

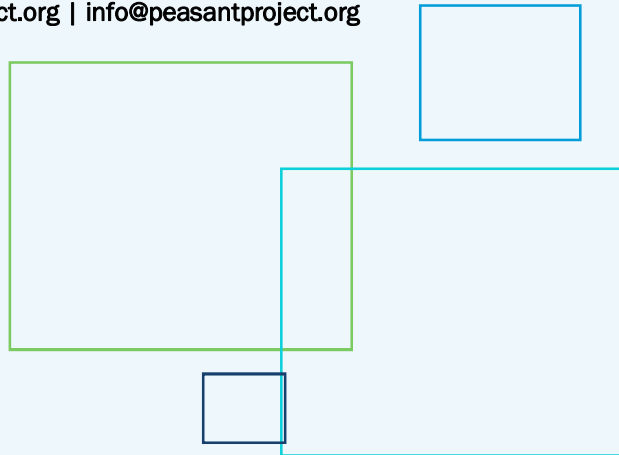
# POLITICAL IMAGINATION LABORATORIES

- Which visions animate contemporary activism?
- How to visualize or to contextualize the political imagination of contemporary social movements?
- How to uncover those utopian aspirations, strategic and/or ideological horizons that too often pass implicitly, silently or invisibly?

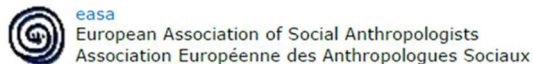
Inspired by both visual and ethnographic fieldwork, our Political Imagination Laboratories aim to explore and interrogate the shifting political imagination of contemporary social movements.

Each “Lab” invites anthropologists, filmmakers and activists to a mix of film screenings, roundtable discussions and work-in-progress expositions. These experimental events have been organized by the team of the “Peasant Activism Project”, in cooperation with the network “Anthropology and Social Movements” of the European Association of Social Movements (EASA).

INFO: [peasantproject.org](http://peasantproject.org) | [info@peasantproject.org](mailto:info@peasantproject.org)



Cofinanced by:  
EASA-network “Anthropology and Social Movements”

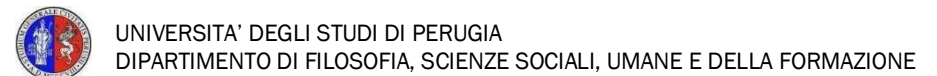
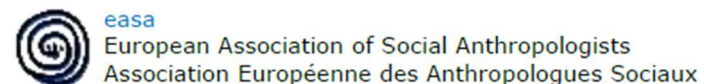


## 3rd POLITICAL IMAGINATION LABORATORY

*“What [Not] Can be Said:  
Fieldwork as Witnessing?”*

## PROGRAM

6 – 7 December 2019





## FRIDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2019

Aula Tesi (1st floor) | Dipartimento di Filosofia, Scienze Sociali, Umane e della Formazione | Palazzo Florenzi | Piazza Sant'Erminio 1 | Perugia

13.30 – 14.00	Registration and Welcome Coffee
14.00 – 14.10	Institutional Greetings
14.10 – 14.30	Opening Remarks (Alexander Koenig [Perugia], Massimiliano Minelli [Perugia] and Marion Näser-Lather [Marburg])

### SESSION A: REPRESENTATION AND ETHICS

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14.30 – 16.30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nicolò Pezzolo (Genoa): Witnessing Normality</li><li>• Cecilia Ekström (Gothenburg): Witnessing Violence – Reproducing Power Structures?</li><li>• Enrico Vincenzi (Modena/Reggio Emilia): Describing Contexts as Witness</li></ul> <i>Facilitator:</i> Stefano Boni (Modena)
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16.30 – 17.00      *Coffee Break*

### SESSION B: BETWEEN RESEARCH AND ACTIVISM

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17.00 - 19.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Alejandra Navarro Smith (Guadalajara): From Participant Observer to Collaborative Participant: Research over Cocopah Fishing Rights in the Colorado River Delta</li><li>• Melody Howse (Leipzig): Crossing Over – From Witness to Activist</li><li>• Therese Kelly (Manchester): Researching Vegan Activism: Emotional Entanglements and the Process of Stepping away</li></ul> <i>Facilitator:</i> Sonja Moghaddari (Trento)
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Palazzo Stocchi (Antropologia) | Dipartimento di Filosofia, Scienze Sociali, Umane e della Formazione | Piazza Morlacchi 30 | Perugia

## KEY-NOTE LECTURE AND DEBATE

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| 19.30 – 20.45 | Pnina Motzafi-Haller (Be'er Sheva): Who are the Banjara? Dilemmas of Visual Ethnographic Documentation.<br><i>Discussant:</i> Giovanni Pizza (Perugia) |
| 21.00         | <i>Workshop Buffet</i>   |

## SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2019

Dipartimento di Filosofia, Scienze Sociali, Umane e della Formazione | Antropologia | Palazzo Stocchi | Piazza Morlacchi 30 | Perugia

## SESSION C: KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION AND POWER

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|---------------|---|
| 09.00 - 11.00 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gerhard Schönhofer (Eichstätt): Caught between the Chairs – Researching Inclusive &amp; Empowering Efforts in the Context of Media Literacy Workshops in Germany</li><li>• Alejandro Valderrama Herrera (Dublin): More than a Witness</li><li>• Piotr Goldstein (Berlin): Visualising the Invisible - Take Two: Two Cheers for Hipster Activism<br/><i>Facilitator:</i> Marion Näser-Lather (Marburg)</li></ul> |
| 11.00 - 11.30 | <i>Coffee Break</i>   |

## SESSION D: CLOSENESS AND DISTANCE

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|---------------|---|
| 11:30 - 13:30 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Christine Hämmerling (Zürich): Establishing Closeness –a Comparison of Professional Emotional Managers in Face-to-Face-Fundraising and Interview Contacts</li><li>• Eugenio Moltisanti (Perugia): Witness of Affectchué</li><li>• Vani Xaxa (New Delhi): Doing Fieldwork and Writing Ethnographic Fieldnotes: a Woman Researcher's Perspective<br/><i>Facilitator:</i> Filippo Zerilli (Cagliari)</li></ul> |
| 13:30 - 14:30 | <i>Lunch Break</i>  |

# RATIONALE

## 3<sup>RD</sup> POLITICAL IMAGINATION LABORATORY: “FIELDWORK AS WITNESSING?”

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For those who engage with questions of social justice in their fieldwork and/or qualitative research, questions related to the identity and the role of the researcher remain inescapable. Recently, the figure of the witness has been presented as one of the possible solutions to the dilemmas of knowledge, power and ontology in ethnographic and qualitative fieldwork. Compared to other possible identities - such as “expert” or “reporter” - the witness preserves independence and entails authority. The witness aims to be a truthful observer, while being conscious about its own limits of knowledge, its own positioning and its own responsibilities.

The third Political Imagination Laboratory invites those who carry out fieldwork related to questions of social justice and/or activism (anthropologists, filmmakers, social scientists) to focus on methodological and ontological aspects of their research:

What can be understood? What not? What can be said? What not? When and how should we intervene? In how far do we have an obligation to our interlocutors and other actors in as well as outside the field? How do we situate ourselves with regard to moral positions (between cultural relativism and universalism)? How does the relation with our field partners and possible resulting emotional entanglements (e.g., the negotiation of empathy vs. sympathy) influence our way of representing them and of acting in the field?

## SESSION E: RESEARCH AND POSITIONING

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14:30-16:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Anna Cristina Vargas (Turin): A Positioned Ethnographer in a Never-Ending War</li><li>• Bogdan Iancu (Bucharest): Place-based Elicitation: Co-optation as Driver of Empathy</li><li>• Konstantina Bousmpoura (Athens)/Paula Serafini (Leicester): Witness-Conflict-Impact: Reflections on Positionality in Art Practice, Activism and Ethnographic Research</li><li>• Sonja Moghaddari (Trento): Treffen (Documentary) <i>Facilitator:</i> Filippo Zerilli (Cagliari)</li></ul>
16:30-17:00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
17.00-19.00	Thematical Working Groups, coordinated by Christine Hämmerling (Zürich)
19.00	Final Workshop Assembly
20.00	Buffet and After Workshop Party with “DJ Prof” (Perugia), <i>discussant:</i> Filippo Zerilli (Cagliari), at Café Morlacchi (P.zza Morlacchi)