



# Waiting for... EVENTS

written by Allegra  
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What do you know: its YET AGAIN time for events! This month our eye was caught by a delightful spread of events addressing transition, cities, waiting, forms of representations and power & aesthetics. Many have deadlines in early April – so get your abstracts in pronto!

And let's not forget the [AAA Annual Meeting](#) at the end of the year with its countless sessions, panels and roundtables. We like the following ones, to name but a few: [Racialized Terror, Persistence and the Otherwise: histories and horizons of struggle and surveillance](#), or [Urban Ethnographies Of Commoning](#) or



the roundtable [Recovering Anthropology's Voice: From Ethnographic Practice to Writing for the Public](#).

If you want your event to feature in our next events list or if you want to write a short report, get in touch with our fabulous events assistant Aude at [audef@allegralaboratory.net](mailto:audef@allegralaboratory.net).



Conference: [\*\*Bodies in Transition – Power, Knowledge and Medical Anthropology\*\*](#)

5-7 July, Lisbon, Portugal

In 2017 the Biennial Conference of EASA Medical Anthropology Network will be hosted in Lisbon, Portugal, with the prospect of promoting a compact encounter with more plenaries and less parallel sessions. The purpose is to maximize the interweaving of our experiences and understandings across the different niches and orientations within medical anthropology and in exchange with neighboring fields; we hope that bringing back plenary sessions creates room for unpredicted synergies. Around 120 medical anthropologists from around the globe will meet at the University of Lisbon to debate current research and developments and discuss the field's contribution to gain a broader and deepened understanding of the conference's overarching topic.

We chose the ubiquitous theme of the **body**, qualified in its transitional, mobile, itinerant and dynamic character. We welcome panel and paper proposals addressing different understandings of **transition** – historical processes, colonial encounters, displacements, migrations, social mobility, cyborg and post-human



transformations, environmental variances and, last but not least, the multiple dynamics of embodiment – keeping in mind the centrality of power and knowledge as meaningful and critical axes of medical anthropology approaches to body and health. [[more](#)]

[List of selected panels.](#)

### **Panel 27: [Engaging Ethnography and Global Health Disasters](#)**

The panel seeks to explore transitional knowledge(s) and power(s) by focusing on the role of ethnography in the investigation of the transnational socio-political, economic, and cultural processes informing global health disasters, their politics, understandings, and experiences. [[more](#)]

**Deadline for [submission of paper proposals](#): 1 April 2017**



Workshop: [Anthropologies of Media and Mobility: Theorizing movement and circulations across entangled fields](#)

14-16 September, 2017, University of Cologne, Germany

This international workshop seeks to theorize the relationship between media and mobility. While mobility has been defined as movement ascribed with meaning, one might in similar fashion define media as meaning ascribed with movement. Interrogating the linkages between media and mobility can enable more thorough understandings of how various power structures produce, transform and reproduce social, material and discursive orders. People, devices, and data are increasingly on the move – movements that may transgress borders and boundaries, but which are also integral to the constitution and regulation of the barriers themselves. The movement of people triggers new imaginaries of



territories and social spaces, which circulate through media, questioning and forging new ties between people, signs and things. More broadly, the mobilisation of tangible and intangible things demands a reconceptualization of what a 'thing' is, what constitutes the human, and what defines human collectivity. In such circumstances, reimagining circulations through the lens of media and mobility becomes an important step towards understanding current socio-cultural and political changes. While this lens has been applied broadly within anthropological research, its theoretical consequences merit further investigation and discussion. [\[more\]](#)

**Deadline for submission of abstracts: 3 April 2017**



Journées d'Etudes: [Encounters and forms of representation in the age of globalisation: artistic and academic perspectives](#)

22-23 Juin 2017, EHESS, Paris, France

More than ever, the contemporary globalised world offers possibilities of encounters between individuals and things at a both material and immaterial level. The multiplication of these encounters leads individuals to question their personal, social, national, cultural, religious, sexual and political identities (to mention a few) and sense of community, labour and belonging to places and spaces. By constantly taking different forms, the amplification of possibilities of encounters between people and material and immaterial things leads individuals towards new experiences. Like browsers in shopping malls, the globalised individual expects to be easily aroused and instantly gratified through the



‘accumulation’ of human/non-human encounters. While guaranteeing a rapid, if temporary, sense of control and security these encounters are fragile, ephemeral and precarious in practice and yet enduring at a structural level. By the time the ‘form’ (or ‘category’) created through these encounters starts to circulate in the public sphere as a legitimate discourse, the question about the correspondence between the previous, “perennial” form of representation and the “precarious” dynamic of actual encounters also emerges. [[more](#)]

**Deadline for submission of abstracts: 15 April 2017**

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Workshop: [Waiting in Africa](#)



28-30 September 2017, Bayreuth, Germany

In this interdisciplinary workshop, we want to attend to the multifaceted nature of waiting from an Africanist perspective. We invite empirical or theoretical contributions from across the social sciences and cultural studies to explore practices, experiences, affects, contexts and consequences of waiting in Africa and among African diasporas. By zeroing in on the different ways in which people engage with temporalities of waiting, be it through modes of expectancy, patience, perseverance, creed, anxiety, powerlessness or indifference, we wish to strengthen the theoretical purchase that the perspective on waiting offers. Set against the overarching topic of *waiting in Africa*, the primary aim of the workshop is to provide a platform for discussing different approaches towards waiting as both a descriptive and an analytical category, as well as for reflecting on the methodological challenges implied in the study of situations of waiting. [[more](#)]

**Deadline for submission of abstracts: 30 April 2017**



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Workshop: [Deservingness - power, morality and inequality in contemporary Europe and beyond](#)

27-28 October 2017, University of Vienna, Austria

The dynamics of present-day inequalities are often manifested as a moral debate and even panic. People and groups create, maintain and transform arrangements of power through processes of justifying inequalities as either substantive features of groups or in terms of the neoliberal ideology of self-responsibility. The workshop explores how this is done through narratives, practices, or institutional arrangements, as well as the ideological, socio-economic and political legacies they are embedded in. [[more](#)]

**Deadline for submission of abstracts: 15 May 2017**

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Call for Chapters: [Commoning the City: Comparative Perspectives from Istanbul and Beyond](#) (Edited Volume)

This edited volume has its roots in Spaces in Common, a seminar series realized in Istanbul in the Spring of 2016, where a group of academics and activists were invited to think together about forms of urban living created through acts of commoning –spaces imagined and lived as urban commons, belonging to no one and everyone.





The proposed collection of papers similarly aims to reflect upon urban inhabitants' commoning practices that produce and reproduce life in the city for the sake of cultivating a new ethos to sustain livelihoods and affirm communal instincts beyond motivations of profit, competition, and wealth spared for individual well-being at the expense of others. These practices develop a culture of commoning that helps imagine a city marked by alternative socio-spatial relations and practices. Such imagery is possible only with active and creative urban inhabitants immersed in cultures of commoning through their quotidian practices, be they work, reproductive labor, or leisure and festivity. It is these practices that make our spaces in common despite (and in the midst of) capitalist social relationships. We embrace the concept of urban commons as it allows us to think beyond the public-private and state-market dichotomies that are the building blocks of capitalist social formations. [[more](#)]

**Deadline for submission of abstracts: 1 May 2017**



Call for Submissions: [Writing and Objects, Objects in Writing](#) (*The Unfamiliar*, Vol 7 (1))

The study of objects has always been central to anthropology. Objects are used in various transactions, household routines, rituals, mortuary rites, and weddings, and can take many shapes and meaning. This issue of the *Unfamiliar* seeks to explore the relationship between objects and writing, and to illustrate how objects play a significant role in peoples' lives. We ask: How are places, people, and relationships entwined with objects, and how do we write about them? Can we write about these, without writing about objects? What do objects tell us and how are they intrinsic to anthropological writing? How do we talk about people, and what is the role of objects in understanding and writing culture? From gifts to



commodities, art objects to magical artefacts; from clothing to tools, technology to infrastructure; what makes objects significant, and how do they take shape and materialise in our writing? We invite papers exploring these questions, interested in, but not limited to, ethnographic writing, material culture, heritage, science and technology studies, anthropology of art, economic anthropology, and development studies. [[more](#)]

**Deadline for submissions: 28 May 2017**