

Animail

Bulletin of the Australasian Animal Studies Association



May / June 2021

Contents

AASA News.....	2
Chair’s Report.....	2
Unfair Negative Commentary and Hate Speech – A Resource.....	3
Member News.....	5
New Member Publications.....	6
Recent activities by members.....	7
Member profiles.....	8
Animal Studies News.....	12
Presentations and events.....	12
Calls for Papers and Conferences.....	13
Grants and Fellowships.....	16
Art Feature: Ronald Binnie Zoonosis.....	17
New Books in our Field.....	18

AASA News

Chair's Report

Dear Members,

I write this as very chilly weather sweeps across Sydney – for those of you in the southern hemisphere, I hope you are all staying warm! I am pleased to share another bumper edition of *Animail*. My sincere thanks to Peter Chen, Esther Alloun and Rick De Vos for all for their work in compiling this edition.



Unfair Negative Commentary and Hate Speech

You might be aware that there has been an ongoing conversation within AASA on unfair negative commentary and hate speech – my thanks to everyone who has contributed so far to developing our approach on this. In this issue of *Animail* we are pleased to include a resource on dealing with unfair negative commentary and hate speech – we hope this will be useful for all members, in particular for the many early career researchers we have in our Association doing vital work. This resource will also be made available on our website – stay tuned.

AASA Online Workshop - Creative Non-Fiction in Animal Studies

As you may know, in February 2021, AASA organised an inaugural series of “masterclasses” targeting early career scholars and those new to the field of animal studies. We were very excited to be working with Artsfront (<https://artsfront.com/>) to host these events, using their online platform.

I am very pleased to announce a second master class event on the 20th July 2021: “Creative Non-Fiction in Animal Studies.” This will be a great opportunity to engage with AASA member, Danielle Celermajer, and hear her talk about her amazing new book, *Summertime* (Penguin, 2021). Further details below in this issue.

AASA Conference – 30 November- 2 December 2021

I am very pleased to announce the dates for the 2021 AASA conference – **30 November to 2 December 2021**. The conference will be online only, and will continue our online partnership with the ArtsFront platform. And thanks again to our brilliant conference committee for all their work: Peter Chen, Daniela Rizzo, Yamini Narayanan, Muhammad Kavesh and Rebecca Hendershott. Stay tuned for further details and our call for papers!

Dinesh Wadiwel
AASA Chair

Unfair Negative Commentary and Hate Speech – A Resource

Much scholarship in Animal Studies challenges mainstream practices involving the use of animals, and as such this research can draw negative criticism from vested interests. This is particularly the case for intersectional work, which often highlights the interconnection of race, nationalisms, gender, sexuality and ability.

Researchers in Animal Studies may at some stage experience *unfair* negative commentary about their work, sometimes in the form of offensive comments, whether through social media or email. In some cases such commentary might be described as 'hate speech', which is broadly understood to be public speech or expression which is likely to offend, insult, humiliate or intimidate in a discriminatory way, and / or has the capacity to incite or encourage violence. Many legal jurisdictions have laws which prohibit hate speech.

While AASA supports open and informed debate, it condemns hate speech in all its forms.

It can be confronting to experience unfair negative commentary or hate speech, and you have a right not to be exposed to this speech.

If:

- you are a postgraduate student or a staff member working in a University or other formal organisational setting, you should contact your immediate supervisor to discuss concerns you have about comments received, and seek advice and support on the appropriate course of action (if any). In some circumstances you may also consider referring the matter to the police.
- you are not a staff/student at a university then you should seek advice from a scholarly association (such as AASA- see below). In some circumstances you may also consider referring the matter to the police.

In the event that you receive negative comments on social media or in other ways, AASA suggests the following approach:

1. Don't deal with it alone. Discuss it with a work colleague or friend. It may help you decide on how to respond.
2. IGNORE: Generally speaking, random messages from strangers are best ignored. You may choose to 'block' the sender or delete them.
3. DON'T IGNORE IF:
 - They repeatedly send emails/messages.
 - The number of harassers increases.
 - They use threatening language.
 - They send material via regular post.
 - They call or message you on your phone.
 - They harass people close to you.

AASA advice and support

If you are an AASA member and are subject to unfair negative commentary and / or hate speech as part of your scholarship, and would like further advice, please contact AASA Chair, Dr Dinesh Wadiwel at dinesh.wadiwel@sydney.edu.au

AASA Event



Creative Non-Fiction in Animal Studies: An Afternoon with Professor Danielle Celermajer

2-4pm, Tuesday 20th July 2020

Some of the best work in animal studies engages readers through compelling and creative story telling about the relations between humans, animals and environments. In this masterclass, Professor Danielle Celermajer, author of the critically acclaimed work *Summertime: Reflections on a Vanishing Future* (Penguin 2021), will explore creative non-fiction as an approach in making sense of more-than-human worlds. Participants will have an opportunity to read sections of *Summertime*, and also to workshop their own creative non-fiction writing or experiment with this form.

This is an interactive online event, presented by the Australasian Animal Studies Association (AASA), and is aimed at higher degree and early career researchers interested in animal studies.

Registration Cost

Members AASA – Free

Non-Members AASA– \$60 waged; \$15 unwaged

Event URL: <https://artsfront.com/event/134464-creative-non-fiction-in-animal-studies-an-afternoon-with-professor-danielle-celermajer>



Member News

Multispecies justice talks series

A series of online talks on multispecies justice is currently underway – it brings together international scholars working on the possibility of justice in more than human realms through a variety of theoretical and applied research projects.

**MULTISPECIES
JUSTICE**

For a list of events see here: <https://multispeciesjustice.space/#events>

The next talk is planned for 4 June and will feature Dr Alyssa Paredes's work.

Congratulations to Emily Major, awarded a Culture & Animals Foundation grant

Emily Major is a PhD Candidate in Human-Animal Studies at the University of Canterbury in New Zealand. She received a grant for "Framing Possums: Observations of Conservation Education in Aotearoa New Zealand and Potential for Compassionate Conservation." This project looks at the brushtail possum in Aotearoa New Zealand and how they are framed as a "pest." Her research consists of observational fieldwork, semi-structured interviews, and textual analysis of mainstream "possum-as-pest" narratives.



New blog: Framing Speciesism

Emily Major (PhD student in Human-Animal Studies at the University of Canterbury in Christchurch, New Zealand) has been funded by the Culture & Animals Foundation Grant (2021) to produce a blog about how humans 'frame' nonhuman species (with the current focus being on the possum). Emily will be writing regularly about her experience as a vegan feminist pursuing academic activism in an environment where these views are marginalised and ridiculed. Guest writers and contributors will be welcomed to share their ideas.



<https://framingspeciesism.com/blog/>

News is posted regularly on our Facebook page – follow us here:

<https://www.facebook.com/AASA-Australasian-Animal-Studies-Association-480316142116752/>, on Twitter at @AASA_Animals, and our website:

<http://animalstudies.org.au/archives/category/news>

New Member Publications

Borrowy, I., Justine **Philip**, M. Armiero, M. Mart and S. Muller (2021) 'Toxins, Me and Everybody Else: On Science & Silence Collaborative Forum', *Journal of Environmental History*, Oxford University Press.

Coleman, E., Rebecca **Scollen**, B. Batorowicz and D. Akenson (2021) 'Artistic Freedom or Animal Cruelty? Contemporary Visual Art Practice That Involves Live and Deceased Animals', *Animals*, 11, 812. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ani11030812>

Gelber, Katharine and Siobhan **O'Sullivan** (2021) "Cat got your tongue? Free speech, democracy and Australia's 'ag-gag' laws", *Australian Journal of Political Science*, 56(1): 19-34.

Gildfind, Helen (2021) 'In the Long Grass' [flash fiction], *Longleaf Review*, <https://longleafreview.com/hc-gildfind/>

Kavesh, Muhammad A. (2021) 'Sensuous entanglements: a critique of cockfighting conceived as a "cultural text"', *The Senses and Society*, Online first [free copy available through this link] <https://www.tandfonline.com/eprint/XXXNC85BVCGNWXGZ52FAG/full?target=10.1080/17458927.2020.1858653>

Markwell, Kevin (2021) 'Why do we love koalas so much? Because they look like baby humans', *The Conversation*, 18 February, <https://theconversation.com/why-do-we-love-koalas-so-much-because-they-look-like-baby-humans-153619>

Peart, R., C. Woodhouse, S. Schlaepfer, Deidre **Koolen-Bourke** and L. Taylor (2021) *Caring for the Landscapes of Aotearoa New Zealand Synthesis Report*, Environmental Defence Society, New Zealand.

McEwan, Alexandra (2021) "The Illegal Trade of Endangered Douc Langurs in Vietnam and Across its Borders", *Education for Nature Vietnam*, 21 May, <https://env4wildlife.org/2021/05/21/the-illegal-trade-of-endangered-douc-langurs-in-vietnam-and-across-its-borders/>

Narayanan, Yamini (2021) 'Animating caste: Visceral geographies of pigs, caste and violent nationalisms in Chennai city', *Urban Geography*. DOI:10.1080/02723638.2021.1890954, <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/02723638.2021.1890954?journalCode=rurb20>

Yerbury, Rachel, W.E. Boyd and B. Weiler (2021) 'Encounters with wild, ecotour and captive marine mammals: what do they tell us about human wellbeing and environmental behaviour?', *Tourism in Marine Environments*, 16(1).

Recent activities by members



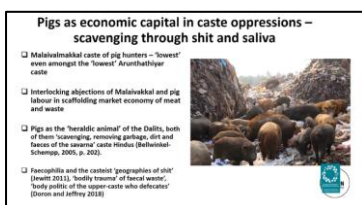
Ronald Binnie's work titled 'Zoonosis' was selected as part of the exhibition 'Pandemic - Personal Response to COVID-19' and will be on show at the Royal Scottish Academy from 22nd May to 20th June.

More details here:

<https://www.royal.scottishacademy.org/exhibitions/pandemic-a-personal-response-to-covid-19-2/>

Ronald's PhD thesis titled 'The Body in the Gallery; Posthumanist Ethics and the Use of Nonhuman Animals in Contemporary Art' has also recently passed, congratulations Ronald!

See page 17
for an Art
Feature of
Ronald's work



Yamini Narayanan delivered a public lecture as part of the Animal Studies Research Institute (ASRI) Distinguished Lecture series, hosted by Victoria University, Toronto on 16th March 2021, on 'Animating caste: Visceral geographies of pigs, caste and violent nationalisms in Chennai city'.

Lecture recording available here: <https://onlineacademiccommunity.uvic.ca/asri/video-gallery/#2020g>



AASA members Danielle Celermajer and Fiona Probyn-Rapsey, talked about Danielle's new book - *Summertime: Reflections on a Vanishing Future* (2021) at the Wollongong Art Gallery, March 11, 2021.

See the discussion at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=azy-nBorWUs&t=2s>

Send new member publications and member news to: peter.chen@sydney.edu.au

Member profiles

Roslyn Appleby

Although I grew up in the suburbs of Sydney, I was lucky to inherit a passionate attachment to nature through holidays with my family of origin. Caravanning was a favourite activity, and my father always chose the most remote location he could find to plant our family of six plus the family dog, Sandy. On arrival, Dad's idea of a holiday was to abandon all of us and walk off into the bush with a billie can to collect blackberries. What my mum loved was the minimalist lifestyle and minimum housekeeping. Both my parents were stoic anti-materialists and sought a simple life, as much as that was possible in mid-century suburban Australia. Sandy fitted well into this simple life and accompanied us everywhere: he always rode in the front seat of the car, he ran in races at Dad's air force picnics and, like Dad, he loved our home fires in winter. Yet, as a child, I don't think I really appreciated how significant a member of the family he was.

It wasn't until I welcomed another family dog, Sista, into my own family that I really understood how deep our relationship with other animals can be. Sista, a blue cattle dog cross, had lived with several of my close relatives before she came to me as a companion. Now an elder, she had little tolerance for children or tradesmen, she continuously shed tumbleweeds of fur, she barked



Roslyn and Sista

inconsolably when left alone, and was deaf to the shouts from cranky neighbours. Despite these quirks, we settled into a relationship of affection and mutual regard, and she fully occupied our home with an air of jaunty insouciance. I loved her and she was devoted to me.

As a sociolinguist, I was intrigued by the modes of communication that grew between us: Sista watched my every move and learned the semiotics of my various daily routines; I watched her detailed body movements to gauge her moods and desires¹. The more I considered her intelligence and emotions, and her ways of being in the world, the more deeply I thought about my relationship with other animals. I stopped eating animal flesh, thought more carefully about sentience and emotion in other animals, and started to read more in the field of animal studies. I turned my thoughts to how I might use my privileged position as an academic to integrate environmental awareness into my scholarship and teaching in the remaining years of my academic career. I aimed to model a practice of attending to the living beings around me – in my daily life – as a way towards a more ethical engagement with the natural world.

After Sista left me, I took up ocean swimming and my daily immersion in this new aquatic world led to a series of studies about what I saw and experienced, focusing primarily on sharks. I became fascinated by the way that sharks are represented, first in the news media, and then in the arts, in film, and in the natural sciences. Some of these interests were incorporated into my applied

¹ I wrote about Sista in a short chapter called 'Dog Days', published in a little book of poems, essays and stories on our essential connections with other animals. <https://www.amazon.com/Animal-Companions-Doctors-People/dp/0889555982>

linguistics teaching and writing², some was presented at conferences, and eventually put together in a book³. Then, when I moved into a high-rise apartment, I became intrigued by the bird life around me. Here again, when I followed news stories about human engagement with birds, I was able to incorporate this attention into my teaching, presentations, and writing⁴ in ways that I hope were influential.

Having left full time academia I now have more freedom to look, to listen, and to wonder at the beauty of the natural world.

Jane Bone

I am an advocate for young children and their education as well as for animals. It occurred to me that these interests could be brought together. I then realised that while the animal as image or reality, soft toy or cartoon, permeates children's lives that the influence of the animal in education is almost entirely ignored. One of my publications was a literature review for the education field to bring the role of the animal forward. In the famous Italian preschools of Reggio Emilia, the parents and educators are the first and second teachers, the environment the third teacher, and I proposed the animal as fourth teacher.



Children in Melbourne feed farm chickens

Early childhood teachers are often asked of their memories of childhood and the request to pinpoint a memory is often asked of people who are into animal issues. The questions most often asked are, when did you decide to become vegetarian/vegan or what happened to make you join an animal activist group? I remember being very young when I thought it was not quite right to eat an animal that had a name and personality and who had been living at the bottom of the garden and been looked after, protected from foxes etc. and who then suddenly turned up on the dining table. These moments are the 'Santa Claus' memories when people remember suddenly realising that their parents are not so truthful or kind as they are supposed to be. These narratives are also influenced by culture and the requirements of society; what is sentimentality for some is problematic when animals are a means of survival or are a commodity. Personal memories, like all stories, are never universal.

I find this in New Zealand where I now live and notice that some of my perspectives are hard to align with the Predator Free New Zealand initiatives and that promote the eradication of certain animals designated as 'pests'. This drive for trapping and killing animals includes school programmes with young children. I get that these animals have a huge impact on the

² Appleby, R. & Pennycook, A. 2017, Swimming with Sharks, Ecological Feminism and Posthuman Language Politics. *Critical Inquiry in Language Studies*, 14(2–3), 239–261. DOI: 10.1080/15427587.2017.1279545

³ Sexing the animal in a post humanist world: A critical feminist approach (Routledge 2019)
<https://www.routledge.com/Sexing-the-Animal-in-a-Post-Humanist-World-A-Critical-Feminist-Approach/Appleby/p/book/9780367728823>

⁴ Appleby, R. 2020, 'Human-animal relationships in literacy education: Reading the Australian magpie'. *Literacy and Numeracy Studies Journal*, 28(1), 6-16. DOI: 10.5130/Ins.v28i1.6958

environment, and realise what destruction they have caused, but there are certainly moments of ethical struggle here.

Pet or pest

As part of their education, teachers learn about child development. For me, the experiments with animals that often form the basis for certain aspects of psychological theories are disturbing. I think of Pavlov's dogs used to support Behaviourist theory; the rhesus monkeys whose love for each other was exploited for Attachment Theory; the animals tortured to support Seligman's positive psychology. All these theories could be explored by close observation of the human animal. These instrumental uses of animals in laboratories, and the cruelty involved, is seldom (if ever) critiqued. This filters through to practices in early childhood environments where teachers are encouraged to introduce animals into kindergarten's and preschools. I have never heard a discussion of what this might be like for the animal. The work of a PhD student I supervised, Dr Tracy Young, challenged practices that put the human animal firmly at the top of the animal hierarchy.

On a more positive note, I love exploring the play of children, an activity that I call 'metamorphic play' and this makes links to another area of research, children and spirituality. Metamorphic play recognises that children have an amazing ability to become an animal, sometimes for an instant and sometimes over long periods of time. Children often embody, through movement and sounds, their chosen animal. The other day I overheard a group of children in a shop. While their parents were occupied one child lay on the ground with his hands and feet in the air and became a panda. The others discussed what he should eat, deciding on green bamboo. There was a great deal of



Children in Norway become goats

swishing and rolling the panda around. He looked very convincing. Another child joined the first one on the floor and a panda fight began; this was soon stopped when the adults noticed. What they might not have noticed was the accurate stance of the child who became the panda and the knowledge the children brought to his care. When fighting, the children just swiped at the air with their hands/paws and didn't actually touch each other. There was a lot of praise from the group and stroking of the 'good pandas'.

Teachers of young children see this play happen every day. It is fascinating and I argue

that it shows how children connect with animals. Unfortunately, much educational endeavour is dedicated to making sure that children begin to think of themselves as different and superior to their animal other. This learning underpins much damage to the earth and to other species. It is important that educators introduce different projects that promote empathy and care.

I also write about animals and tourism and my work with animal issues is ongoing as I negotiate a different context and celebrate the latest 'win' for animals - live export of animals from Aotearoa New Zealand will end over the next two years.

I

Among twenty snowy mountains,
The only moving thing
Was the eye of the blackbird.

II

I was of three minds,
Like a tree
In which there are three blackbirds.

III

The blackbird whirled in the autumn
winds.
It was a small part of the pantomime.

IV

A man and a woman
Are one.
A man and a woman and a blackbird
Are one.

V

I do not know which to prefer,
The beauty of inflections
Or the beauty of innuendoes,
The blackbird whistling
Or just after.

VI

Icicles filled the long window
With barbaric glass.
The shadow of the blackbird
Crossed it, to and fro.
The mood
Traced in the shadow
An indecipherable cause.

VII

O thin men of Haddam,
Why do you imagine golden birds?
Do you not see how the blackbird
Walks around the feet
Of the women about you?

VIII

I know noble accents
And lucid, inescapable rhythms;
But I know, too,
That the blackbird is involved
In what I know.

IX

When the blackbird flew out of sight,
It marked the edge
Of one of many circles.

X

At the sight of blackbirds
Flying in a green light,
Even the bawds of euphony
Would cry out sharply.

XI

He rode over Connecticut
In a glass coach.
Once, a fear pierced him,
In that he mistook
The shadow of his equipage
For blackbirds.

XII

The river is moving.
The blackbird must be flying.

XIII

It was evening all afternoon.
It was snowing
And it was going to snow.
The blackbird sat
In the cedar-limbs.

- Wallace Stevens, "Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Blackbird" (1954)

Animal Studies News



NSW Parliament releases report on long-term sustainability of the dairy industry

On 13 May the Industry Portfolio released a report on the New South Wales Dairy Industry. While focused on retaining and sustaining Dairy production, the report includes a discussion of Animal Welfare Concerns, and recommends that the NSW Government review the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979*.

The report can be found at: <https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/inquiries/Pages/inquiry-details.aspx?pk=2612#tab-reportsandgovernmentresponses>



Call for submissions for the review of Victoria's wildlife

<https://engage.vic.gov.au/independent-review-victorias-wildlife-act-1975>

The *Wildlife Act 1975* sets the rules around how people interact with wildlife in Victoria. It hasn't been reviewed since it became law more than 45 years ago. Since then, community values and expectations around wildlife have changed significantly. In May 2020, the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change announced a comprehensive review of the Wildlife Act. To inform the review, an independent expert advisory panel (the Panel), was appointed by the Minister. The Panel will prepare a report for the Minister with their recommendations by the end of August 2021.

Submission due date: 30th June.

Presentations and events

Recent advances in animal welfare science VIII

Virtual UFAW Animal Welfare Conference: 29th - 30th June 2021

The event is a 2-day event, and you will need to register for each day if you wish to attend both. This virtual event is free to attend. For those who are unable to attend the 'live' event, recordings of the talks will be available after the event. A link to watch will be posted after the conference.

Registration and Program: <https://www.ufaw.org.uk/ufaw-events/recent-advances-in-animal-welfare-science-viii>

One Welfare World Conference 2021

Virtual event, 15-16 September 2021

One Welfare describes the interrelationships between animal welfare, human wellbeing and the physical and social environment. The One Welfare Framework comprises five sections which are in-tended to capture the different multidimensional aspects of the concept. This conference

centres around the five One Welfare Framework Sections and includes a special section on One Welfare and COVID-19.

Registration now open: <https://conference2021.onewelfareworld.org/>

2021 Animal Law Review Symposium: Queering Animal Liberation

The Queering Animal Liberation session of the Animal Law Review Symposium is now available online: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K2JjD8kkamU>

Writer, educator, and activist patrice jones analyses the connections between queer rights, feminism, and animal liberation.

British Animal Studies Network meetings on “violence”

Recordings of this series of online events that took place across March, April and May 2021 is available at: <https://www.britishanimalstudiesnetwork.org.uk/PastMeetings/Violence.aspx>

Featuring:

- Dinesh Wadiwel
- Orla Shorthall
- Emily Morgan
- Sune Borkfett
- Kathryn Haley-Halinski
- And many others...

Calls for Papers and Conferences

Call for Papers: Special Issue: Sanctuaries

Southern Cultures

Due date: 26 July 2021

Guest Editor: Annette M. Rodríguez (University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill)

Southern Cultures, the award-winning, peer-reviewed quarterly from UNC’s Centre for the Study of the American South, encourages submissions from scholars, writers, and artists for a special issue, Sanctuaries, to be published in Summer 2022. We will accept submissions for this issue through July 26, 2021, at <https://southerncultures.submittable.com/Submit>



For this issue, we seek submissions that reveal practices and places of sanctuary. We understand sanctuary in its broadest form—as sanctified, sacred, and holy, and as safety, refuge, haven, and relief. Sanctuary is, in the words of poet and professor Nikky Finney, the “informal sacred.” We look to the long history and future of southern peoples, and people who traverse southern US geographies, who continue to envision and construct sanctuary in both permanence and impermanence.

Call for Papers: Anthropology and Conservation

Royal Anthropological Institute (UK), 25-29 October 2021, Virtual conference

Due date: 2 July 2021



Panel: Living with Diversity in a More-than-Human World

We explore how the transformation of human interactions with living beings through the forces of capitalism and neoliberalism leads us into a precarious existence, jeopardizing both biological and socio-cultural diversity. Drawing from the works of Haraway, Tsing, and Kohn, contributors to this panel are asked to re-think our connections with more-than-humans by taking guidance from local communities and Indigenous ways of co-existing with other beings. Many hybrid communities, both human and nonhuman, have developed ways for living alongside one another, including multiple species of mammal, biodiverse forms within forests, communities of fungi or plankton, or even humans existing with zoonotic diseases.

This panel will explore how a post-industrial approach, perhaps including habitat destruction for commercial gain, Western-centric forms of conservation, intensive agriculture, or industrial-scale wet markets, can be detrimental to local socio-cultural communities while impacting species diversity. Instead of a destructive way of engaging with other beings, we could turn to different kinds of co-existence that more readily encompasses more-than-human worlds.

Conveners: Muhammad Kavesh (University of Toronto) and Natasha Fijn (ANU)

Discussant: Eben Kirksey (Deakin University)

Please propose your paper at: <https://nomadit.co.uk/conference/rai2021/p/10229>

For questions, please contact Muhammad.Kavesh@utoronto.ca

Call for Papers: Human-Animal Relationships and Welfare in the Anthropocene: Pandemics, Climate Change, and Other Disasters

Journal of Applied Animal Welfare Science

Due date: 30 June



The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted numerous scenarios in which human and nonhuman animal lives and livelihoods are intertwined with each other and the environment. Both the causes and impacts of the pandemic have brought attention to ongoing and emerging concerns about how humans conceptualize, accomplish, and address human-animal relationships at various levels of scale. These issues span the relationships we have with wildlife; animals used for scientific experimentation; and farmed, captive, and companion animals. Many of these relationships have suffered from anthropogenic actions that also factor into climate change, and other disasters caused by climate change.

The Special Issue will focus on convergences between the health, welfare, and well-being of people, other animals, and the environment, considering the anthropogenic changes that are placing both human and nonhuman animal lives and livelihoods at risk. We seek research that investigates the causes, impacts, and connections between, on the one hand, animal welfare and human-animal relationships, and on the other hand, pandemics (including COVID-19), climate

change, and other disasters. Submissions are welcome that address any of the various nodes, junctures and crossings that exist between these various factors.

Please address questions, and submit abstract of 300 words (max.) and bio, 200 words (max), to: gala.argent@animalsandsociety.org and ivy.collier@animalsandsociety.org

Call for Papers: NonfictionNow

December 2021, in-person and online

Due date: 5 June 2021



NonfictionNOW is the world's foremost gathering of nonfiction writers, teachers, readers and students from around the world. Unique in being neither a conventional academic conference nor a writers' festival, NonfictionNOW is a conversation among peers, from well-established writers and artists to those just starting out, to explore the past, present, and future of nonfiction.

Panels, huis (roundtables) and keynotes discuss the myriad forms of nonfiction, from the video essay and graphic essays, to the memoir, lyric essay, and literary journalism.

We invite your participation! Call for Proposals: Panels and Hui (Roundtables)

<http://www.nonfictionnow.org/call-for-proposals-2021>

Call for Papers: Temporalities of Urban Natures: Imaginaries, Narratives, and Practice

September 2021, March and June 2022; Venice,

Malmö, Berlin, and online

Due date: 15 June 2021



Finding viable avenues for multispecies coexistence is becoming a defining feature in the Anthropocene. Only in the past year, the concurrent emergencies of climate change and SARSCov2 have thrown into light the intimate relations between human-shaped environments and the disastrous deterioration of formerly thriving ecosystems. Consequently, more-than-human appropriations of urban space illuminate complex challenges, but also potential solutions, to a sustainable co-existing in the Anthropocene city.

Please send a paper abstract (300 words maximum plus 3 keywords) and a short bio (100 words maximum), stating which workshop you wish to present at (Venice, Malmö, or Berlin) and if you will be able to attend all three workshops (in person or online).

For the full CfP: <https://urban-nature-temporalities.com/>

Please direct any queries to urban.nature.temporalities@gmail.com

Grants and Fellowships

EA Funds Grant Application

If you have a project you think will improve the world, and it seems like a good fit for one of our Funds, we encourage you to apply.



Grant sizes are typically between \$5,000 and \$100,000, but can be as low as \$1,000 and as high as \$300,000. EA Funds can make grants to individuals, non-profit organizations, academic institutions, and other entities. You do not need to be based in the US or the UK to apply for a grant. If you are unsure whether you are eligible to apply for a grant, please email funds@effectivealtruism.org. All grants are subject to our standard due diligence processes. If you apply for a grant, we may request additional information to verify your identity, and to ensure that your project is providing a genuine public benefit.

We sometimes meet people who did not apply because they thought they wouldn't be funded. Some of them eventually applied and were funded, despite their doubts, because we were excited by their projects. Applying is fast and easy; we really do encourage it!

More information: <https://av20jp3z.paperform.co/?fund=Animal%20Welfare%20Fund>

Human and Wild Boar Relations

3 Year Postdoc - ERC Project

ERC Project BOAR: Veterinarization of Europe? Hunting for Wild Boar Futures in the Time of African Swine Fever

A postdoctoral position is available on the project, *Veterinarization of Europe? Hunting for Wild Boar Futures in the Time of African Swine Fever* – BOAR, funded by the European Research Council (ERC), 2021-2025 (a consolidator grant, PI: Ludek Broz). BOAR is a collaborative, ethnographic, investigation of the relationship between three understudied subjects in anthropology – veterinary medicine, European hunting and wild boars – and how African Swine Fever is radically changing the dynamics between them. This project has two main objectives: first, to examine how European hunting and porcine futures are intertwined, and the role of veterinarians in shaping these futures, and second, through human-boar relations, study how society is becoming increasingly veterinarized, i.e. shaped by veterinary expertise beyond the immediate human-animal relations.



We strongly recommend that prospective applicants contact Ludek Broz (broz@eu.cas.cz) for further information regarding the BOAR ERC project, work conditions, and to discuss potential postdoctoral research proposals, prior to submitting the application.

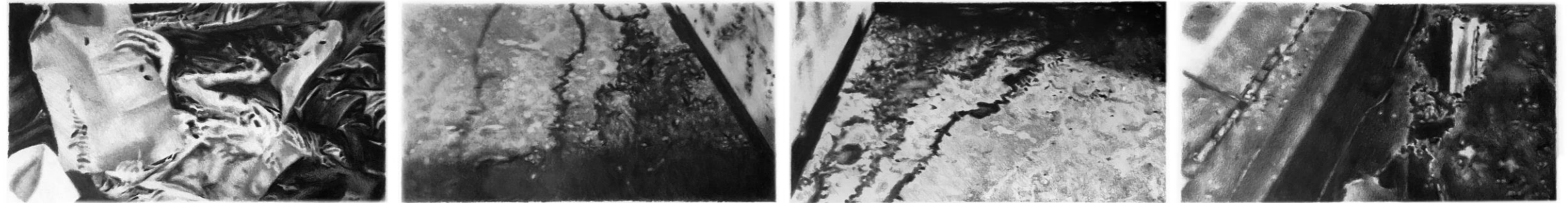
Deadline 21 June 2021

<http://www.eu.avcr.cz/cs/aktuality/Call-for-Applications-Postdoctoral-position/>

Art Feature: Ronald Binnie Zoonosis

About

The work is concerned with the origins of COVID-19 in wet markets, facilitated by the global trade trafficking of so-called wild nonhuman animals and the appalling treatment of all nonhuman animals in industries involving the production of meat.



'Wet Market: New York', graphite, 22cm x 13cm

The imagery of domesticated nonhumans refers to the potential for viruses to develop in the brutally exploitative industrial processes of factory farming and mass food production. I became particularly affected by images of an open dumpster outside a New York wet market, into which the dead bodies of chickens were casually discarded. Their blood flowed from the dumpster, into the gutter before running into the street's drains. To me, this process seemed to visually symbolize the inter-species lines of transmission followed by zoonotic diseases. The series of drawings focus on this.

Artist statement:

The emergence of COVID-19 could almost be interpreted as the modern-day equivalent of a biblical plague, with humanity being punished for the systemic abuse of nature. While clearly not a form of divine retribution, zoonotic viruses must be understood as an inevitable consequence of the way nonhuman species are systematically exploited. The World Health Organisation describes zoonosis as any disease or infection naturally transmissible from vertebrate nonhuman animals to humans (WHO, 2020). The closest match to this coronavirus has been found in a bat in China's Yunnan province and bats are thought to have passed the virus to humans, probably through an intermediate host.

Humans have come to think that we have somehow 'conquered' nature, but the development of zoonotic diseases should dispel that fantasy. My work explores the origins of COVID-19 in wet markets connected to the unrestrained exploitation of wild and domesticated nonhuman animals alike. I became preoccupied with the imagery of a 'dumpster' outside a wet market in New York, where corpses of chickens were casually discarded, bleeding into the gutter and flowing into drains.

Dr Michael Greger, suggests that the next pandemic may be much closer to 'home' in the vast batteries of stacked cages of egg-laying chickens unable even to flap their wings. The more individuals are crammed together "the more spins the virus may get at the roulette wheel while gambling for the pandemic jackpot" (Greger, 2020). In the West, we assume a xenophobic complacency about lethal viruses, passing blame onto cultures that consume 'exotic' nonhuman animals not to Western tastes.



Even if COVID-19 is subdued, it may be a temporary respite. We should reflect on Nobel prize-winning biologist Joseph Lederberg's conviction that, "we live in evolutionary competition with microbes – bacteria and viruses. There is no guarantee that we will be the survivors" (Lederberg, 1988)".

- Ronald J Binnie

'Zoonosis', polyptych consisting of eight panels, oil on canvas, 150cm x 50cm

New Books in our Field

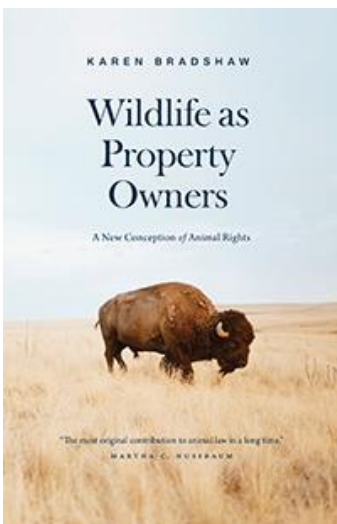


Saving Animals: Multispecies ecologies of rescue and care

Elan Abrell, University of Minnesota Press, 2021

In the past three decades, animal rights advocates have established everything from elephant sanctuaries in Africa to shelters that rehabilitate animals used in medical testing, to homes for farmed animals, abandoned pets, and entertainment animals that have outlived their “usefulness.” *Saving Animals* is the first major ethnography to focus on the ethical issues animating the establishment of such places, where animals who have been mistreated or destined for slaughter can live out their lives simply being animals.

Based on fieldwork at animal rescue facilities across the United States, Abrell asks what “saving,” “caring for,” and “sanctuary” mean. He considers sanctuaries as laboratories where caregivers conceive and implement new models of caring for and relating to animals. He explores the ethical decision making around sanctuary efforts to unmake property-based human–animal relations by creating spaces in which humans interact with animals as autonomous subjects. *Saving Animals* illustrates how caregivers and animals respond by cocreating new human–animal ecologies adapted to the material and social conditions of the Anthropocene.



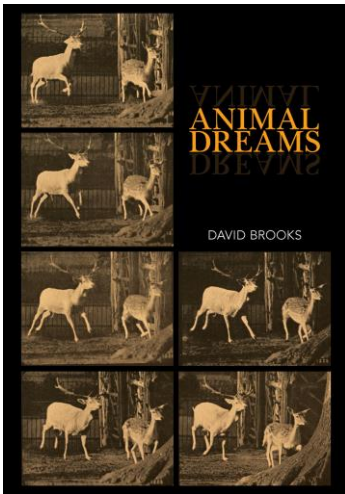
Wildlife as Property Owners: A New Conception of Animal Rights

Karen Bradshaw, University of Chicago Press, 2020

Humankind coexists with every other living thing. People drink the same water, breathe the same air, and share the same land as other animals.

Yet, property law reflects a general assumption that only people can own land. The effects of this presumption are disastrous for wildlife and humans alike. The alarm bells ringing about biodiversity loss are growing louder, and the possibility of mass extinction is real. Anthropocentric property is a key driver of biodiversity loss, a silent killer of species worldwide.

But as law and sustainability scholar Bradshaw shows, if excluding animals from a legal right to own land is causing their destruction, extending the legal right to own property to wildlife may prove its salvation. *Wildlife as Property Owners* advocates for folding animals into our existing system of property law, giving them the opportunity to own land just as humans do—to the betterment of all.



Animal Dreams

David Brooks, University of Sydney Press, 2021

Animal Dreams collects David Brooks' thought-provoking essays about how humans think, dream and write about other species.

Brooks examines how animals have featured in Australian and international literature and culture, from 'The Man from Snowy River' to Rainer Maria Rilke and The Turin Horse, to live-animal exports, veganism, and the culling of native and non-native species. In his piercing, elegant, widely celebrated style, he considers how private and public conversations about animals reflect older and deeper attitudes to our own and other species, and what questions we must ask to move these conversations forward, in what he calls 'the

immense work of undoing'.

For readers interested in animal welfare, conservation, and the relationship between humans and other species, *Animal Dreams* will be an essential, richly rewarding companion.

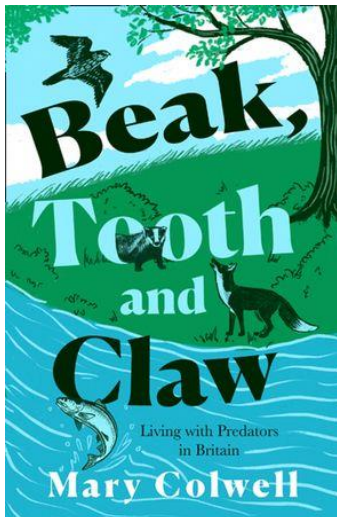


Animal Traffic: Lively Capital in the Global Exotic Pet Trade

Rosemary-Claire Collard, Duke University Press, 2020

Parrots and snakes, wild cats and monkeys - exotic pets can now be found everywhere from skyscraper apartments and fenced suburban backyards to roadside petting zoos. In *Animal Traffic* Collard investigates the multibillion-dollar global exotic pet trade and the largely hidden processes through which exotic pets are produced and traded as lively capital. Tracking the capture of animals in biosphere reserves in Mexico, Guatemala, and Belize; their exchange at exotic animal auctions in the United States; and the attempted rehabilitation of former exotic pets at a wildlife centre in Guatemala, Collard shows how exotic pets are fetishized both as commodities and as objects.

Their capture and sale sever their ties to complex socio-ecological networks in ways that make them appear as if they do not have lives of their own. Collard demonstrates that the enclosure of animals in the exotic pet trade is part of a bioeconomic trend in which life is increasingly commodified and objectified under capitalism. Ultimately, she calls for a "wild life" politics in which animals are no longer enclosed, retain their autonomy, and can live for the sake of themselves.



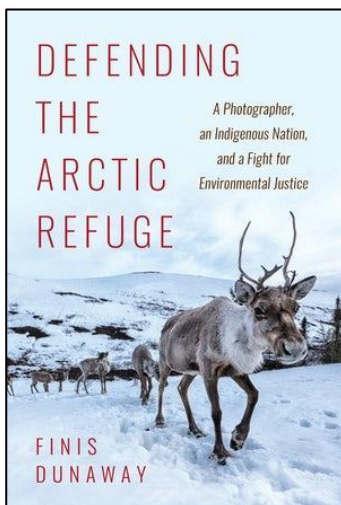
Beak, Tooth and Claw: Living with Predators in Britain

Mary Colwell, Harper Collins, 2021

Foxes, buzzards, crows, badgers, weasels, seals, kites – Britain and Ireland’s predators are impressive and diverse, and they capture our collective imagination. But many consider them to our competition, even our enemies. The problem is that predators eat what we farm or use for sport. From foxes and ravens attacking new-born lambs to weasels eating game-bird chicks, predators compete with us, putting them directly into the firing line. Farming, fishing, sport and leisure industries want to see numbers of predators reduced, and conservation organisations also worry that predators are threatening some endangered species. Other people, though, will go to great lengths to protect them from any harm. This clashing of worlds can be intense. So, what do we do? One of the greatest challenges facing

conservation today is how, when and where to control predators. It is a highly charged debate.

Colwell travels across the UK and Ireland to encounter the predators face to face. She watches their lives in the wild and discovers how they fit into the landscape. She talks to the scientists studying them and the wildlife lovers who want to protect them. She also meets the people who want to control them to protect their livelihoods or sporting interests.



Defending the Arctic Refuge

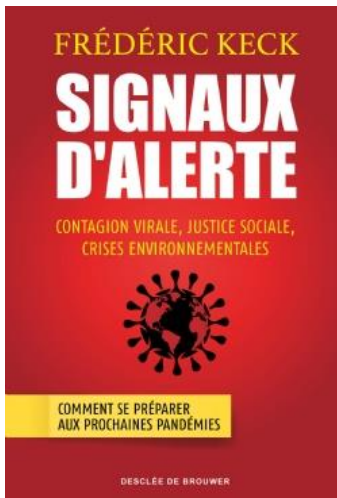
Finis Dunaway, The University of North Carolina Press, 2021

Tucked away in the north-eastern corner of Alaska is one of the most contested landscapes in all of North America: the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Considered sacred by Indigenous peoples in Alaska and Canada and treasured by environmentalists, the refuge provides life-sustaining habitat for caribou, polar bears, migratory birds, and other species. For decades, though, the fossil fuel industry and powerful politicians have sought to turn this unique ecosystem into an oil field.

Defending the Arctic Refuge tells the improbable story of how the people fought back. At the centre of the story is the unlikely figure of

Lenny Kohm (1939–2014), a former jazz drummer and aspiring photographer who passionately committed himself to Arctic Refuge activism. With the aid of a trusty slide show, Kohm and representatives of the Gwich’in Nation travelled across the United States to mobilize grassroots opposition to oil drilling. From Indigenous villages north of the Arctic Circle to Capitol Hill and many places in between, this book shows how Kohm and Gwich’in leaders and environmental activists helped build a political movement that transformed the debate into a struggle for environmental justice.

In its final weeks, the Trump administration fulfilled a long-sought dream of drilling proponents: leasing much of the Arctic Refuge coastal plain for fossil fuel development. Yet the fight to protect this place is certainly not over. *Defending the Arctic Refuge* traces the history of a movement that is alive today—and that will continue to galvanize diverse groups to safeguard this threatened land.



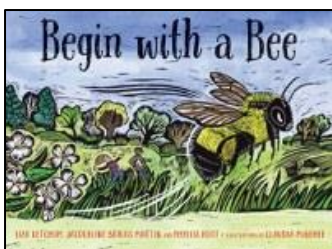
Signaux d'alerte: Contagion virale, justice sociale, crises environnementales [Warning signs: viral contagion, social justice and environmental crises]

Frederic Keck, Desclee de Brouwer, 2020

Les signaux d'alerte se multiplient sur les catastrophes écologiques. La valeur de ces signaux n'est pas régie par le critère de la vraie ou de la fausse alerte, ni par le principe du bon ou du mauvais gouvernement, mais par l'attractivité du signal, c'est-à-dire sa capacité à susciter l'attention et l'intérêt de ceux qui le reçoivent.

En s'appuyant sur une étude des sentinelles des pandémies dans les sociétés asiatiques, Frédéric Keck montre que les territoires qui émettent des signaux d'alerte, comme Hong Kong, Taïwan ou

Singapour, ont entre eux des relations de compétition et de collaboration analogues à celles des oiseaux qui concourent pour alerter sur la présence d'un prédateur. Dans cette émulation, où les pays échangent des informations pour prendre les mesures les plus rapides, se joue une nouvelle forme de solidarité globale et de justice sociale.



Begin with a Bee [illustrated book]

Liza Ketchum, Jacqueline Briggs Martin, and Phyllis Root, University of Minnesota Press, 2021

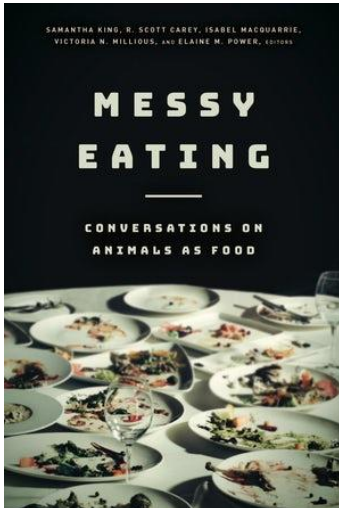
Looking closely at the life cycle of one bee, this book helps readers of all ages understand and appreciate the contributions and significance of all bees.

The queen bee's life unfolds through captivating illustrations, while the authors impart the poetry and basic science of the rusty-patched bumblebee, the first bee to appear on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Endangered Species list.

Spotify Playlist accompanying the book:

[https://open.spotify.com/playlist/74nVQchxFry5syBTfqDZCH?si=H4VT8jgkQPu4XR9wbZCDrQ&nd=](https://open.spotify.com/playlist/74nVQchxFry5syBTfqDZCH?si=H4VT8jgkQPu4XR9wbZCDrQ&nd=1)

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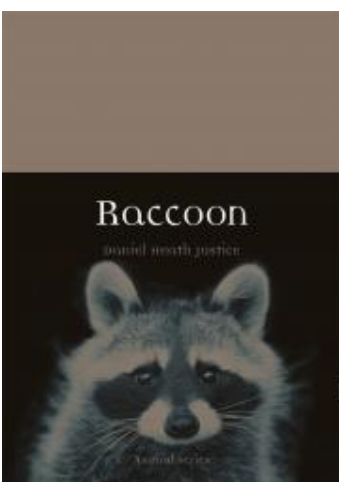
Messy Eating: Conversations on Animals as food

Edited by Samantha King, R. Scott Carey, Isabel Macquarrie, Victoria Niva Millious and Elaine M. Power, Fordham University Press, 2019.

Literature on the ethics and politics of food and that on human–animal relationships have infrequently converged. Representing an initial step toward bridging this divide, *Messy Eating* features interviews with thirteen prominent and emerging scholars about the connections between their academic work and their approach to consuming animals as food. The collection explores how authors working across a range of perspectives—postcolonial, Indigenous, black, queer, trans, feminist, disability, poststructuralist, posthumanist, and multispecies—weave their theoretical and political

orientations with daily, intimate, and visceral practices of food consumption, preparation, and ingestion.

Each chapter introduces a scholar for whom the tangled, contradictory character of human–animal relations raises difficult questions about what they eat. Representing a departure from canonical animal rights literature, most authors featured in the collection do not make their food politics or identities explicit in their published work. While some interviewees practice vegetarianism or veganism, and almost all decry the role of industrialized animal agriculture in the environmental crisis, the contributors tend to reject a priori ethical codes and politics grounded in purity, surety, or simplicity. Remarkably free of proscriptions, but attentive to the Eurocentric tendencies of posthumanist animal studies, *Messy Eating* reveals how dietary habits are unpredictable and dynamic, shaped but not determined by life histories, educational trajectories, disciplinary homes, activist experiences, and intimate relationships.



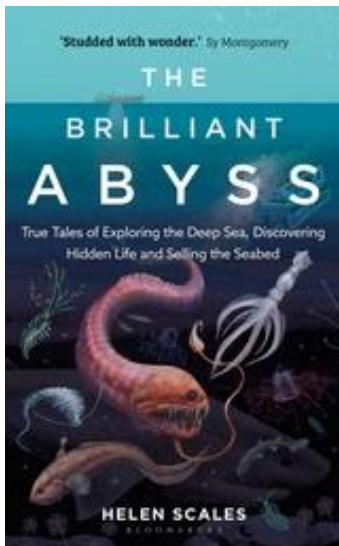
Raccoon

Daniel Heath Justice, Reaktion, 2021

Masked bandits of the night, raiders of farm crops and rubbish bins, raccoons are notorious for their indifference to human property and propriety, yet they are also admired for their intelligence, dexterity and determination. Raccoons have also thoroughly adapted to human-dominated environments; they are thriving in numbers greater than at any point of their evolutionary history... including in new habitats.

Raccoon surveys the natural and cultural history of this opportunistic omnivore, tracing its biological evolution, social significance, and image in a range of media and political contexts. From intergalactic misanthropes and despoilers of ancient temples to coveted hunting

quarry, unpredictable pet, and symbols of wilderness and racial stereotype alike, *Raccoon* offers a lively consideration of this misunderstood outlaw species.



The Brilliant Abyss: True Tales of Exploring the Deep Sea, Discovering Hidden Life and Selling the Seabed

Helen Scales, Bloomsbury, 2021

The Brilliant Abyss tells the story of our relationship with the deep sea – how we imagine, explore and exploit it. It captures the golden age of discovery we are currently in and looks back at the history of how we got here, while also looking forward to the unfolding new environmental disasters that are taking place miles beneath the waves, far beyond the public gaze.

Throughout history, there have been two distinct groups of deep-sea explorers. Both have sought knowledge but with different and often conflicting ambitions in mind. Some people want to quench their curiosity; many more have been lured by the possibilities of commerce and profit. The tension between these two opposing sides is the theme that runs throughout the book, while readers are taken on a chronological journey through humanity's developing relationship with the deep sea.

The Brilliant Abyss ends by looking forwards to humanity's advancing impacts on the deep, including mining and pollution and what we can do about them

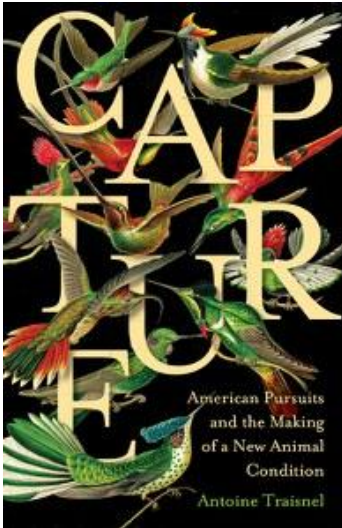


Humans and Hyenas: Monster or Misunderstood?

Keith Somerville, Routledge, 2021

Humans and Hyenas examines the origins and development of the relationship between the two to present an accurate and realistic picture of the hyena and its interactions with people. The hyena is one of the most maligned, misrepresented and defamed mammals. It is still, despite decades of research-led knowledge, seen as a skulking, cowardly scavenger rather than a successful hunter with complex family and communal systems.

Hyenas are portrayed as sex-shifting deviants, grave robbers and attackers of children in everything from African folk tales through Greek and Roman accounts of animal life, to Disney's *The Lion King* depicting hyenas with a lack of respect and disgust, despite the reality of their behaviour and social structures. Combining the personal, in-depth mining of scientific papers about the three main species and historical accounts, Somerville delves into our relationship with hyenas from the earliest records from millennia ago, through the accounts by colonisers, to contemporary coexistence, where hyenas and humans are forced into ever closer proximity due to shrinking habitats and loss of prey. Are hyenas fated to retain their bad image or can their amazing ability to adapt to humans more successfully than lions and other predators lead to a shift in perspective?



Capture: American Pursuits and the Making of a New Animal Condition

Antoine Traisnel, University of Minnesota Press, 2020

Capture offers a critical genealogy of the dominant representation of animals as elusive, precarious, and endangered that came to circulate widely in the nineteenth century.

Traisnel argues that “capture” is deeply continuous with the projects of white settler colonialism and the biocapitalist management of nonhuman and human populations, demonstrating that the desire to capture animals in representation responded to and normalized the systemic disappearance of animals effected by unprecedented changes in the land, the rise of mass slaughter, and the new awareness of species extinction. Tracking the prototyping of

biopolitical governance and capitalist modes of control, Traisnel theorizes capture as a regime of vision by which animals came to be seen, over the course of the nineteenth century, as at once unknowable and yet understood in advance—a frame by which we continue to encounter animals today.

The book is offered in an *open access* online edition: <https://manifold.umn.edu/projects/capture>

www.animalstudies.org.au