



MEAM Conference

Multispecies Ethnography and Artistic Methods

Call for abstracts

Liège, Belgium, 3-4 July 2023

Multispecies ethnography is expanding across a range of different fields, both in research and education, engaging a vast array of analytical frameworks. Regardless of what species or combination of species of animals, plants and fungi as well as water, earth and inorganic entities that ethnographers work with, **we are brought together in a series of diverse yet overlapping methodological issues**. The opportunities and challenges of multispecies ethnography shape the research design not only in questions of data collection, **but also in what analytical frameworks are operationalized throughout the research process**, including how the processes of data analysis and writing emerge. Multispecies ethnographers increasingly engage **in creative and artistic methods**, such as different expressions of creative writing, photo and film making as well as drawing, painting and poetry, **to capture relations beyond the human**. The entanglements of academia and art in different kinds of collaborations and interdisciplinary endeavors are exploding and there are ample opportunities **for crosspollination between multispecies ethnography and the feminist scholarship tradition of using creative methods to further othered perspectives**.

With the massive and worldwide interest generated by the online MEAM workshop in 2022, the newly established MEAM network **now invites to an in-person conference with additional on-line sessions**. We will especially engage, through ethnographic and artistic methods, the three conceptual themes of:

1. **Gender and intersectionality:** Paying attention to how power relations transgress species borders and shape multispecies and more-than-human relations
2. **Species as a social relation:** Exploring how the social norms and species relations shape how we understand individuals and groups
3. **More-than-human entanglements:** Emphasizing entanglements of sentient and non-sentient beings, forces, conditions and movements

In addition to more classic presentations, we encourage creative formats such as:
Ethnographic videos, photos, paintings, other visual art
Ethnographic poetry, music, creative writing readings
Individual or group embodied performances

We also envision, instead of a poster presentation, to have a multimodal artistic methods exhibition with pieces by the speakers

We ask participants to send us a title, affiliation, abstract (200 words) and a bio (150 words) to: meam@uliege.be by 20th December 2022.

Please indicate if you will be joining in person or join the online session, your theme and your mode of presentation as well as if you are bringing a piece for the artistic methods exhibition.

www.meam.uliege.be