj>

Antennae: The Journal of Nature in Visual Culture

Issue 21, Summer 2012. **Animal Influence**

Animal Influence was the title of a conference part of the Interactive Future series, organised by Carol Gigliotti, which took place in November 2011 (Vancouver).

The conference gathered nationally and internationally recognised artists as well as scholars whose work is influenced and informed by animals, their cognitive abilities, creativity and consciousness. As the introduction of the program stated: "Our particular interest is in how investigations in animal-human relations are affecting the ways in which new media artists are considering broader understandings of other species and creating varying methodologies for experimental art and new media appropriate for these unique circumstances". This issue of *Antennae* (and the next one, which will be available in September) gathers the great majority of papers delivered at the conference and a selection of artworks which were exhibited at the concomitant art exhibition.

Download it here: www.antennae.org.uk

Society and Animals

Volume 20, Issue 3, 2012. **The ASI Fellowship: Catalyzing Work in Human-Animal Studies**

The latest issue of the ASI's journal was edited by former HAS fellows Colter Ellis, Robert McKay, Siobhan O'Sullivan, Richard Twine and Kris Weller. It features articles by fellows Jenny Vermilya, David Dillard-Wright, Hayley Rose Glaholt, and Richie Nimmo, as well as reviews by Nancy Barrickman, Keridiana Chez, Joshua Russell, Alastair Hunt, and Colter Ellis:

- Reconstructing Dead Nonhuman Animals: Motivations for Becoming a Taxidermist - Stephen L. Eliason
- Framing the Thylacine - Mark V. Barrow
- Critical Carnist Studies - Helena Pedersen
- The Case for Animating Bioethics - Julie Urbanik
- The Animals & Society Institute Fellowship: Catalyzing Work in Human-Animal Studies - Colter Ellis; Robert McKay; Siobhan O'Sullivan; Richard Twine; Kris Weller
- Contesting Horses: Borders and Shifting Social Meanings in Veterinary Medical Education - Jenny R. Vermilya
- Life, Transferable: Questioning the Commodity-Based Approach to Transplantation Ethics - David B. Dillard-Wright
- Vivisection as War: The "Moral Diseases" of Animal Experimentation and Slavery in British Victorian Quaker Pacifist Ethics - Hayley Rose Glaholt
- Animal Cultures, Subjectivity, and Knowledge: Symmetrical Reflections beyond the Great Divide - Richie Nimmo
- The Elephant Trap: A Conundrum of Captivity - Nancy L. Barrickman
- Old and New Meanings of Animals - Keridiana Chez
- Moving Toward an Ethics of Interanimality - Joshua Russell
- Political Animals - Alastair Hunt
- Working with Animals in Philosophy - Colter Ellis
- The Relationship between Empathy and Personality in Undergraduate Students' Attitudes toward Nonhuman Animals - Ann C. Eckardt Erlanger; Sergei V. Tsytarev
- Belief in Animal Mind: Does Familiarity with Animals Influence Beliefs about Animal Emotions? - Paul Morris; Sarah Knight; Sarah Lesley
- Effect of Human Body Position on the Swimming Behavior of Bull Sharks, *Carcharhinus leucas* - Erich Ritter; Raid Amin

For access see: <http://www.brill.nl/society-animals>

CALLS FOR SUBMISSIONS

Animal Studies Journal

Editor: Melissa Boyde

The new online scholarly journal of the Australian Animal Studies Group is calling for submissions for their 2013 issues. The journal, which is published twice yearly, is fully refereed (double-blind peer reviewed) and open access. It provides a forum for current research in human-animal studies: international cross-disciplinary content with a particular, but not exclusive, interest in Australian, New Zealand and Asia-Pacific scholarship.

ASJ publishes inquiring and critical academic work by both new and established scholars whose work focuses on animals and human relationships with other animals. The journal aims to be a leading international forum for the dissemination and discussion of animal studies research and creative work.

For more information, including submission guidelines see: <http://ro.uow.edu.au/asj/>

Submissions for forthcoming editions can be made in two ways: Online: <http://ro.uow.edu.au/cgi/submit.cgi?context=asj> or by emailing the editor: boyde@uow.edu.au

Antennae: The Journal of Art in Visual Culture

The Virtual Animal

In his influential essay from 1977 titled 'Why Look at Animals?' John Berger advanced the thesis that human relationships with animals are predominantly shaped by representation. The essay argued that the increase of animal representation, which began at the end of the nineteenth century, constituted a phenomenon directly linked to the increasing disappearance of live animals in our everyday lives. Today animals have conspicuously emerged in video games and alternative reality scenarios, posing pressing questions about representation and interaction at a time when the virtual world seems to be on the brink of overshadowing the material one. This issue of *Antennae* will gather a range of perspectives in the attempt of mapping the current state of affairs with the 'virtual animal'.

Academic essays = maximum length 8000 words Interviews = maximum length 10000 words
Fiction = maximum length 8000 words

Submission Deadline: 1st of February 2013

More info at: www.antennae.org.uk Submissions emailed to: antennaproject@gmail.com

Journal of Popular Romance Studies

Special Issue: Must Love Dogs—or Dragons: Animals in Popular Romance

From the animal brides and bridegrooms in folktales to the dragons and werewolves and other shape-shifters in paranormal love stories, popular romance has long relied on animal heroes, heroines, and helpers (i.e., the leopard in *Bringing Up Baby*) to explore human romance. How, though, do invocations of the "animal" in popular romance differ from text to text, culture to culture, era to era? What do they suggest about the nature of love, whether the love of humans for one another or the love we feel for pets, companions, and co-workers of other species? How might a focus on the "Beast" in a popular romance novel, film, TV series, or other text help us to understand the beauties—the artistry, the interest—of that text?

The Journal of Popular Romance Studies (JPRS) seeks essay submissions for a special forum examining the role of animals in popular romance media—folk tale, fiction, film, TV, music video, etc.—now and in the past, from around the world. Essays may address either literal or figurative animals, including furry fandom, pony-play, and other fetishes, as long as the overarching context is the representation of romantic love.

**Coming
soon**

Deadline for submissions October 1, 2012

For guidelines and more information see: <http://jprstudies.org/submissions/special-issue-call-for-papers/#animals> JPRS is available without subscription at <http://jprstudies.org>

European Encyclopedia of Animal Welfare

The *EEAW* is a polylingual, multi- and interdisciplinary open access project of the FEWD (Research Center of Ethics and Science in Dialogue) at the Institute of Philosophy of the University of Vienna. It investigates the topics of Animal Ethics and Animal Welfare in a political, ethical and legal context on an international level, with the intention of expanding its research to cultural and social studies over the course of time. Fundamental topics from the natural sciences like the veterinary sciences or ethology are also covered from the very beginning.

Inspired by ambitious, academic open-access projects like the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, the aim of the *EEAW* is the publication of entries, edited and reviewed by top-ranking international experts of various fields, thereby reinforcing international and interdisciplinary discourse between the relevant disciplines. Furthermore the Encyclopedia serves as a means to distribute reliable information for a wider public and fulfilling an educational purpose.

Special emphasis will be placed on including analyses of selected countries all over the world. Scholars of various backgrounds will devote themselves to comprehensive investigations of their country of residence, according to a list of criteria, such as history, development and current status quo of animal welfare, animal ethics and animal rights. The collection of such continually revised and updated in-depth studies on an international level has never before been attempted in an academic context and will fill an important gap in the worldwide discourse, allowing for both a well-founded overview and international comparison of the actual situation and the tracking of tendencies and developments. Furthermore, this would be an important contribution to anchoring the long-overdue field of Comparative Animal Welfare Studies in a variety of disciplines. Ultimately, the results of this research could secure the groundwork for an improvement of the situation of animals on a global level.

In this way the *EEAW* conceptually incorporates both practical and theoretical aspects and encompasses the pluralism of established theories, including the principles of the enlightenment and critical rationalism, which inevitably entails multi- and interdisciplinary co-operation. The *EEAW* editors are also seeking to encourage contributions by young academics. All submissions will be subject to peer-review approval by the internationally acclaimed experts on our advisory board.

Further activities of the *EEAW* will be the organization of lectures, talks and workshops on relevant topics, which are planned to take place at the University of Vienna.

For more information about us and how to collaborate please visit www.eeaw.at or write an email to contact@eeaw.at.

Tierstudien

Special Issue: Metamorphosen. Volume 4, 2013

Edited by Jessica Ullrich and Antonia Ullrich

The editors seek submissions from the humanities, critical analyses of literature, visual arts, film, theater, music, but also texts on relevant aspects of popular culture as well as sociological and ethological topics.

Submission deadline: February 1, 2013

Abstracts should be no more than 2,000 characters. The final text should have a length of up to 25,000 characters. Publication date is October 2013. Submissions should be sent to jessica.ullrich@Neofelis-verlag.de or antonia.ullrich@Neofelis-verlag.de.

Liberazioni Rivista

Special Issue: Representing Animals



Every day we are overwhelmed by images of animals – posters, ads, video, scientific documentaries, etc. It would appear that we need constantly to represent and keep animals under our gaze in order to use them materially and symbolically.

We know that representation is never innocent – it covers powers and desires, dynamics of subjectivation and objectivation, ideological and hierarchical systems of values. In today's societies, we often use images of animals to add affective and symbolic value to the goods for sale – in this way cars, food, and even politicians, or exotic journeys into a lost wilderness are transformed into powerful fetishes.

We would like to explore the different ways and purposes of representing animals in literature, advertising, film, visual arts, and material culture to uncover the strategies that produce animal exploitation in order to subvert them and to foster a radical change of the status of animals.

Contributions on the following issues are welcomed:

1. Ethics and politics of representation of animals.
2. How everyday language structures our representations of animals.
3. Current trends in media studies regarding representation of animals.
4. Aesthetic and mythologies of wilderness.
5. Ideology in literature, movies and media related to animal representation.
6. Ethical/political assumptions of specific animal representations.
7. Historical perspectives on the representation of animals.
8. The use of animals to educate children.
9. Use and abuse of the notion of nature in the exploitation of representation of animals.
10. The ethical and political function of animal representation in the age of biopolitics.

Deadline for submissions: 31 December, 2012

Papers should be submitted in one of the following languages: Italian, English, French or German. Papers should not be longer than 9,000 words and can contain pictures (not more than 5) which will be published in black and white. The papers will be peer-reviewed and then, if accepted, published either on the journal (in Italian – translation provided by the editorial board) or the website or only the website at the discretion of the editorial board. We do not provide additional editorial guidelines at this stage, since all accepted papers will be formatted according to the journal's rules by the members of the editorial board.

Papers should be submitted at: callforpapers@liberazioni.org

UPDATES

Environmental Humanities

In the lead up to the launch of *Environmental Humanities* in November, a series of 'profiles' of members of the journal's Editorial Board will appear, asking them what they think about some important topics – thoughts on the anthropocene, nonhuman agency and interdisciplinarity

In the first series of profiles they were asked:

1. The 'Anthropocene' has become something of a buzzword in its migration from geology to philosophy and beyond. Do you find it to be a productive concept? What can the humanities contribute to its articulation and critique?
2. Many recent movements and fields in the humanities have given credence to the agency and interconnectivity of things, objects, networks. Is this a much-needed decentring, or is there still a uniqueness of the living worth voicing or defending? (Or even the human?)
3. How has your disciplinary specialisation been affected by environmental discourse? What obstacles or enticements to interdisciplinary work have you encountered?

Check out the fascinating replies from Brett Buchanan (Laurentian University, Canada) Eileen Crist (Virginia Tech, USA) Clare Palmer (Texas A&M University, USA) Mick Smith (Queen's University, Canada): <http://environmentalhumanities.org/about/profiles>

In the weeks to come, replies to similar questions from some of the other members of the Editorial Board will be posted. If you'd like to follow the journal through its email list, twitter (@EnvHumanities), facebook or RSS feed, please visit: <http://environmentalhumanities.org/about>

Exhibitions: Current and past, workshops, calls for submission

**Open
NOW**

FIONA HALL: CHILDREN'S ART PROJECT– FLY AWAY HOME

Until 7 October

Queensland Gallery of Modern Art (GOMA), Brisbane



Paper money included in the kit for children to make birds and their nests for the installation Fly Away Home. Photograph: Tony Freeman

From GOMA's website: As part of Contemporary Australia: Women, the Gallery presents Fly Away Home, a large-scale art work for children and families by leading Australian artist Fiona Hall, developed in collaboration with the Children's Art Centre.

Fly Away Home opens up young imaginations to the wonders of the world inhabited by both humans and birds, while also introducing important issues of our time – human migration and the need to protect the environment. Fiona Hall invites children to explore these ideas from a bird's perspective as they make a bird and nest using paper money she has especially developed for Fly Away Home.

Many of Fiona's works feature real banknotes. For her art work *Tender* 2003–06, in the Gallery's Collection, Fiona shredded thousands of US one dollar bills and wove the shreds into birds' nests, each resembling that of a different bird species. For this art work, Fiona created the nests out of actual money to suggest that people's interest in making money as a way of improving their lifestyle can negatively impact – even destroy – natural habitats. For Fly Away Home, she has designed paper money that children can use to make their own bird species. Some of the banknotes feature migratory birds. People often migrate for similar reasons to birds – they make new homes where the weather is warmer, perhaps in a place with the right environment for raising a family. Fiona says,

"There are parallels between humans and birds. Both groups of 'animals' – after all, that is what humans are! – display migratory behaviour: a number of bird species are seasonal migrants and humans have, since earliest times, been on the move. I've heard that some species adapt or change over time to live in an environment that suits their needs. Perhaps we humans are similar – searching for some part of the world where we can make a home and feel secure."

Fiona encourages Fly Away Home visitors to consider their own experience – and the experiences of their friends and families – of moving away and starting over in a new location. Fly Away Home was first commissioned by the Children's Art Centre for 21st Century: Art in the First Decade, 2010 and supported by the Tim Fairfax Family Foundation.

For more information about the exhibition see: <http://gagoma.qld.gov.au/kids/exhibitions>

On show
NOW

JANET LAURENCE: THE MEMORY OF NATURE

On show as part of the Australian Art collection till March 2013

Art Gallery of New South Wales



The Memory of Nature 2010 (detail). Acrylic, scientific glass, dried plants, seeds sulphur, salt, amethyst, taxidermied owls, shellac tulle, wood, burnt bones, hand bones, hand-blown glass, oil paint, mirrors. 180.5 x 300.5 x 170.3cm.
© Janet Laurence Photo: Felicity Jenkins, AGNSW. Art Gallery of New South Wales

Janet Laurence's sculptural installations address the fragility of natural environments and questions of sustainability. Her works emphasise states of transformation as well as cycles of life and death, typically mingling organic matter and scientific instruments with references to museum modes of display.

The Memory of Nature includes materials reprised from an earlier work by Laurence titled *Waiting: A Medicinal Garden for Ailing Plants*, which was installed in the Royal Botanical Gardens for the 2010 Biennale of Sydney. Assuming the form of a makeshift glasshouse, *Waiting* functioned as an 'intensive care unit' for sick plants that evoked a state of environmental crisis. In stark contrast, *The Memory of Nature* presents to viewers the aftermath of that effort, situating the carefully preserved remains of now-dead plants alongside other objects such as taxidermied owls and burnt bones. Evoking the form of both museum vitrines and historical monuments, the work stands as a memorial to nature now lost.

Purchased with funds provided by the Art Gallery Society of New South Wales Contempo Group and the Contemporary Collection Benefactors with the generous assistance of Geoff Ainsworth AM, Peter Braithwaite, Sally Breen, Andrew & Cathy Cameron, Ginny & Leslie Green, Michael Hobbs, Ray Wilson OAM 2012

For more information and images see:

<http://www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au/collection/works/125.2012/>

Coming
soon

AMANDA PARER: RE:PLACE

2-21 November

Colville Gallery, 91A Salamanca Place, Hobart



Faulter 2012. 122 x 122 cm.
Oil on linen

Artist Statement

The theme in my work is the Australian identity. I use animals including feral, agricultural, native and importantly extinct species, to discuss our past, current, and possible future relationships with the environment.

Re:place is an exhibition that explores Australia's colonial history of claiming this harsh land. The landscapes in the paintings are taken from the central highlands of Tasmania. Areas south of Cradle Mountain are beautiful yet foreboding places. Hessian was a common cloth used to carry most items. I have used a heavy linen as a base for the works. The fabric shows through in large areas, which makes the linen as important as the actual paint. So the surface of the picture reflects Australia's history as much as the image itself.

Horses were commonly used for all manners of transport and they feature in these works. The horses reflect a historical and metaphoric importance. They display our stories, histories and use/misuse of the landscape. The horses shown in the paintings display a myriad of feelings and notions through their different poses. The image entitled *Faulter* illustrates the horse almost about to fall – we may think we are a strong, noble beast but our effect on the environment is beginning to show negative repercussions which makes us unstable. In other works horses are reflected as curious beasts or ones that are lost, meandering awkwardly in the environment. The horse represent humanity and our journey through this land since European settlement.

In my work I enjoy working with styles of Australian art that we like to sentimentally refer to as part of the aesthetic of our national identity. In the exhibition **Re:place** the painting's style acknowledges the Australian Modernist movement. The title **Re:place** can be interpreted in a number of ways.

For more about the exhibition and Amanda's work see: www.amandaparer.com.au and www.colvillegallery.com.au

CATHERINE CLOVER: A FILTH OF STARLINGS

This exhibition took place at during the month of August at:
Platform Public Contemporary Art Spaces, Melbourne

a chattering of starlings
a cloud of starlings
a clutter of starlings
a filth of starlings
a flight of starlings

A huge variety of collective nouns, particularly for groupings of animals, are a characteristic of the English language. These nouns are fascinating and can be very poetic, and some of the versions can be traced back to 15th century Britain, to the Book of St Albans of 1486 by Dame Juliana Barnes, prioress of the nunnery of Sopwell near St Albans. Little is known about the prioress, but it is certain that the book, one of the earliest to be printed, became hugely popular for many years[1]. Today, we are more familiar with some of these collective nouns than others, for example a 'murder of crows' is fairly common, but a 'murmuration of starlings' less so. An aviary, flight, flock or menagerie of birds makes sense, but a crossing, a raft, a pull or a bench of birds does not seem to. Some of the nouns have an obvious basis in animal behaviour but many do not. Language evolves and changes, and words and meanings change or are forgotten over time.

Numerousness and close proximity are two of the reasons many of us dislike common urban birds, so highlighting these collective nouns and their long history could add an intriguing twist to our relationship with these birds and how we might consider them in light of other, older attitudes. Seagulls, corvids and pigeons are all very sociable species and are often much more audible than visible. The calls and vocalisations of the birds are a major interest and considering the birds' exchanges (or bird language perhaps) via the structures of human language (specifically English) provides me with ways of thinking about the birds.

Upcoming Shows:

*Coming
soon*

30 September-28 October, Anstey Station, Brunswick. THE AUSPICES (the observation of and divination from the actions of birds) as part of the MoreArt Moreland Art Show. See <http://www.moreland.vic.gov.au/arts-and-festivals/public-art/moreart-public-art-show.html> Stories about wild urban birds, bird mimicry and field recordings of wild local birds will be heard from the disused customer service booth on the city bound platform at Anstey station, Brunswick. Bird field guides, bird identification leg rings, found birds' nests and other objects associated with our relationship with birds will fill the booth.

24 October-11 November, C3 Art Space, Abbotsford Convent, Abbotsford VIC.

ACCUMULATE/PROLIFERATE. Curated by Deb Bain King

For this group exhibition I am contributing a work that is a photographic series called 'Looking up. listening for the birds'. This series reflects the process I go through when collecting raw material for my artworks. These wild birds are a part of my daily round and I am witness to their activities on a regular basis. I listen to them and I listen out for them, I look at them and follow their movements, I watch them and sometimes they watch me. When I look out of the window I see them, when I walk along the pavement I hear them. This regularity within the daily routine is an important component of the creative process.

For more information about Catherine's work see: <http://www.ciclover.com/>

BE KIND: A VISUAL HISTORY OF HUMANE EDUCATION, 1880-1945
Online Exhibition. National Museum of Animals & Society



Be Kind to Animals Week® poster featuring the artwork of Morgan Dennis. Collection of Robert Penney. Used with permission from the American Humane Association.

On July 2, 2012, the National Museum of Animals & Society launched an interactive online exhibition that explores the history of humane education from the late 19th century to the Second World War. The early animal welfare movement was a very visual, performative, and literary movement, relying heavily on art, public displays, music, lantern slides, and illustrated books to convey the message of “kindness to animals.”

The goal of this exhibition is to illustrate the dynamism and multi-faceted approach that early campaigners such as George T. Angell, Henry Bergh, Frances Power Cobbe and J.J. Kelso took in their educational and advocacy efforts.

In addition to highlighting this often-overlooked history, this exhibit aims to bring the message of humane education to current audiences by connecting them with the historical trajectory of animal welfare and animal rights. It is our hope that the work of reformers like Angell, Bergh, Cobbe and Kelso will capture the imagination of a new generation of activists.

Be Kind: A Visual History of Humane Education, 1880-1945 is curated by Dr. Keri Cronin, Chair of the Department of Visual Arts at Brock University.

The exhibition will be made permanently available on the site.

To view the exhibition see: <http://www.museumofanimals.org/#/be-kind/4022591>

Art Work: Current work, project histories, reviews

Tamara Kenneally Photography



Tamara Kenneally. From her 2012 series, *Jumping For Joy*

Jumping for Joy is a collection of around 80 images depicting ex-battery chickens jumping for lettuce as a reward. Using her own rescued ex-battery hens as models, Tamara watched as they became more aware of their bodies, grew their feathers back and began to be able to perch on branches. They instinctively began to jump and use their wings to get to food. Watching their amazing transformation gave Tamara the inspiration to document their amazing love of life, energy and journey back to being themselves, after 18 months of living hell in battery cages. Each hen in this series has lived in a cage with 5-6 other hens, with little as an A4 sheet of paper to move around in. They never got to see the sun or the sky. They never got to feel the earth under their feet or the wind through their feathers.

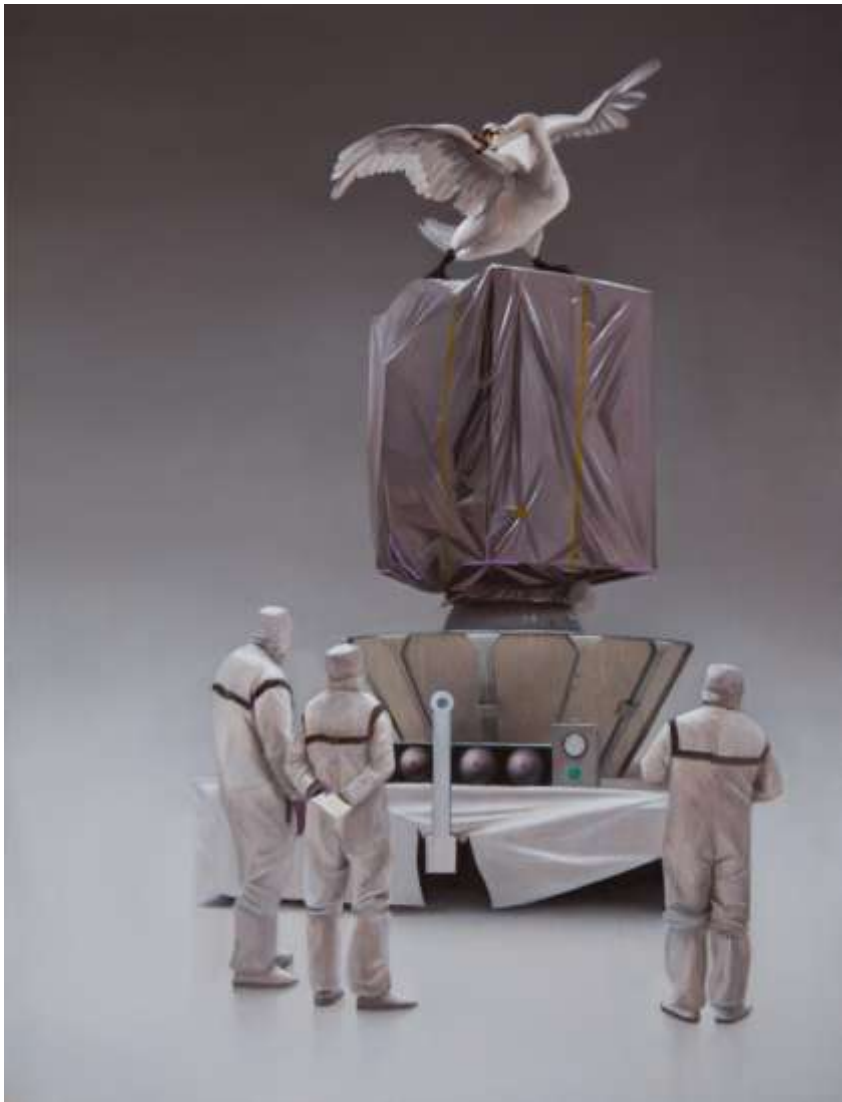
This series portrays each hen as an individual. Each jumps differently, thinks differently and has a different personality. This series attempts to portray that the lives of chickens are as important to them as your life is as important to you. Hens feel joy as well as pain and these images certainly show the joy these hens feel.

Tamara is a fine art animal photographer who has been portraying and exhibiting the beauty and individuality of animals for the past 18 years. Her bodies of work range from a photographic series looking at factory farming (Sentient Beings) to a photographic series to exploring the sadness in forgotten backyard dogs (No Walks Today) and many, many more. The main driving force behind her images are animals. The truth and beauty of animals inspires her on a daily basis. Humans use and abuse animals in so many horrific ways and Tamara believes all animals are worthy of a happy, healthy life and hopes viewers walk away from her work with a new found respect for animals.

For more information and examples of Tamara's work, please visit:

www.tamarakenneallyphotography.com or www.facebook.com/tamarakenneallyphotography

Sam Leach



Asselign Probe Launch Protection 2011, oil and resin on wood, 45cm x 30cm

Artist Statement

The questions I aim to answer with my work can be characterised as:

Can painted images be used to deepen our understanding of how the history of modern science has changed relationships between humans and the non-human world? How can painting use recent developments in philosophy to create a new understanding of the way the history of modern science has changed the relationship between humans and the non-human world?

New scientific discoveries and technologies change our understanding of the world and what it means to be human. Science continues to make progress and is arguably the dominant social force in the West. Aspects of science and particularly the development and application of new technologies are criticised by extremists from both ends of the political spectrum. However many thinkers argue that science is vital for the ongoing survival of humans, as Žižek notes, "it is simultaneously the source of some threats (such as the ecological consequences of our industries or the uncontrolled use of genetic engineering), and our best hope of understanding those threats and finding a way to cope with them." (Žižek, 2010)

I propose that painting can be used to deepen our understanding of the history of science by making works focussing on how major scientific developments in the period since the 17th century

have changed the relationship between humans and the non-human world. The 17th century marks the beginning of what is commonly referred to as the Scientific Revolution. While there are many important antecedents to the work of natural historians and philosophers in this period, the major developments which make this an important point in the history of science are concisely summarised by Shapin as, "the modern challenge to Aristotelian natural philosophy and especially to the distinction between the physics appropriate for understanding terrestrial and celestial bodies; the attack upon an earth-centred, earth-static model and its replacement by the Copernican sun-centred system; the mechanical metaphor for nature, its association with mathematical means of understanding nature" (Shapin, 1996 p.13).

This change reflected a shift in the way humans related to the non-human world: Graham Harman characterises the Aristotelian view as splitting the world into stone-plant-animal-human. Descartes, reformulated the idea of a mind and body split and extended it into a split between the thinking human on one hand and the unthinking world of mechanised stuff on the other. For Descartes there was, "simply stone or human, nothing in between. Unless you're a full-blown thinking subject, then your screams while being tortured are no better than the squeaking gears of a machine in need of oil." (Harman, 2009). Only humans have been recognised as having the will to act and the freedom to choose how to act. The non-human was allowed only instinct, chemical processes and physics. The most intelligent and sophisticated of non-human animals were, at best, a type of complex mechanical automaton, lacking soul and mind.

While science made progress on the basis of accepting a mechanised view of the non-human world and testing the function of the automata, it simultaneously set the foundation for a longer lasting challenge to the ancient anthropocentrism of religious doctrine. "In comparison with the newly revealed depth and complexity of the physical universe, knowledgeable humans could no longer delude themselves that they lived at the hub. More importantly, perhaps, they could see that the world was not orientated towards humans and that they were just one small cog in a very large, centreless system" (Franklin, 1999 p.12).

The realms that can be considered exclusively human – sentience, language, music and tool use are increasingly being found in the nonhuman world through developments in zoology and biology. At the same time neuroscience and cognitive science, research into artificial intelligence and robotics are providing explanations which challenge our understanding of exactly how much agency humans have. Instinctive, chemical and physical processes are now more broadly accepted as factors in determining human behaviour. The zones in which humans can be considered to have a special place or a unique relationship with non-human entities are dwindling. In philosophy the special ontological status of humans is also being challenged. The Kantian tradition of correlationism, is characterised by Meillassoux as "the idea according to which we only ever have access to the correlation between thinking and being, and never to either term considered apart from the other." (Meillassoux, 2008, p.5). Or as Graham Harman puts it, "The correlationist thinks that there is no human without world, nor world without human, but only a primal correlation or rapport between the two." (Harman, 2010, p.1). Bruno Latour, in his development of Actor-Network theory, refutes Cartesian dualism and rejects Kant's "Copernican revolution" in which humans were placed at the centre of what can be considered real. In Actor-Network theory entities of all kinds have agency and there is no ontological division between humans and non humans. There is no special case for humans. non-humans have agency leaving the way open for a reality which can exist without humans.

In the painting *Asselijn Launch Probe Protection*, a swan is perched on top of a satellite being prepared for launch. The swan is taken from a painting by Jan Asselijn, "The Threatened Swan" (before 1652). In the original, the swan is shown protecting a clutch of eggs labeled "Holland" from a threat. I wanted to put the valiant swan's protective prowess to work in protection of the big science exemplified by space programs. Space exploration is, at least in part, an aesthetic endeavour. The image of space exploration is part of the motivation for pursuing it, beyond a purely rational economic justification. However I also want to suggest that space exploration, and scientific research in general, should be considered in terms of benefit to non-human entities as much as human. If we ultimately become immortal space citizens, like those in Clarke's *Space Odyssey*, then we must bring non-humans with us.

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For more information about Sam's work and additional images see: <http://www.samleach.net/>

Films and Plays

WAR HORSE and other war stories . . .



Joey (puppeteer: David Grewcock) meets Goose
Photo: Brinkhoff Mogenburg from the *War Horse* Education Resource Pack

A play based on a novel by **Michael Morpurgo**
Adapted by **Nick Stafford**.
In association with Handspring Puppet Company

Reviews by Sandra Burr

The current global fascination with horses and their role in human wars is evidenced by the increasing number of narratives about war horses being published across a variety of genres. It began with the adaptation of Michael Morpurgo's children's book *War Horse* (1982) for the London stage, also titled *War Horse*, in 1997. Proving popular with audiences, the play continues to be staged to capacity audiences in London, with new productions now touring the world. There has also been a movie *War Horse* (2011) as well as a number of DVDs and books addressing themes

of horses and war. These stories have captured our imagination, speaking to the deep and complex meanings that horses hold for humans across time and across nations. Anyone watching the Queen's Jubilee celebrations on television this year would have noted the roar of recognition and joy expressed by onlookers when Joey, the leading puppet horse from the stage play *War Horse*, appeared on the roof of Britain's National Theatre. While the spectacle of a horse, albeit a puppet, cavorting on a roof top is absurd, it was an intriguing spectacle. It marks Joey as a special horse, a horse that transcends literal meaning, and instead serves a constant reminder of the horrors and futility of war.

This powerful message will be brought to Australia when *War Horse*, the stage play arrives in Melbourne in December this year. Publicity for the Australian production is well advanced. A Radio National interview for example, with Finn Caldwell, Puppetry Director of the Australian production of *War Horse*, explains how the puppet horses are brought to life: <http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/booksandartsdaily/war-horse-brings-life-sized-puppet-horses-to-life/4149924>. The documentary *Making War Horse*, which explores the stage play, is scheduled to be shown at the Melbourne International Film Festival in October, and there is also an extensive and interesting website attached to the stage play: <http://warhorseonstage.com/show>

For anyone planning to buy tickets to the Australian shows, the website is well worth viewing, not only for background information but also to gain a sense of the centrality and importance of horses in narratives of war. The material is well researched and attractively presented, with several short films explaining how the puppets are made, the social impact of the Handspring Puppet Company on its South African employees, and audience reactions to the play across the world. What is very evident from both the interview and the website is the careful research that went into making the horses as realistic and lifelike as possible. With flanks, hides and sinews made of steel, leather, bamboo and aircraft cables the horses look very authentic, while the skill of the puppeteers make these oversize puppets behave like horses. They move realistically, perfectly mimicking the body-language of horses in their reactions and expressions with every sound the puppets make, every breath and tremor rippling through their bodies. As Lyne Sieb, assistant puppet maker, says 'every little movement was horse'.

The ambition by the company to capture and replicate the absolute essence of its equine cast is not only a remarkable achievement, it says a great deal about the integrity of the company and their regard for horses. A significant amount of rehearsal time was devoted to researching the behaviour of real-life animals. Adrian Kohler, joint owner of Handspring Puppets, says he knew very little about horses but educated himself by watching and sketching them, by consulting equine behavior experts such as Monty Roberts, and by studying the animated footage of *The Horse in Motion* based on Muybridge's groundbreaking research in the late 1800's. Kohler is an observant scholar noting, for example, that, "he quickly understood the importance of the ears as emotional and thought indicators", an understanding that is mirrored in the ear movements of the puppet horses. Kohler also stresses that he wanted to avoid any traces of anthropomorphism by having the horses behave as naturally as possible and by demanding that the actors and puppeteers treat human-horse interactions as if they are dealing with real animals. There is an interesting account of an encounter between a real horse and a puppet horse that supports the success of this approach. Such attention to detail leads the audience to suspend belief and become immersed in the story.

The Education section of the website, tailored for an Australian audience, acknowledges "Australia's passion for horses and their place in the world". The downloadable Education Resource Pack contains a clear, concise and well documented summary of Australia's involvement in the First World War, with information about the Light Horse, the Egyptian campaign and the Battle of Beersheba and the often overlooked contribution by indigenous soldiers to Australia's Light Horse.

While *War Horse* in all its iterations is essentially fictional it stands to represent the suffering of all creatures in war. A new DVD released in May this year, *Warrior – The Real War Horse* is based on a true story. Warrior was the legendary mount of General Jack 'Galloper' Seeley and the documentary is researched, written and produced by Seeley's grandson, author and film maker Brough Scott. Both Seeley and Warrior endured and survived the First World War, returning together to live on the Isle of Wight where the horse eventually died aged 33. A biographical

account written by Seeley was first published in 1934 as *My Horse Warrior*, and the book has recently been reissued as *Warrior: The Amazing Story of a Real War Horse* with the addition of several original illustrations of Warrior by the esteemed equestrian artist Sir Alfred Munnings. Warrior's story offers an alternative view to Joey's story; it is bathed in the language of heroism and bravery, courage, character and nobility. You can read about it on Warrior's website: <http://www.warriorwarhorse.com/>

Another war horse book, this time focussing on the Australian Light Horse, was published in March this year. *The Horses Didn't Come Home* by Pamela Rushby is written for children and it centres on the Egyptian campaign culminating in the Battle of Beersheba. It tells the story of two sixteen year old boys, Harry and his friend Jack, from outback Queensland who, despite being under age, enlist in the army. Both excellent riders, the boys are seduced by notions of the romance of war and by the prospect of taking their favourite horses, Taylor and Tallyman, with them, despite having to sell them to the army in order to do so. This last point is important because, with one exception, none of the Australian horses came home. When Taylor goes lame, Harry takes his younger sister Laura's mare Bunty. After training in Australia, Jack and Harry are sent to Egypt, eventually taking part in the Battle of Beersheba. Jack and Tallyman are killed; Bunty and Harry are wounded but recover. Harry returns home but, of course, the horses do not. The old and the wounded were slaughtered, the rest were either sold to the British Army (many to be resold locally or abandoned) or to the Egyptians. Many soldiers, unable to contemplate such a fate for their horses, took them out to the desert and shot them, and this is what happens to Bunty.

The story is told through alternating points of view: Harry at war writing letters home about his life in the army, the training, the riding and finally, the fighting, or simply reflecting on the place and the circumstances that brought him there; and Laura writes and reflects on conditions at home, the anxious waiting for news, her nascent love for Jack and her concern for Bunty's welfare. There is also Bunty's point of view, authored by Harry in letters home to Laura. The book is disappointing. Despite the title we don't learn much about how the horses coped apart from a few brief descriptions of the unpleasantness of the sea journey and the difficulties they faced due to the heat, heavy loads and deep sands of Egypt. There are few details that might really give children a true idea of the hardships endured by the horses. It isn't too much of a stretch to say that parallels can be drawn between army horses shipped in their thousands, in terrible conditions destined for slaughter, never to come home and Australia's contemporary live export trade. The author missed a real opportunity here to educate children about animal welfare.

All the characters, including Bunty the horse, are very one dimensional and they all sound like middle-aged women. Bunty is so anthropomorphised that she becomes a human caricature and unlike, for example Joey or Warrior, any sense of her essential horseness is completely erased. Both Harry and Jack are far too sedate for a couple of 16 year old larrikins experiencing their first overseas adventure, and Laura hardly seems to change despite all the years of war, with its disappointments, uncertainties and profound losses. For all that the author emphasises the 'belovedness' of Bunty, the bond between the pair is never fully developed suggesting an unfamiliarity with that particular and powerful love young girls have for their horses. While the opening chapter carries a hint of poignancy as the soldiers take their horses into the desert for what they euphemistically call 'one last ride' the book does little to foster an awareness and empathy for animals in children.

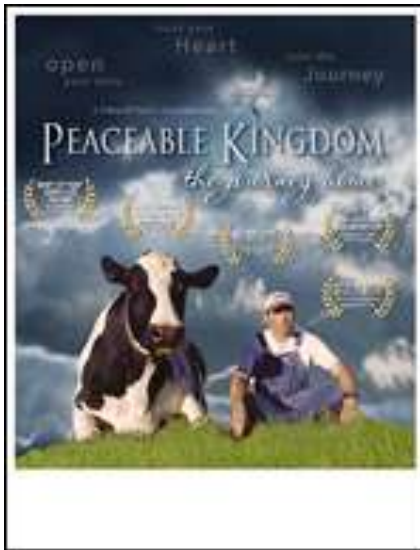
The Horses Didn't Come Home could have been so much better but it is dull, with great slabs of text unconvincingly and unappealingly presented as story. Quite frankly, the *War Horse* website is more realistic and readable, even for children. <http://www.harpercollins.com.au/books/Horses-Didnt-Come-Home-Pamela-Rushby/?isbn=9780732293543>

War Horse the play is due to tour Australia:

**Coming
soon**

Melbourne Arts Centre 23 Dec, 2012 – 10 Feb, 2013
Sydney Lyric Theatre 16 – 30 Mar, 2013
The Lyric Theatre, QPAC 6 July – 4 Aug, 2013

PEACEABLE KINGDOM: The Journey Home



Director: **Jenny Stein**
Producer: **James LaVeck**

A Tribe of Heart documentary

A riveting story of transformation and healing, *Peaceable Kingdom: The Journey Home* explores the awakening conscience of several people who grew up in traditional farming culture and who have now come to question the basic assumptions of their way of life.

Five farmers, an animal rescuer and a humane police officer each embark on a journey of awakening conscience in this artful tapestry of memory, music, and personal truth. Rare footage demonstrating the emotional lives and intense family bonds of animals on farms deepens our understanding of why so many are searching for a new way of relating to the other beings who share our world.

Presented through a woven tapestry of memories, music, and breathtaking accounts of life-altering moments, the film provides insight into the farmers' sometimes amazing connections with the animals under their care, while also making clear the complex web of social, psychological and economic forces that have led them to their present dilemma.

Celebrated at film festivals for its balanced appeal to both mind and heart, *Peaceable Kingdom: The Journey Home* shatters stereotypical notions of farmers, farm life, and perhaps most unexpectedly, farm animals themselves.

For more information and to buy the DVD see: <http://www.tribeofheart.org/>

FACING ANIMALS



A Documentary Film by **Jan van Ijken**

Why do we look away from millions of animals in industrial farms while pampering and humanizing others? This is the fundamental question posed by a fascinating new documentary film by Dutch photographer and filmmaker, Jan van Ijken. "The film takes the perspective of the animal, but actually is about man who in his inscrutable wisdom labels one animal as a cheap piece of meat, and the other as an interesting research object, beauty ideal, pest, pathetic creature or partner/mate/child. In *Facing Animals*, I give the hidden animals in the industrial farms a face. I invite the viewer to think about the value of an animal," writes van Ijken. He aptly describes his motivations for making the film as follows:

"About ten years ago, people in The Netherlands were startled by gruesome images seen on television of many thousands of animal corpses thrown in huge lorries to be abducted for destruction. The often healthy animals were killed for precautionary reasons during the outbreak of animal diseases like swine flu, mad cow disease, foot-and-mouth disease and bird flu. I was shocked by these images and what struck me most were the sheer numbers of animals coming out of the stables. Apparently we had 16 million pigs in Holland at the time, just as many as

people. No less than 100 million chickens were living in our small country. But how is it possible that we rarely see a pig or a chicken outside in the meadows?

It made me think about the relationship between man and animal in the Netherlands. What is daily life like for these nameless production-animals? Why do we hide them in dark sheds? At the same time we pamper and humanise our own pets. They are given names, dental care or are taken to a groomer. We fatten them and after they die, we bury or cremate them. In 2010, the first cancer centre for dogs was opened."

For more information, trailer, and to order film see: <http://facinganimals.com/>

Video and Audio

HOW MUCH CAN A KOALA BEAR?

ABC TV Four Corners program. [Transcript and background information on website](#)

In key parts of Australia, koalas are dying in big numbers. In Queensland, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory the attrition rate has been so high the Federal Government responded by placing koalas on the Threatened Species "at risk" list.

Four Corners travels to three koala hot spots to try to understand the problems they confront. First, reporter Marian Wilkinson looks at South Eastern Queensland, an area where development is exploding. Large tracts of bushland have been set aside for housing and other urban developments, which means koalas will lose their homes and food. She meets a group of scientists forced to play catch-up, trying to devise a plan that will save the endangered animals. In New South Wales koalas are also finding the going tough. West of the Great Dividing Range, conservation programs have tried to create places where the animals can live and be protected from predators, but rising temperatures are putting them at risk. In ultra-hot weather koalas simply dehydrate and die. In Victoria the situation is very different, but equally as troubling. In that State the koala population was revived with descendents from a small colony on French Island, south-east of Melbourne. Unfortunately, because this revived population came from a small group, there is a limited gene pool, which means major environmental changes leaves many of them at risk too.

There is no doubt Australians want to save this much-loved national icon, but are we prepared to compromise development to protect the koalas' natural habitat?

<http://www.abc.net.au/4corners/stories/2012/08/16/3569231.htm>

FIGHTING EXTINCTIONS

[Download video on the Wheeler Centre website](#)



Jenny Gray is the chief executive officer of Zoos Victoria. She has a background in transportation, engineering and ethics.

At the Wheeler Centre Lunchbox/Soapbox on June 28, Jenny Gray spoke passionately about the role of zoos in fighting extinction, in preserving species at risk, and in engaging communities to take action to help animals. In the lead-up to the school holidays, she uses real examples of techniques and tactics that are being used by Zoos Victoria in delivering this role, and discusses the challenges in transforming the three zoos that comprise Zoos Victoria.

<http://wheelercentre.com/calendar/presenter/jenny-gray/>

WAR HORSE BRINGS PUPPETS TO LIFE

Download audio on ABC Radio National website

It is not often that a puppet show becomes an international hit, but that's what's happened to an epic British production called *War Horse*. The National Theatre production is based on a novel by the English children's author Michael Morpogu. Essentially a love story, it tells the tale of a country boy named Alfred, whose beloved horse Joey is conscripted into the cavalry and shipped off to fight in the Great War in France. According to all the reports, the element which makes the show so stunning is its amazing life-sized horse puppets, the handiwork of South Africa's *Handspring Puppets* company. *War Horse* opens in Australia at the end of this year in Melbourne, with dates to follow in Sydney and Brisbane in 2013.

<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/booksandartsdaily/war-horse-brings-life-sized-puppet-horses-to-life/4149924>

CAMPAIGN TO ENCOURAGE CHILDREN TO BE KIND TO ANIMALS

Download audio on ABC Radio Rural website

A number of animal welfare organisations have launched a national campaign to educate young people about the importance of being kind to animals. Statistics from the US show that 40% of animal cruelty cases involve people between 15 and 25 years of age. The CEO of Melbourne's Lort Smith Animal Hospital, Liz Walker, says the social media campaign will encourage children aged between 9 and 14 to build an appreciation and empathy for animals. "There's a window of opportunity where we think children are old enough to be communicated with through words and stories very effectively, and to get to them and help them understand this before they reach that 15-year-old mark, where some of the damage is already done." Steven Schubert talks to Liz Walker.

http://www.abc.net.au/rural/news/content/201207/s3541836.htm#.T_yo8Pb2SQ0.twitter

SPEAKING FOR ANIMALS THROUGH SCIENCE

Download audio on ABC Ballarat website

Ballarat-based vet Katherine Van Ekert is calling on more veterinarians to take charge of animal welfare issues. Katherine is a Ballarat-based Department of Primary Industries vet and co-founder of animal advocate organisation Sentient. She says: "It's my view that veterinarians are uniquely equipped with the skills and knowledge to be able to tackle animal welfare issues and probably speak on behalf of animals in a way that other people can't". Hear her interviewed by Margaret Burin.

<http://www.abc.net.au/local/audio/2012/07/12/3544597.htm?site=ballarat>

Links: Resource pages, blogs, organizations

- **International Fund for Animal Welfare**

Founded in 1969, the International Fund for Animal Welfare saves individual animals, animal populations and habitats all over the world. With projects in more than 40 countries, IFAW provides hands-on assistance to animals in need, whether it's dogs and cats, wildlife and livestock, or rescuing animals in the wake of disasters. They also advocate saving populations from cruelty and depletion, such as our campaign to end commercial whaling and seal hunts. Their vision is a world where animals are respected and protected.

<http://www.ifaw.org>

- **Animal Liberation**

Animal Liberation is an animal rights charity founded in 1976 by Christine Townend, based on the philosophies of Professor Peter Singer, as set out in his worldwide best-selling book *Animal Liberation*. It works to end the suffering of exploited and confined animals through legislation, consumer advocacy, action and humane education. Animal Liberation has branches in all states of Australia.

<http://animal-lib.org.au>

- **Uncaged**

Uncaged is a peaceful international animal protection organisation based in Sheffield, England. It has a highly qualified, experienced and dedicated team of staff to bring in-depth knowledge of the political, legal, ethical and scientific issues relevant to animal experimentation. They operate at every level, from grassroots protests to motions in Parliament, through to participation in academic discourse.

<http://www.uncaged.co.uk>

- **Free from Harm**

The aim of Free from Harm is to empower the conscious, vegetarian and vegan community. It is an online hub that provides the best information, tools and resources to guide you on the path to protecting the earth and the animals that inhabit it.

<http://freefromharm.org/>

- **Tasmanian Land Conservancy**

The Tasmanian Land Conservancy is a nonprofit organization that acquires and manages land in Tasmania, protecting important natural places. Their website includes current news, a list of permanent reserves where rare and endangered native plants and animals are preserved, properties for sale, information on how land owners can protect natural values on their properties and information about volunteering.

<http://www.tasland.org.au/>

- **World Society for the Protection of Animals**

WSPA's vision is of a world where animal welfare matters, and animal cruelty ends. Their work is concentrated in regions of the world where few, if any, measures exist to protect animals. With consultative status at the United Nations and the Council of Europe, WSPA is the world's largest alliance of animal welfare societies and has campaigned to convince governments and key decision makers to change practices and introduce new laws to protect or improve the welfare of animals.

<http://www.wspa.org.au/>

- **The Vegan Society**

The Vegan Society is an educational charity that provides information and guidance on various aspects of veganism, including to new and potential vegans, caterers, healthcare professionals, educators and the media. The Vegan Society's Trademark scheme promotes vegan products and services through our widely-recognised and trusted Sunflower symbol and will supply advice to doctors, dietitians, caterers and food producers; authorities dealing with food labelling, additives, school meals and other public health issues, as well as the media.

<http://www.vegansociety.com/>

- **The Vegan Society of Australia**

The VSA is a diverse group of people representing a wide range of ages with a wide range of interests. What they share is a concern about the destruction that a diet and lifestyle based on exploitation of animals is doing to our environment, our country and our planet.

<http://www.veganaustralia.net>

- **Friends of Animals – Dubai**

This group works directly with the community facilitating information, providing discounted veterinary clinics rates, advertising and finding suitable permanent homes for their fostered rescued/unwanted pets, providing legal advice and action to be taken as per LAW N16 for Animal Welfare in UAE, and encouraging and helping the community to do their own 'Community Social Responsibility' stray cats TNR (Trap, neutering and release). They support all the animal welfare groups listed in the region and aim to alleviate suffering from animals and to promote kindness.

<http://www.friendsofanimalsdxb.com/>

- **Catholic Concern for Animals**

Catholic Concern for Animals, formerly known as the Catholic Study Circle for Animal Welfare, has been in existence since 1929. Like any organism, it has grown and developed over the years, but retains its core purpose of informing the Church and the wider community about authentic Catholic teaching about animals, in the hope of creating a more humane and compassionate environment for animals of all species and types.

<http://www.catholic-animals.org/>

- **American Anti-Vivisection Society**

Founded in 1883, the American Anti-Vivisection Society (AAVS) is the first non-profit animal advocacy and educational organization in the United States dedicated to ending experimentation on animals in research, testing, and education. AAVS also opposes and works to end other forms of cruelty to animals. They work with students, grassroots groups, individuals, teachers, the media, other national organizations, government officials, members of the scientific community, and advocates in other countries to *legally* and *effectively* end the use of animals in science through education, advocacy, and the development of alternative methods to animal use.

<http://www.aavs.org/>

- **Party for the Animals**

This is the website of a Dutch political party whose highest priority is animal welfare and the respectful treatment of animals. In the Netherlands, they are represented in the House of Representatives, the Senate, the Provincial States and in six city councils. That is unique: never before has a political party devoted to animal welfare been elected to a national parliament anywhere else in the world.

<http://www.partyfortheanimals.nl/>

- **Arcturos**

Arcturos is a Greek, non-governmental organization seeking to enhance biodiversity and sustainability in the Greek rural areas. The organisation implements cross-border projects in order to protect mountainous ecosystems, with an emphasis on bears and large mammals, aiming at the integrated management of protected mountainous regions and the provision of expertise for natural environment interventions. Arcturos Environmental Center lobbies to protect nature by developing actions of public awareness, environmental education and volunteerism.

<http://www.arcturos.gr/en/main.php>

- **HumAnima**

HumAnima CIC is a West Midlands-based social enterprise which focuses on providing a specialised and unique counselling service to those in the local area. HumAnima CICs Director, Kathryn, has lived in the area for most of her life and feels committed to assisting the local community. At present HumAnima CICs developing projects are centred on a counselling service for disadvantaged communities who otherwise may not be able to access such vital aid. The company is also aiming to work together with local businesses and establishments to offer its services.

<http://www.humanima.co.uk/>

- **Globethics.net Library**

Globethics.net is a worldwide ethics network based in Geneva, with an international Board of Foundation of eminent persons. It provides an electronic platform for ethical reflection and action. The aim of Globethics.net is to ensure that people in all regions of the world are empowered to reflect and act on ethical issues. In order to ensure access to knowledge resources in applied ethics, Globethics.net has developed its Globethics.net Library, the leading global digital library on ethics.

<http://www.globethics.net/web/ge/library/libraries-home>

- **Real Men Are Kind To Animals**

A non-profit organisation based on the quote from Charles Darwin: 'The love of all creatures is the most noble attribute of man'.

<http://www.facebook.com/realmenarekindtoanimals>

- **AnimalConcepts**

Caring for wild animals and the ecosystems they inhabit and for captive animals in a wide variety of settings such as wildlife parks, zoos, aquaria, research laboratories, farms or at your home. This ensures the best animal welfare possible results. AnimalConcepts collaborates with other professionals to develop high standard animal welfare programs and further our knowledge about animals welfare and animal rights.

<http://www.animalconcepts.eu>

- **Animal Aid**

The Victorian Animal Aid Trust (Animal Aid) is an Animal Welfare organisation dedicated to the care of all lost, unwanted and abused animals. Animal Aid has a clear vision and commitment to the ideal of animals and humans living in harmony, and to take a leadership role in achieving the best outcome for animal welfare. It operates as an 'Open Door' shelter that never refuses an animal in need and will only euthanase any animal as a last resort.

<http://www.animalaid.org.au/>

- **James McWilliams**

James is a historian and writer based in Austin, Texas. His writing on food, agriculture, and animals has appeared in the *New York Times*, *Harper's*, *The Washington Post*, *Slate*, *Forbes*, *Travel and Leisure*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The International Herald Tribune*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, and *The Texas Observer*. He is a professor at Austin State University.

<http://james-mcwilliams.com/>

Profiles: Animal practitioners, activists and animal studies scholars

Dr John Hadley



My parents were cat people. I remember we had 11 at one stage! Mum and Dad had their favourites, my brother and I each had a cat, and the rest were basically strays. We lived near bushland and every so often a stray would appear and hang around. Sometimes they became 'tame'; usually they just hung warily near the back door. I remember Dad used to play quite roughly with the cats. He would scratch their stomachs and slide them across the floor. Frequently they scratched him badly and drew blood. He used to say the blood was 'a sign of affection.'

The cats ruled. If there was a cat asleep on a chair it was just bad luck for the human, you had to sit on the floor or let the cat sit on your lap. As well as cats, we would host the neighbourhood dogs. Mum would feed them leftover sausages and chops – which is all we ate for the most part. We were a meat and one veg family. Animal loving for sure but vegetarianism was something for 'whackos.' My parents were working class made good. Not hippies at all. "Menzie's Liberals"

you could call them. I think they both had left school by year nine. I never saw my father read a book. He and Mum were just not in a position to reflect upon the broader aspects and implications of their love for animals.

I became interested in animal rights during my first year of university. I remember reading the opening chapter to *Animal Liberation* for an environmental politics course. I closed the book and said to my partner, 'How would you feel about us going vego?' I was studying philosophy and had a great deal of respect for logical argument and philosophical method. I was struck by the analogy between racism, sexism and speciesism. While it made perfect sense, I think the world-shattering implications of equal consideration for all sentient beings didn't really hit home until a few years later when I was doing post-graduate study and became more familiar with ethical theory and the foundation of ethics generally.

My research has covered a wide range of topics in animal rights: duties to free-roaming animals, the limits of veterinary expenditure, violence on behalf of animals, public communication of animal research, the harm of confinement. My PhD outlined a theory of property rights for nonhuman animals as a means of reconciling environmentalism with animal rights. At the University of Western Sydney, I'm presently working with an expert on dingo territorial behaviour with the aim of developing a pilot site for an animal property rights system.

Dr Tess Williams



Following a BA in Literature and Creative Writing, I did an MA in creative writing at the University of Western Australia. The novel written for that degree – *Map of Power* – was science fiction but probably could more accurately be identified as ecofiction. It was a post-apocalyptic scenario which included themes such as biodiversity, biological appropriation, gene and seed patenting, alternative technology and climate change. This novel was published by Random House in 1996.

My second novel, *Sea as Mirror*, published four years later, took me into the territory of human-animal relations and I explored the notion of a symbiotic relationship, mediated by technology, between humans and Orcas. That book was published by Harper Collins in Australia and short-listed for

the Australian Aurealis Award and the James Tiptree Jr Award in America. The book offered an imaginary for a different kind of human-animal experience and foregrounded the relationship of humans to nature and to non-humans within the narrative.

My recently completed theoretical PhD was on evolutionary narratives and worked also to look at human connections to nature and non-human animals. For me it is crucial for us as a culture to examine our scientific and imaginary narratives to understand our historical relationship with nature and how to improve it. With that in mind, I am currently undertaking a postdoctoral Fellowship at UWA researching scientific, cultural and literary narratives of cetaceans. The Fellowship for me is a wonderful opportunity to study whales and dolphins as flagship species with respect to changing attitudes to non-humans, and it will also give me the time to explore issues around non-humans while writing another fiction book.

Sally Healy



I have always been around animals; from the cats we kept in our apartment in Hong Kong when I was a child, to the horses and dogs we had when living on a small property in Rockhampton, to dogs and cats in suburbia. My personal relationship with animals has caused me to question the relationship other people have with them – whether it's with companion animals or the animals they use for food, clothing, or entertainment.

After completing a degree in Biology in 2009, I transitioned into social science and I am now in my second year of my PhD at Griffith University where I am studying the human-animal relationship. I am lucky in that I have been able to embark on a research path within a field that is growing rapidly and provokes strong opinions and perspectives in the media and within the wider community. Presenting at the AASG Conference in Brisbane last year gave me the opportunity to meet others involved in human-animal studies and gain an appreciation of the diversity of this field.

Through my doctoral project I am examining the connection between consumers and the animal-based foods they eat. I am interested in their awareness and understanding of modern farming practices, whether they are concerned about the treatment of farm animals, and if so, whether this concern translates to what products they buy. In July of this year I presented some of my preliminary results at the Minding Animals Conference in Utrecht, The Netherlands. The conference showcased the latest research in human-animal studies: philosophy, sociology, law, biology, conservation, among many other disciplines.

The first stage of my doctoral research was an online survey I distributed that gathered information on consumption of eggs, pork, and chicken, and quantified knowledge of farming systems in Australia. It also examined attitudes towards the treatment of animals, preferences for animal-based foods (including labelling), and socio-demographics. The other presentations at the conference reinforced the idea that we are all working towards a common goal and there are many ways of getting there.

The next stages of my research will consist of both qualitative and quantitative methods to further explore the factors that influence consumer concern for the welfare of farm animals and the implications for consumer behaviour. Issues on the labelling of meat and eggs have gained media attention recently and I am interested in how producers and consumers will respond to this.

I hope my research will add to our knowledge on this and drive the need for welfare assurances in animal farming in the future.

Dr Dinesh Wadiwel



I am a lecturer in human rights and socio-legal studies at the School of Social and Political Sciences, University of Sydney. I have previously taught in Sociology and Politics at the University of Western Sydney, Macquarie University and the University of Notre Dame Australia.

I have had a different sort of trajectory into being an academic. Most of my work experience has been in the non government sector, doing social justice work in relation to poverty, disability and race. I was employed as Senior Policy Officer at the Council of Social Service of NSW (NCOSS) for a number of years, and was a previous Executive Officer of National Ethnic Disability Alliance (NEDA), the national peak organization representing people from Non English Speaking Backgrounds with disability. I had been studying through much of that period, completing a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in philosophy and politics at Macquarie University, and a PhD in political and cultural theory at the University of Western Sydney.

I fell into animal studies in a non-direct way. I had been deeply concerned by our treatment of animals since I was a teenager, and had started to sense a strong inconsistency in social justice approaches that sought freedom for humans from violence and oppression, yet remained silent on human violence towards animals. However it wasn't until my PhD studies, when I began looking at state violence and political sovereignty, and reading authors such as Michel Foucault, Giorgio Agamben and Jacques Derrida, that I started finding more promising ways to articulate some of these links between human violence towards humans and human violence towards animals.

At present I am completing a book manuscript for Rodopi Press tentatively titled *Animal Sovereignities*. The research examines the relationship between non-human life and the political sphere, with the aim of understanding the political dimension of the relationships between humans and non-human animals, and the possibilities for using contemporary theories of sovereignty to reframe our understanding of violence towards non-humans. I am also co-editor of a proposed volume entitled *Foucault and Animals* (with Matthew Chrulew) the first volume of its type to bring together work by theorists applying Foucault to understanding human relationships with animals.

Rowena Braddock



I have recently completed my PhD under the supervision of Natalya Lusty in the Department of Gender and Cultural Studies at the University of Sydney where I am currently employed as a casual lecturer. My thesis takes Jacques Derrida's concept of unconditional hospitality as its subject and explores the difficult and animating relation between subjectivity and alterity in its many and varied inflections, including in the context of literary and rhetorical treatments of human-animal relations.

I first became interested in reading the interdisciplinary intersections of philosophical and literary engagements with 'the question of the animal' when studying with Hélène Cixous at Paris8 in 2005-6. During this period Cixous was

preoccupied with teasing out the implications of Derrida's late work on the *animot/animaux* and I was particularly intrigued by her eclectic and creative mode of criticism and textual engagement. I remain committed to pursuing the ethical and material implications of fictive and zoopoetic approaches to serious and preoccupying questions such as thinking about how the co-implication of human and animal being radically alters our understanding of what and how living means.

As a member of HARN (Sydney University Human Animal Rights Network) I regularly interact with academics and practitioners working in diverse animal studies fields. Recently, I have given a paper exploring the problematics of the contemporary art preoccupation with taxidermy at the recent HARN 'Animal Death' Conference, and I will be presenting on "Animot/Animaux Passion" at the Cosmopolitan Animals Conference in London later this year. I have articles on my thesis subject forthcoming in *Mosaic* and *Humanimalia*.

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