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Cover image by Yvette Watt
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From Disability to Eco-ability
The Intersectionality of Critical Animal, Disability, and Environmental Studies: Toward Eco-ability, Justice, and Liberation.
Calling for Change: Intersectionality and Advocacy

This edition of the Animal Studies Journal brings together twelve articles from a variety of disciplinary perspectives which are all concerned with the need for changes in human-animal relations, and how to achieve these. Questions of intersectionality and advocacy recur throughout the contributions.

Lyla Coorey and Carl Coorey-Ewings address the correlation between domestic violence enacted on humans and on nonhuman animals and demonstrate the impact of an education program for school students which was designed and trialled by Coorey-Ewings. Meera Atkinson explores trauma in Alexis Wright’s novel The Swan Book, which she sees as bearing witness to trans-species injustice. Nick Pendergrast uses the lens of intersectionality to critique PETA’s approach to animal advocacy, and Clare McCausland, Susan Pyke and Siobhan O’Sullivan explore whether the use of drones is justified in the context of animal activism. Alex Lockwood explores and experiences the Save Movement’s practice of ‘bearing witness’ to the passage of animals towards slaughter. Rolf Schlagloths, Flavia Santamaria, Barry Golding and Hedley Thomson show how use of a ‘flagship species’ can promote community conservation, including a case study concerning koalas in Ballarat.

The final six articles make compelling cases for the need for urgent change in various common practices. Responding to an article by Cheryl Abbate, Corey Wrenn argues that the avoidance of feeding meat to animals in sanctuaries has limited impact, and that it is more important to work against systemic speciesism. Yvette Watt, Siobhan O’Sullivan and Fiona Probyn-Rapsey present the findings of a survey of the consumption habits of animal studies scholars. Eva Meijer argues for us to pay closer attention to nonhuman animals’ experiences and unique ways of life, as well as ethics surrounding human euthanasia, when making decisions about animal ‘euthanasia’. Angela Ragusa’s analysis of the representations of animals in a rural
Australian newspaper reveals pervasive human-centrism. Rebecca Scollen’s work examines animal performances at SeaWorld, and Hammerton and Ford address human-shark relations and argue the need for an intersectional process of decolonization.

This issue also includes five reviews. Dinesh Wadiwel presents a thoughtful review essay of Wayne Gabardi’s *The Next Social Contract*; Wendy Woodward has written an engaging review of David Herman’s anthology *Creatural Fictions*; Christine Townend reviews Gonzalo Villanueva’s recently launched *A Transnational History of the Australian Animal Movement 1970-2015* and Siobhan O’Sullivan reviews Barbara Creed’s important study *Stray: Human-Animal Ethics in the Anthropocene*. The issue closes with a return to intersectionality in Nathan Poirier’s ‘From Disability to Ecoability’, a review of Anthony Nocella II, Amber George, and J. L. Schatz’s anthology *The Intersectionality of Critical Animal, Disability, and Environmental Studies*.

We hope you find this edition interesting and enriching.

Melissa Boyde, Chief editor
with the ASJ editorial team:
Philip Armstrong, Sally Borrell, Michael Griffiths and Annie Potts.
Contributor Biographies

**Meera Atkinson** is a writer and interdisciplinary researcher. She was the recipient of the Varuna Dr Dark Flagship Fellowship for 2017, awarded for non-fiction of outstanding quality in social, historical or political writing. Her most recent book, *Traumata* (creative nonfiction), is forthcoming in May (UQP), and her monograph, *The Poetics of Transgenerational Trauma*, was published by Bloomsbury Academic in 2017. Meera teaches creative writing at the University of Sydney.

**Lyla Coorey** has worked predominantly in the health care field as an educator, counsellor, manager and researcher. She was a training consultant to the NSW Police Service during and following her major research on domestic violence and police in rural communities for which she was awarded the University of Sydney Medal. She is currently Team Leader and Educator at the NSW Health Education Centre Against Violence. She has published and run training courses in many areas including rural health and welfare, child sexual abuse in rural and remote Indigenous communities, management and supervision. She has recently co-authored a paper titled ‘Interrupting Male Violence with Men who use Domestic and Family Violence’.

**Carl Coorey-Ewings** is an undergraduate student in Health Sciences at the University of Sydney. He has held diverse leadership positions throughout his school years and undertaken voluntary work in Australia and Timor-Leste. He is committed to animal rights and welfare, and to promoting gender equality amongst young people. He currently coaches and participates in Track and Field at his former school.
**Akkadia Ford** holds a PhD in Cultural Studies (Southern Cross University, Australia) and is a trained filmmaker and film consultant, establishing and working as Festival Director of Queer Fruits Film Festival (2009–2012). Currently a sessional lecturer and tutor in Cultural Studies (School of Arts & Social Sciences, Southern Cross University), Ford’s research interests are interdisciplinary and multi–platform, with a focus upon queer and trans studies, social justice and interspecies issues, representation of gender and transgender in films, transliteracy, queer film, film classification (ratings systems) in Australia, UK and USA and film festivals. Ford has a deep philosophical connection to nature and is trained in wildlife care and reptile handling and has been involved in extensive tree plantings to restore rainforest habitat that sustains and supports an abundance of diverse species. Ford is published in international journals including *The Journal of Communication and Media Studies, Transgender Studies Quarterly, Screen Bodies, Cybergeo European Journal of Geography*, edited collections and as a guest editor on *Australian Feminist Studies* and a forthcoming Special Issue of *Somatechnics Journal*.

**Barry Golding** is an adjunct research professor in adult and community education at Federation University Australia. He was (2011-13) Associate Dean, Research, School of Education & Arts at University of Ballarat; leader of the Researching Adult & Vocational Education Group, Manager of the Men’s learning beyond the workplace International Research. Aside from a PhD in Education, Barry has a degree in Science (Honours, Geology), a Bachelor Arts (Philosophy of Science and Feminism), as well as postgraduate qualifications in Environmental Science (Masters) and Education (Grad. Diplomas, in Education and Educational Administration). Barry’s active community involvement in a range of social, educational and environmental issues over many decades was acknowledged in 2016 with the awarding of an Order of Australia (AM).
Zan Hammerton holds a PhD in Marine Science (Southern Cross University, Australia). Hammerton is currently working as a marine ecologist and environmental consultant and isco–founder and coordinator of the Byron Underwater Research Group. Zan is a qualified commercial diver and a MasterSCUBA Diver Instructor with over twenty–six years’ experience in SCUBA diving, having logged over 4,500 SCUBA dives across six continents and has wide–ranging diving experience with apex species including shark and crocodile. Zan has extensively worked as a Consultant on marine environmental issues in both the Byron Bay (Northern NSW) and Solitary Islands (Coffs Harbour) Marine Protected Zones. Recent publications have focused upon management of anthropogenic impacts within the coastal marine environment. Zan is internationally published in journals including *Tourism in Marine Environments, Journal of Ecotourism* and *Ocean and Coastal Management*.

Alex Lockwood FRSA is a writer, educator, and activist based in the Centre for Research in Media and Cultural Studies at the University of Sunderland. His interests are in the fields of Critical Animal Studies, vegan studies, literature, creative writing and media practices. *The Pig In Thin Air*, his hybrid memoir/study of the body in new animal advocacies, is published with Lantern Books, New York. He is a member of the Research Advisory Committee for the UK’s Vegan Society.

Clare McCausland has a PhD from the University of Melbourne in moral philosophy and carries out research in animal ethics and political philosophy. She is now based at La Trobe University in Melbourne where she works in graduate research management.

Eva Meijer recently defended her PhD–thesis in philosophy, Political Animal Voices, at the University of Amsterdam. She teaches (animal) philosophy at the University of Amsterdam and is the chair of the Dutch study group for Animal Ethics, as well as a founding member of Minding Animals The Netherlands. Recent publications include a book on nonhuman animal languages and the question of what language is, *Dierentalen*, and a novel about bird scientist Len Howard, *Het Vogelhuis*, both of which will be translated into Arabic, English, Finnish, French, German, Polish and Korean. More information can be found on her website: www.evameijer.nl
Siobhan O’Sullivan is Senior Lecturer in Social Research and Policy in the School of Social Sciences at the University of New South Wales (UNSW). Siobhan has written extensively on animal issues, including a monograph *Animals, Equality and Democracy* (2011, Palgrave Macmillan) and a co-edited book *The Political Turn in Animal Ethics* (2016, Rowman & Littlefield). Siobhan also has a weekly Animal Studies podcast called ‘Knowing Animals’ which is available via iTunes.

Nathan Poirier holds an M.A. in mathematics and an M.S. in anthrozoology. He is now a doctoral student of sociology at Michigan State University in Lansing, Michigan. His research focuses on how speciesism and the notion of species is entangled with social justice issues. In 2015 he held a community-focused rewilding conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan, U.S.

Nick Pendergrast has a PhD in Sociology and his thesis applied sociological theories on social movements and organisations to the animal advocacy movement in Australia and the United States. He taught Sociology and Anthropology at Curtin University from 2008 to 2015 and currently teaches Sociology at the University of Melbourne. He has published widely on Critical Animal Studies, human/non-human relations, the media, social movements and social change.

Fiona Probyn-Rapsey is Professor in the School of Humanities and Social Inquiry at the University of Wollongong, Australia. Fiona’s research connects feminist critical race studies and Animal Studies, examining where, when and how gender, race and species intersect. Her first book *Made to Matter: White Fathers, Stolen Generations* (2013), examines how the white fathers of Indigenous children (many now part of the Stolen Generations) reacted to and were positioned by Australian assimilation policies. This book highlights a research interest in the reproductive and biopolitical nature of settler colonial societies, a common thread that extends into more recent research in animal studies, including 2 co-edited books, *Animal Death* (2013) and also *Animals in the Anthropocene: Critical Perspectives on Non-human futures* (2015). Fiona is also Series Editor (with Melissa Boyde) of the Animal Publics book series through Sydney University Press, http://sydney.edu.au/sup/about/animal_publics.html
Susan Pyke teaches creative writing, literature and environmental studies at the University of Melbourne. Her most recently published works are ‘Citizen Snake,’ in *The Materiality of Love* (Routledge 2017) and ‘Cathy’s Whip and Heathcliff’s Snarl,’ in *Animals in Victorian Literature and Culture* (Palgrave 2017). For details on these works and her other publications see https://unimelb.academia.edu/SusanPyke. She twitters as SueHallPyke and blogs at http://suehallpyke.com.

Angela Ragusa is a Senior Lecturer in Sociology in the School of Humanities & Social Sciences at Charles Sturt University. Born and raised in New York City, she completed a Ph.D. (Sociology) and two Masters (Sociology and Science & Technology Studies) degrees at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia and a BA (Psychology with Honors) at St. Francis College in Brooklyn, NY. Angela has edited two books, *Rural Lifestyles, Community Well-Being and Social Change: Interaction in Communication Technologies and Virtual Learning Environments*, authored one, *Writing for the Social Sciences*, and is Editor-in-Chief of the international journal *Rural Society* (http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rrso20/current#.VJIAftKUc1Y).

Flavia Santamaria (B. Biol. (Hons), Grad.Dip.Edu., Ph.D.), is a Researcher at Central Queensland University and a koala ecologist with the Koala Research Central Queensland. She is currently working on several projects including GIS mapping, vegetation and koala surveys. Her thesis looked at the impact of translocation on the health, food selection and movement of thirty koalas moved from French Island to three forests around Ballarat (Victoria). Dr Santamaria’s research interests include: Koala health: the impact of anthropogenic environmental changes on koala populations, particularly the potential pressure of environmental stress on the health of koalas (outbreaks of Chlamydia). She is also very passionate about educating communities on sustainability as a way forward to improving the health of ecosystems, from the land through to the Great Barrier Reef. This is one of the many reasons that she is interested in studying the Koala as one of the flagship species for sustainability. Protecting koalas and their habitat, will benefit other flora and fauna, as well as soil and water.
Rolf Schlagloth (Cert.IV (Ecotourism); B.Appl.Sc.; Dip.Edu.; M.Edu.St.) Since migrating from Germany, nearly 30 years ago, Rolf has been fascinated by the Koala. From the first time he saw a dead koala on the road in Ballarat (Victoria) to his various research projects, the koala has always been part of his professional and private life. He researches the species from a conservation, education, ethics and historical point of view. He strongly believes in the power of the Koala as a flagship for many causes. Rolf is currently working as an adjunct researcher with Koala Research Central Queensland based within the School of Health, Medical and Applied Science at Central Queensland University.

Rebecca Scollen is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Arts and Communication at the University of Southern Queensland. Rebecca’s research interests and employment to date have primarily concerned the performing arts, audience reception and development, arts management, and community engagement. In recent times, Rebecca has sought to apply the knowledge she has gained over the last 15 years to the wildlife tourism and animal studies fields. She sits on the boards of Flying Arts Alliance and Wildlife Tourism Australia.

Hedley Thomson (MBA, BTRP, FPIA, CPP) is a planning & environmental management consultant who was instrumental in the introduction of koala conservation for the City of Ballarat. For the past 38 years, he has worked at a local, regional and Victorian Government level and in the private sector, principally in strategic land use and environmental planning where he has enjoyed developing integrated environmental strategies and putting the recommendations to work on the ground. For the past 28 years, he has lived in Ballarat where he has put this approach into action through numerous projects, most notably through the implementation of the LINCS Strategy, the Yarrowee River Landscape Management and Master Plan and the Koala Plan of Management. Hedley is a passionate believer and strong advocate for integrated catchment management as a means of developing common approaches to action on key environmental issues, built around a strong sense of community.
Christine Townend has had over 12 books published. Her latest book, *A Life For Animals*, was published last year by Sydney University Press. She founded Animal Liberation in Australia after reading Peter Singer’s book of the same name, and together with Peter Singer founded Animals Australia (then called AFAS) in 1980. She worked as managing trustee of an animal shelter in Jaipur, India (1990-2007) and during that time founded two animal shelters in the foothills of the Eastern Himalayas.

Dinesh Wadiwel is a Senior Lecturer in human rights and socio-legal studies at The University of Sydney. Dinesh is author of the monograph *The War Against Animals* (Brill, 2015). He is also co-editor (with Matthew Chrulew) of the volume *Foucault and Animals* (Brill 2017). Dinesh is currently working on a new monograph which explores the relationship between animals and capitalism. Dinesh is convenor of The University of Sydney Human Animal Research Network (HARN).

Yvette Watt is a Lecturer at the School of Creative Arts, University of Tasmania and Lead Researcher of the UTAS College of Arts and Law Animal Studies Theme Area. Her art practice spans 30+ years and includes numerous solo and group exhibitions. Her work is held in numerous public and private collections in Australia including Parliament House, Canberra, Artbank and the Art Gallery of Western Australia. She has been actively involved in animal advocacy since the mid 1980s, and her artwork is heavily informed by her activism. Yvette is a co-editor of and contributor to *Considering Animals: Contemporary Studies in Human-Animal Relations* (Ashgate, 2011). Recent publications include ‘Duck Lake: Art Meets Activism in an Anti-hide, Anti-bloke, Antidote to Duck Shooting,’ in *Animaladies*, ed. Fiona Probyn-Rapsey and Lori Gruen, Bloomsbury (forthcoming) and ‘Down on the Farm: Why do Artists Avoid Farm Animals as Subject Matter?’, in *Meat Cultures*, ed. Annie Potts, Brill, 2016. Yvette was a founding member of the Australasian Animal Studies Association and is a current board member of Minding Animals International.

Corey Wrenn is a Lecturer of Sociology and Director of Gender Studies with Monmouth University. She specializes in the politics of the Western Animal Rights Movement and is the author of *A Rational Approach to Animal Rights*. 