Laboratories

Following EASA2014's successful experience with Laboratories, as spaces of communication characterized by experimentation, collaboration, interaction or improvisation, we will again hold Laboratories for EASA2016. In rethinking anthropological legacies and possible futures, techniques, methods, patterns of scientific communication and of research will be at stake and "at play".

Laboratories are proposed as heterogeneous media of presentation where the results or the process of experimenting ethnography, of the object/subject of research and other patterns in sharing of knowledge, in the wider sense, take place within more flexible spaces and media of communications than text-based presentation.

Labs open up the possibility to communicate, investigate, perform and "debate" through experience-based, incorporated patterns of knowledge, social practices, performative and collaborative mis-en-scène (theatre, dance, music), patterns of communication that reproduce the resonance and immersion techniques in ethnography and in cultural dynamics through the production of heterogeneous texts. Contemporary conditions of global cultural flows ask for an active engagement with different means of knowledge/representation and with action research as spaces of experimentation.

This opens up the potentialities of installations, performances, audiovisual presentations, art and anthropology techniques and research, sensory experience, musical performance, radio and other new media role in research and in anthropology. Besides, methodologies of the Laboratories could focus on or allow other patterns of sharing, of involvement, of participation coming form the anthropological legacies but experimenting new ways and media, with attention to new subjects (as for example children, environmental non-human actors, new marginalities and peripheries of contemporary cultural flows) in tracing patterns of the future.

Further, Labs open up the possibility of more flexible and dynamic interdisciplinary research and communication through dialogical presentation, out of the applied/theoretical anthropology dichotomy: interdisciplinary research more and more request facing complexity of possible futures (as in the case of environmental change), the dialectic of more applied or militant research within academic format of research and communication, collective-based research and anthropological commitment in relation to more individual-based research.

Lab01   **On the move: walking as anthropological method [ANTHROMOB]**
Convenor: Noel B. Salazar (University of Leuven)
U6-17 then outside: Fri 22nd July, 09:00-10:45

Walking is one of humankind's most basic acts. Yet, beyond its everyday utility, walking often carries other pursuits along with it. People walk to relax, to exercise or to complete a pilgrimage. There are many different types of 'walkers', from the long-distance hikes of the Maasai warriors to the leisurely urban strolls of the Parisian flâneurs. Some walk to stimulate the faculty of human imagination. In this participatory outdoor walk, participants will experience firsthand the advantages and limitations of walking as a method in anthropological research and teaching. Many anthropologists have engaged in walking during their fieldwork—walking with informants, walking from one ethnographic 'activity' to the other, or walking as a way to relax—but so far there has been little reflection on what the practice of walking does to our (anthropological) understanding of the subjects we study, whether these are mobile or not. We will also share personal experiences with walking as a tool for teaching and mentoring, and

the possibilities this offers in terms of linking thoughts with feelings, legacies with ephemera, materiality with imaginaries, and mobility with immobility.

IMPORTANT

- This laboratory required pre-registration by email to noel.salazar(at)soc.kuleuven.be, as there's only capacity for 30 participants.

- The laboratory requires: good walking shoes, protection against the sun, water (or another drink) and something to take notes.

Lab02 **TAN lab at EASA2016: let's experiment with image theatre! Introducing an experiential teaching method for accessing and giving meaning to sensory experiences**
Convenors: Jakob Krause-Jensen (Aarhus University); Annika Strauss (Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster)
U2-8b: Wed 20th July, 14:30-16:15, 16:45-18:30

The lab gives participants the chance to experience and experiment with the 'Image Theatre Method' - an innovative teaching method informed by the approaches of Maya Nadig's 'Psychoanalytische Deutungswerkstatt' [Workshop of Psychoanalytic Meaning Making] and Augusto Boal's 'Theatre of the Opressed'. By focusing on bodily experiences as a source of ethnographic knowledge, the method can contribute to bringing dimensions of sensory experiences into the classroom. Sensory and transformative experiences constitute and shape learning processes during social anthropological fieldwork. Doing ethnography relies on personal encounters and involves bodily experiences and emotional encounters. But while social anthropologists use all their senses in the field, the academic discourse and teaching practices are mainly limited to certain senses. The preparation and processing of fieldwork in teaching (and elsewhere) almost exclusively focus on discussing textual sources, e.g. theoretical articles or written fieldwork reflections. The lab suggests an additional way to include sensory dimensions in classroom teaching. It introduces the participants to an experiential teaching method, which aims at getting access and giving meaning to sensory field experiences. During the session participants engage in different exercises borrowed from theatre pedagogy and improvisational theatre and finally stage a participant's fieldwork experience and collectively make sense of it.

It would be helpful if all participants would bring an example of a personal sensory-social encounter in the field, which they find significant.

Lab03 **An ethnography of photographies**
Convenors: Thera Mjaaland (University of Bergen); Anna Laine (University College of Arts, Craft and Design)
U6-1C: Fri 22nd July, 09:00-10:45

Photography entered anthropology during the positivist era and was claimed to perform as evidence. This idea has transformed through through ethnographic studies of various local practices where photography has been linked to pre-existing practices of making the unseen perceivable – including collaborations with art practice. These studies have explored how photographic objects and practices are embedded in social relationships specific to cultural and historical contexts and have revealed notions of bodily relics, embodied memories and channelling of ancestral power. Their challenges of a single narrative of photography's nature and meaning have evoked the plural term photographies (Wright 2013).

This Lab invites the participants to conduct an ethnography of photographies by sharing a material photograph together with the personal story and social environment they have situated it in. It asks if these narratives can tell us something about what photography is and does, and if they have implications for how photography can be used as a medium in future anthropological practices. The aim is to emphasize the relationality of photography instead of strictly visual meanings or technological developments. Through a collaborative process, the Lab will materialise into an exhibition within the conference space where the photographs are presented in relation to their stories and the following discussion. The participants are encouraged to exhibit their image and narrative in individual ways, such as prints, drawing, writing, and performance.

This lab required participants to send the convenors a short note on their contribution before 15th July. Capacity 20 people.

Lab04 World-making futures lab (Future Anthropologies Network Workshop)

Convenors: Sarah Pink (RMIT University); Andrew Irving (Manchester University); Annette Markham (Aarhus University); Juan Francisco Salazar (Western Sydney University); Johannes Sjöberg (The University of Manchester)
U7-16: Sat 23rd July, 09:00-10:45, 11:15-13:00

This workshop will bring together anthropologists who share the aim to shape an agenda for anthropological World-Making. World-Making, as determined at our Barcelona workshop (2015), will involve militating for an anthropological practice that goes beyond the discipline's conventional role of documenting, analyzing critically debating, or informing the practice of other change-makers. This will be a critical and actively interventional World-Making anthropology, focusing on emergence, everyday alterities, speculative futures and creative practice based techniques. It embraces the possibility that anthropologists will participate in shaping what happens next.

In the morning, we will create collective statements on: ethics of anthropological World-Making; Where and what is 'Future' in Word-Making; How can we best combine anthropology and creative practice in World-Making?; What is uniquely anthropological about the agenda we are forming?; What is the critical contribution to theoretical/methodological scholarship?

In the afternoon participants will work in groups of 3-4 to create and speculate with prototypes, probes or models, of World-Making practices. They must be committed to creating/producing/generating something documented and shared – performed, storied, filmed, written into an essay or other format.

We hope to document and base an open-access production on this event, if we can resource such a project.

Participants had to apply to participate, sending a 100-word abstract outlining their contribution to the Lab and perspective on anthropological World-Making and futures.

For background on the critical perspective of the FAN, see our manifesto:
http://futureanthropologies.net/2014/10/17/our-manifesto/

Lab05   **CLEENIK: clinic of anthropological ethnographic experiments in fieldwork**
Convenors: Tomás Criado (TU München); Adolfo Estalella (Spanish Research Council (CSIC)); Andrea Gaspar (University of Coimbra)
U7-16: Fri 22nd July, 09:00-10:45

Have you been affected by Ethnographic Experimentation Breakdown (EEB) or Excess of Engagement Stress (EES)? Have you been suffering from breach-of-the-canon infection (BOTCA)? Do you know how to detect the symptoms of Goingnativosis (GN), Collaborative Fieldwork Disorder (CoFD) or Transdisciplinary/Interdisciplinary Associative Disorder (TRIAD)? Perhaps you know of somebody who is affected by Non-observatory, multi-sensory, too-material fieldwork syndrome (NO-MS-TM)? If you have been quarreling with your supervisor and colleagues over their effects, if you are being chased by your former informants to hang around as if no distance separated you, why not try a radically different approach, and search for the better cure? CLEENIK is searching for "sick" ethnographers interested in donating their time for science, sharing their suffering experiences, and helping others find the #xcol™ cure! For this, you would be receiving a treatment FOR FREE in our internationally renowned CLEENIK, an institution with the most innovative experimental collaboration techniques for the treatment of contemporary fieldwork disorders.

CLEENIK will be a laboratory in a single session, a role-playing performance to create the grounds for a discussion around the figure of ethnographic experimentation in fieldwork. Participants were asked to send a brief proposal if they want to present the diseases they have suffered in their fieldwork. In the session we will propose the construction a network of Ethnographic Experimentation.

Lab06   **De-linearising ethnography: experimenting with hypertextual ethnographic writing**
Convenor: Mikhail Fiadotau (Tallinn University)
U7-Lab715: Sat 23rd July, 09:00-10:45, 11:15-13:00

Participants will explore the potential of employing hypertext to create a nonlinear, interactive ethnography. While linear text remains the default mode of presenting ethnographic, and indeed all scientific data, nonlinear forms such as hypertext offer a number of unique features which in turn open up intriguing possibilities.

The nonlinearity of hypertext means it has the potential to capture the complexity and multi-layered character of culture and experience better than a linear account. Navigating through hypertext can also evoke the dynamics and cyclical patterns of human thinking. The interactivity allows the reader more agency, making ethnography something that they can explore or even construct within given constraints.

Participants will create short ethnographic or autoethnographic accounts using Twine, an interactive story creation tool. They will then reflect on the creation process and the complexities arising from the nonlinear nature of the medium. The discussion may touch upon such issues as distribution of agency between the ethnographer and the reader, the challenges of structuring an ethnographic account, and the practicalities of working with non-traditional formats in academia.

No previous experience of interactive story creation is required; learning the basics of Twine only takes a few minutes.

Given the limited capacity of the computer lab participants were asked to register their participation here: http://goo.gl/forms/UJy5CYcVdTddLE8r1

Lab07 **Living with Algorithms**
Convenors: Zane Kripe (Leiden University); Hanna Schraffenberger (Leiden Univerisity)
U7-16: Thu 21st July, 09:00-10:45

Algorithms are influential participants in our everyday lives. They determine what recipes we find online and consequently, how our dinner tastes. They inform us which route will take us to the airport most quickly, and suggest what books to read or movies to watch. While algorithms shape our lives, they generally operate 'under the hood' and remain invisible. This raises questions of whether and how we make sense of the algorithms and their output: A weird book suggestion on amazon, an alternative route-suggestion by the car's navigation system, the perfect song on spotitfy's computer-generated playlist, the new faces to connect with on LinkedIn.

However, it is not always clear what do we mean when we talk about 'algorithmic culture'. How can anthropologists engage with 'algorithms'? How can we communicate about the role algorithms play in society and understand the work they do without mystifying 'the algorithm' even more?

This lab is aimed at hands-on exploration of algorithmic decision making in order to deconstruct what is often referred to as 'the algorithm'. Acknowledging that algorithms are part of a complex sociotechnical system together we will try to develop a process that visualises the procedural logic to which much of our online sociality and information consumption and circulation is subjected to.

We invite participants who are interested in a better understanding of what is an algorithm and how to go about studying life with algorithms.

Lab08 **Performing ethnography**
Convenors: Sabrina Tosi Cambini (Università di Verona); Andrea Mochi Sismondi (Ateliersi Cultural Association); Fiorenza Menni (Ateliersi Cultural Association)
U2-8b: Fri 22nd July, 11:15-13:00

The Lab proposal is based on data collected during a multi-situated ethonography on a Romanian Rudari families' network immigrated in Italy, in the city of Florence. For many of them, the mode of settlement took the form of squatting in some buildings of the city. So the history of their migration intersects with the spatial configuration of the city (the variations in urban functions and composition of town areas), the commodification of the public areas and the political decisions over them, as well as crossing into the local history of the struggle for housing rights.

Through the various languages of the contemporary theatre, the Lab takes on the life of people in a specific migration context, and the ways how specific conceptions of aspiration and imagination about the future become configured ("which future is thinkable and wished"?). The Lab turns two different ethnographic texts in materials for the theatre, making them crossed by the "dramatization" process, "performing" them. This process creates a context of "décalage", creating a perceptual space that allows the "entrance" of those who participate as a spectator, through an "imaginative" path. The exploration and elaboration of the texts using the feautures of performing arts expands their evocative and communicative potenzial, transforming them in an "experience."

During the 105 min session, a stage will be turned on and repeated three times.

Those wishing to participate as "active" public, were requested to email the convenors to reserve a spot. Those just wishing to spectate need not pre-register.

Lab09   **Self-hetero-representation in action: a live experiment on Facebook**
Convenors: Massimo Canevacci (University of Sao Paulo); Flavia Kremer (University of Manchester);
Rafael Franco Coelho (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)
U6-17: Wed 20th July, 14:30-16:15 and Sat 23rd July 17:00-18:45

The topic of representation is a classic issue in anthropology. In the history of anthropology, theoretical debates revolved around figuring scientifically and ethically appropriate ways to construct and communicate knowledge "about" the "Other". Massimo Canevacci (2013) argues that digital technologies promoted a shift on the "communicational division of labour" placing self-representation at the centre of contemporary politics. Our laboratory will explore how the global diffusion of digital culture pose challenges to interdisciplinary conversation investigating the concept of "self-hetero-representation" as a means to analyse the theoretical consequences of the emergence of digital culture.

The laboratory will take place on Facebook during the entire conference and participants will be invited to two conference sessions: a kick-off meeting (3 hours) on the first day of the conference and an assessment meeting on the last day (3 hours). On the first meeting, we will debate the concept of "self-hetero-representation" and share experiences of conducting research and/or "keeping in touch" with informants on Facebook. We will also think of a suitable title for a Facebook group and a working methodology to interact with informants through this same group. In doing so, we will elaborate a set of assessment criteria to evaluate the ethical dilemmas and the epistemological outcomes that will emerge through the experiment. On the second meeting, the assessment meeting, we will explore the consequences of this experiment by commenting on the issues that emerge through the interaction of researcher and participants in an online platform.

Lab10   **"There is fiction in the space between": techniques of anthropological storytelling**
Convenor: Angela Torresan (University of Manchester)
U6-17: Thu 21st July, 09:00-10:45, 11:15-13:00

This Lab re-examines ethnography as a multifarious practice of storytelling in which notions of fiction, memory, desires, and human connection converge in the intersection between the personal and political. Storytelling doesn't simply refer to the methodology of constructing linear narratives, but to a communicative interaction arising in what Arendt called the 'subjective-in-between' (Arendt, Hannah. 1958. The Human Condition). In ascribing a communal and pluralistic dimension to narrative, Arendt emphasises the importance of action in the public realm and highlights the ethical consequences of storytelling. We ask participants to engage, in practice, with the ethics and politics of storytelling (Jackson, Michael. 2013. The Politics of Storytelling) through diverse methods, techniques and conceptualisations of audio-visual-textual language. Contributions may include photo/essay films, montage, ethnofiction, (re-)enactments of stories, short interactive documentaries, and others formats, stimulating discussion on the moral, conceptual, and political features inherent in anthropological activity. We welcome provocative and collaborative storytelling proposals asking how their transformative qualities might affect our future as interacting subjects.

All are welcome to attend without prior registration.

Those interested in contributing/storytelling should email their proposals to the convenor, stating the kind of material you wish to bring (photos, paper, pencils, video, sound recording equipment, etc) and any other resources you may require.

Lab11 **Ethnographic drawing: less than looking, more than dancing**
Convenor: Jacek Wajszczak (University of Warsaw)
Piazzetta Difesa delle donne (small square where the "segreteria studenti unimib" is located): Fri 22nd July, 11:15-13:00

The drawing accompanied cultural anthropology and ethnography from their beginnings. The first ethnographers draw human types, tools and also the patterns of villages and lineages. Humanists in XIX century also used specific drawings as tools for research like "A Sure and Convenient Machine for Drawing Silhouettes". In their pictures the most important thing was to be close to the reality (Enlightenment), therefore the invention of photography was for them a helpful tool. Today, drawing is replaced by modern visual techniques such as photography, video and audiovisual interactive forms. As nowadays it is difficult to imagine fieldwork without camera or Twitter, the researchers often forgets about a pencil and paper.

This laboratory will focus on drawing as the way of documentation, but also as an important strategy of ethnographic experience and engagement in the field. Michael Taussig wrote that during the fieldwork the sense of drawing is not "makes up the shortfall as to complete reality or supercharge realism" but "drawing have the capacity to head off in an altogether other direction". One more Luddite's act? Not yet. I would like come back to drawing as a bodily interpretation of reality. In order to explore this perspective we will do a kind of ethnographic research outside of the campus. Afterwards we will compare our results, observations and impressions, and we will try to find out why do we need drawing in the fieldwork and in our discipline.

Lab12 **Urban ethnographies in the Anthropocene: a shadowing lab in Westhafen - Berlin**
Convenor: Elena Bougleux (University of Bergamo)
U6-5: Sat 23rd July, 09:00-10:45

The area of Berlin-Wasthafen is a city port, a former industrial area facing the canals system surrounded by warehouses and cranes [A]. The port, scarcely used for its purposes of water connecting hub during the decades of Berlin's partition, has recently known a new life: the emergencies connected to climate change have triggered a return of interest in the water communication system [B], more sustainable for moving goods than roads or rail – though there is no general agreement on this.

The train station by the port area has in the meantime been transformed into a self organized cultural hub, dedicated at developing artistic views and ideas on urban planning that pursue the path of sustainability, in close connections with the local population, mainly composed by immigrant communities [C]. The entire area has been thoroughly described in an open access Environmental Atlas, sets of interactive maps on water diffusion, usage and waste, spanning over the last two decades [D]. The post-industrial infrastructures and warehouses of Westhafen have been partially renovated, partially conceded as archive spaces to the children section of the Berlin's Staastsbibliotek [E]. The [A]-[E] layers are recursively transforming and shaping each other. The Shadow is the idea connecting the different research layers: shadow of a port, of a station, shadows of migrating identities, shadows of industrial productivity, shifting from one layer to another. The simultaneous representations of the visual, audio, and material layers of the research allow the reconstruction of these mutual ongoing interactions ad meaning's recombination.

Participants are strongly encouraged to use their own personal experience, visions, previous researches, images and multimedia materials, to answer to the questions proposed for the Teamwork. Participants (max 30) were asked to pre-register, by emailing the convenor in advance.

Schedule

INTRO – 20' + 10'

Participants to the Lab are introduced to the keys aspects ("layers") of the area of Berlin- Westhafen. Participants are divided in groups (max 6 participants in each group).

Each group is assigned a layer to focus on and to develop, corresponding to a key aspect introduced in the abstract, [A]-[E].

TEAMWORK – 40'

Groups work separately on (some of) the following questions:

• What is the relevance of this layer for the definition of the Anthropocene ?

• What is your background experience on this aspect/layer (if any)?

• How would you develop a research on this key aspect?

• How would you represent your outcomes ?

• Which connections do you expect your layer has with the others?

• How does this layer contribute to the idea of Anthropocene in an urban context?

OUTPUT PRODUCTION - 20' + 10'

Groups assemble a synthesis of their discussion on the layer: sketches, photos, videos (max 2'). A collective max 10' production (video or ppt) on Anthropocenic view on the city port is finally produced.

Lab13 **The old age jigsaw puzzle**
Convenor: Kamilla Nørtoft (University of Copenhagen)
U6-5: Wed 20th July, 16:45-18:30

In Center for Healthy Aging, University of Copenhagen an interdisciplinary and cross institutional research group explores various aspects of everyday life perspectives of elderly people as well of various aspects of professional care and planning in the area of old age care. One of the projects called 'Retirement Stories' is a combined research and dissemination project experimenting with different formats of representation and dialogue with research participants and audiences going on during the period of fieldwork and thus being part of it.

Inspired by these experiences this laboratory is an attempt to continue the development of experiments including other research projects from the research group. The laboratory session is a workshop building on empirical material from selected projects covering various focus points such as retirement, community health initiatives, rehabilitation and the use of welfare technology in old age care. The participants in the workshop are invited to create 'images' from quotes and photographs deriving from the different projects and fields like pieces in a jigsaw puzzle. The different pictures and the reasoning behind them will hopefully lead to discussions of aging, care, societal development and responsibilities as well as methodological discussions about fieldwork, representations and collaborative work with different researchers as well as with practitioners and planners in the public sector.

Lab14 **Nightlaboratory Milan: nocturnal corporeality and sounds**
Convenors: Ger Duijzings (Universität Regensburg); Iulius-Cezar Macarie (Central European University)
U6-17: Fri 22nd July, 19:30-20:30

This lab explores the difficulties posed by legacies of diurnal ethnography as the dominant point of reference in anthropological research. When doing nightshifts and nocturnal participant observation, in order to examine the complex subjectivities of migrants doing nightshifts at a fruit and vegetable market in London, the nocturnal fieldwork we have carried out puts great strain on the ethnographer's diurnal life. Both, the corporeality of such fieldwork and its effects on the ethnographer's body and mind, and the methodological puzzles that awaits her/him are explored, addressing for example the difficulties of capturing visual images due to darkness, instead tuning in at sonic realities. The embodied and practical aspects of doing nightshifts trigger empathy with the workers' precarity, which perhaps affects the power of observing the less-visible forms of solidarity or competition. The informants' reactions sometimes help and at other times hinder the investigation.

Following nocturnal fieldwork workshops that we conducted in Budapest, Istanbul, London, Moscow and Sofia, for this panel we propose to carry out an experience-near and on-the-ground ethnography --or a "night laboratory"-- in Milan's fish, fruit and vegetable markets. Whilst night walking, and capturing images and sounds at night, we examine its contribution to ongoing reflections on new methods to collect, produce and convey knowledge about corporeality and the rhythms, noises and thoughts of the night and lives of night workers in the nocturnal cities of the future, usually 'invisible' to the dominant diurnal eye and mind.

Keywords: night work, precariat, migrants, nocturnal ethnography, sound
See http://nomadit.co.uk/easa/easa2016/panels.php5?PanelID=4691 for registration and more info.

Lab15 **Opting for elsewhere**
Convenors: Vaiva Aglinskas (CUNY Graduate Center); Vitalija Stepušaitytė (Heriot-Watt University)
U2-8b: Thu 21st July, 11:15-13:00

In this laboratory participants will create a collective conceptual map/meshwork that will encourage reflection on structural as well as emotional factors through which we experience places and move along a line within a meshwork of interwoven lines (Ingold, 2007). Relocating from one place to another requires an emotional flexibility to cope with continuities and disruptions, therefore, we are interested in how events, people and things interweave and create thematic knots and nodes of place experiences.

We will visualize these experiences through a dynamic weblike installation of colorful threads and other materials that will capture the complexities of be/longing to places in a person's present, past and future. This collaborative exercise will create correspondences between participants through sharing personal relocation/migration experiences and by identifying social, political, emotional and imaginative factors that shape these experiences. We aim to explore how utopian ideas and everyday duties intermingle, how opting for being somewhere else is practiced here and now, how people adapt their dreams to the circumstances, and how interlocking different narratives can create new possibilities for dialogue and self-reflection.