



Animal Studies Journal

Volume 7, Number 2

2018



Animal Studies Journal is a fully refereed journal, published twice-yearly, devoted to multidisciplinary scholarship and creative work in the field of Animal Studies.

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ISSN 2201-3008

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Editorial

This edition of the *Animal Studies Journal* presents research related to the dairy industry. Our *Provocation from the Field* in this issue is written by leading feminist-vegan advocate, activist and scholar Carol Adams who exposes some of the myths which conceal the exploitation and mistreatment of cows used in the industrialised production of dairy products. The dairy industry has a recent global annual export growth rate more than double other animal product exports. There continues to be development of large-scale dairy herds in countries including China, Australia and the USA where up to 10,000 or more cows can be kept in industrial units without access to pasture for grazing and fed a diet based on stored forages and grain.*

Sociologist Deidre Wicks discusses the impacts of selective breeding and reproductive technologies designed to increase milk quotas on the wellbeing of cows and calves in the dairy industry. She draws on the concept of ‘naturalistic mystification’ to challenge the dominant message that milk is a natural, non-harm product.

For the first time since I founded the journal six years ago, I have included some of my work. My paper interweaves my response to Vinciane Despret, Jocelyne Porcher and Donna Haraway’s comments on ‘dairy’ cows working and collaborating with farmers with several stories – one told by philosopher Hélène Cixous, another from J. M. Coetzee’s character Elizabeth Costello, and stories which emerge from my years of living alongside a herd of cows, in a dairy region.

Taija Kaarlenkaski examines how the implementation of milking machines in Finland changed the shape of the dairy industry, not only in terms of method and scale but also at the interpersonal, interspecies level. Her work foregrounds both the shift in gender coding of milking from female to male, and the agency of individual cows in relation to these changes based on recorded historical observations by farmers.

Vasile Stănescu’s paper examines the use of milk as a symbol of racial purity by the ‘alt-right’. The paper reveals connections between the alt-right’s ‘current use of claims about milk,

lactose tolerance, race, and masculinity’ and similar arguments made throughout the 19th century by colonising populations who asserted the colonised to be ‘effeminate corn and rice eaters’.

Three of the essays emerged from papers given at the *Dear Dairy: The True Cost of Milk* symposium convened by Annie Potts and Kirsty Dunn and hosted by the New Zealand Centre for Human-Animal Studies (NZCHAS) in 2017 at the University of Canterbury in Christchurch:

lynn mowson’s paper discusses her art practice on the lives and deaths of dairy cows. Her forthcoming major sculptural project ‘bloodlines’ aims to make visible the links between the dairy industry, environmental impacts of animal agriculture and bio-tech innovations such as in-vitro meat.

Iselin Gambert and Tobias Linné’s paper explores tropes of ‘plant food masculinity’ throughout history and provides a detailed, multilayered examination of the online weaponisation of milk by the alt-right as a vehicle for homophobia, racism, sexism and speciesism.

Lynley Tulloch provides an auto-ethnographic account of her experiences of calf rescue from the expanding dairy industry in New Zealand, centred on the Starfish Bobby Calf Sanctuary, and of anti-dairy activism and campaigns.

There are also four book reviews: Malcolm Caulfield’s recent *Animals in Australia: Use and Abuse*; Tessa Laird’s *Bat* in the Reaktion Animal Series; Anna Barcz’s *Animal Narratives and Culture: Vulnerable Realism*; and Scott M. DeVries’ *Creature Discomfort: Fauna-criticism, Ethics and the Representation of Animals in Spanish American Fiction and Poetry*.

I hope you find the eight papers presented here on dairy related matters to be both timely and compelling.

Melissa Boyde, editor

* Clive J. C. Phillips. *The Animal Trade: Evolution, Ethics and Implications*. CABI, 2015, pp. 66-67.

Contributor Biographies

Carol J. Adams is an activist, independent scholar and the author of numerous books including *The Sexual Politics of Meat: A Feminist-Vegetarian Critical Theory*, now in a Bloomsbury Revelations edition celebrating its 25th anniversary. It has been translated into German, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Turkish, Portuguese, French and Spanish. She is the co-editor of several important anthologies, including *Ecofeminism: Feminist Intersections with Other Animals and the Earth* (with Lori Gruen). *The Carol J. Adams Reader: Writings and Conversations 1995-2015* appeared in the fall of 2016. Her writings are the subject of two recent anthologies, *Defiant Daughters: 21 Women of Art, Activism, Animals, and The Sexual Politics of Meat* and *The Art of the Animal: 14 Women Artists Explore The Sexual Politics of Meat*, in which a new generation of feminists, artists, and activists respond to Adams' groundbreaking work. She is a frequent speaker on college campuses. www.caroljadams.com

Sally Borrell is an Honorary Fellow of the University of Wollongong. Her work focuses on representations of animals in culture, especially postcolonial literature, with particular interests in ecocriticism, posthumanism and anthropomorphism. Her outputs include book chapters, journal articles, and reviews and conference papers. She is an associate editor of *Animal Studies Journal* and a reviews editor (fiction and literary criticism) for *Society & Animals Journal*.

Melissa Boyde is a Senior Research Fellow in the School of the Arts, English and Media at the University of Wollongong: <https://lha.uow.edu.au/taem/contacts/UOW120716.html>. Melissa works in the field of animal studies, with a focus on the cattle industries in Australia. She is the chief editor of the *Animal Studies Journal* which she founded while Chair of the Australasian Animal Studies Association; and is co-editor with Fiona Probyn-Rapsey of the *Animal Publics* book series, Sydney University Press. Melissa also researches in the field of modernist art and has recently curated exhibitions for Heide Museum of Modern Art; the Margaret Olley Art

Centre; Blue Mountains City Gallery, and co-curated the *Animaladies* exhibition at Interlude gallery with Yvette Watt and Madeleine Boyd.

Jacqueline Dalziell is completing her PhD in the Sociology faculty at UNSW, Australia. Her academic work traverses psychoanalytic theory, feminist theory, continental philosophy and sociology, with a focus on the human/animal divide, and the nature/culture split. She teaches Sociology and Environmental Humanities at UNSW.

Elizabeth Ellis is an honorary senior fellow at the University of Wollongong where she introduced Animal Law to the LLB curriculum in 2008. Her publications on this subject include articles in the *Australian Animal Protection Law Journal* and chapter contributions to the two editions of *Animal Law in Australasia* (Federation Press). She also incorporated animal protection issues into her foundational legal text, *Principles and Practice of Australian Law* (2013, Thomson Reuters), and contributes to discussions on animal welfare governance with pieces in *The Conversation* and *Policy Forum*.

Iselin Gambert (igambert@law.gwu.edu) is a professor of legal writing at The George Washington University Law School, where she teaches courses in legal rhetoric and communication and coordinates the law school Writing Center. In her scholarship she seeks to ask timely questions about the ways in which political, legal, linguistic, and cultural forces impact our daily lives and our relationship with food and other animals. Her current scholarly projects revolve around the use of language and rhetoric as a tool in cultural, political, and legal debates around sexism, racism, food policy, and the exploitation of animals.

Taija Kaarlenkaski is currently working as a post-doctoral research fellow at the University of Eastern Finland (UEF), Joensuu campus. In her research project, funded by the Academy of Finland (2016-2019), she examines the impacts of technologization and modernization on cattle husbandry and the concomitant human-animal relationships in Finland from the late 19th century until the 21st century. In 2012, she received her PhD in Folklore Studies at the UEF. In

the doctoral dissertation, she investigated the construction of human-cow relationships in written narratives gathered by a public writing competition. In 2013, the UEF granted her the Young Researcher Award for her dissertation. Her research interests include posthumanist theories and new materialism, gendered human-animal relations and the effects of the use of technology on human-cattle relationships.

Tobias Linné (tobias.linne@kom.lu.se) is an associate professor at Lund University in Sweden. His research interests are in the field of critical animal studies and the intersections of critical animal studies with sociology, media studies and gender studies. He has published several articles exploring the legal, cultural, linguistic, and political aspects of dairy and plant milk.

Lynn Mowson is a sculptor whose practice is driven by the entangled relationships between human and non-human animals, in particular agricultural animals. Her sculptural research has been featured in the books *The Art of the Animal*, Lantern Press, 2015, Carol J. Adam's *Neither Man nor Beast*, Bloomsbury, 2018, and *Animaladies*, Bloomsbury Press, 2018. She has exhibited widely in Australia, and her artwork was included in *SPOM: Sexual Politics of Meat* at The Animal Museum, LA, in 2017. Lynn is currently Vice-Chair of the Australasian Animal Studies Association, and Research Assistant and Committee Member for the Human Rights and Animal Ethics Research Network. Further information about her artwork and research can be found at her blog: www.lynnmowson.com

Vasile Stănescu received his Ph.D. in the program of Modern Thought and Literature (MTL) at Stanford University. He serves as Assistant Professor of Communication at Mercer University. Stănescu is co-senior editor of the *Critical Animal Studies* book series published by Rodopi/Brill. He is the author of over 20 peer-reviewed publications on critical animal studies.

Lynley Tulloch is a Lecturer in Education at the University of South Pacific (Tonga Campus). Lynley's areas of expertise include human-animal relationships, pre-service teacher education, curriculum and pedagogy, educational policy, environmental and sustainability education,

cultural and linguistic diversity and social and political issues in education. She also has experience in sociology of education and the history and philosophy of education. Lynley's current research interests include a focus on nature-based early childhood education, early childhood in South Pacific Island contexts, critical animal studies, sustainability education and cultural diversity. A list of her publications can be found here: <http://orcid.org/0000-0003-4379-6080>

Deidre Wicks is an Honorary Fellow at the University of Wollongong, an Honorary Research Associate at the University of Newcastle and a Director on the Board of Voiceless: the animal protection institute. She has published books and articles on topics ranging from the division of labour between doctors and nurses, silence and denial in relation to animal suffering, and the sociology of food, and she was a contributing author of a major Voiceless report on Australian dairy.

Wendy Woodward is Professor Emerita in English Literature at the University of the Western Cape, South Africa. She is the author of *The Animal Gaze: Animal Subjectivities in Southern African Narratives*, Wits University Press 2008, and the co-editor, with Erika Lemmer, of a Special Issue of the *Journal of Literary Studies* on *Figuring the Animal in Post-apartheid South Africa* (2014). She is also co-editor, with Susan McHugh, of *Indigenous Creatures, Native Knowledges and the Arts: Animal Studies in Modern Worlds*, Palgrave, 2017.