



Singapore

TG07 SENSES & SOCIETY

International Sociological Association

Newsletter Issue 13

Fall 2017

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Editorial Note

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to present the 13th issue of TG07 Senses and Society newsletter. In this issue you will find information on our TG's participation at the International Sociological Association World Congress that will take place in July 2018 in Toronto. We have received over 70 abstract submissions and have selected 40 abstracts that span 9 panels including future-making and the senses, new directions in sensory visual ethnography, urban sensescapes, and drugs and the senses, among others. We will also be holding our elections for the next TG07 Board Officers (2018-2022) at the World Congress.

You will also find a catalogue of recent publications in sensory studies that importantly expand this field of research and pedagogy. I warmly welcome any feedback and suggestions that you may have for the newsletter and the TG and hope you enjoy reading the latest updates in sensory scholarship.

Happy Holidays!

Yours,

Kelvin Low

President/Newsletter Editor, TG07

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[TG07 Senses and Society website](#)

XIX ISA WORLD CONGRESS OF SOCIOLOGY

Toronto, Canada | July 15-21, 2018 | Metro Toronto Convention Center

isa International
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Association



**POWER, VIOLENCE
AND JUSTICE:** REFLECTIONS,
RESPONSES
RESPONSIBILITIES

TG07 Panels & Organisers

- 1. The Politics of Sensation I – Theory**
Mark Paterson, University of Pittsburgh
- 2. The Politics of Sensation II – Aesthetics**
Mark Paterson, University of Pittsburgh
- 3. Drugs and the Senses in Popular Culture: An Ambiguous Relationship**
Alexandre Marchant, ENS de Cachan France
- 4. Fluid Borders: Sensory Interactions in the Arts**
Florence Figols, Concordia University Canada
- 5. Sensory Journeys: Foodscapes of Movement and Belonging for Difficult Times**
Jean Duruz, University of South Australia

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TG07 Panels & Organisers

- 6. Future-Making and the Senses**
Catherine Earl, Federation University Australia
- 7. The Senses in Interaction**
William Gibson, University College London
Dirk vom Lehn, King's College London
- 8. Who's Afraid of the Synesthetic? Exploring New Directions
in Sensory Visual Ethnography**
Kiven Strohm, National University of Singapore
Alexandrine Boudreault-Fournier, University of Victoria Canada
- 9. Urban Sensescapes: Sensory Excursions in the City**
Noorman Abdullah and Kelvin Low, National University of Singapore

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Elections for TG07 Board Officers (2018 – 2022)

We will be holding elections for the new TG07 Board Officers for 2018-2022 at the ISA World Congress July 2018, Toronto.

Elections will take place at the TG07 Business Meeting (tba) in Toronto.

Positions include:

- TG President
- Newsletter Editor
- Secretary-Treasurer
- Board Members (6-8)

For any enquiries, please contact Kelvin Low at socleyk@nus.edu.sg

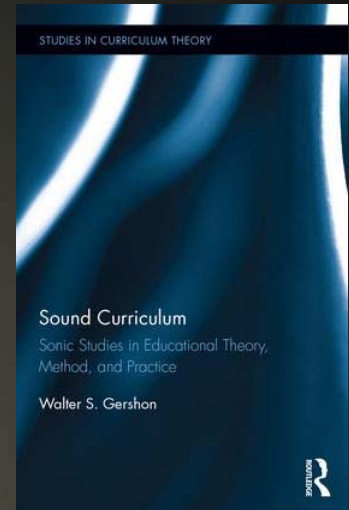
Publication Highlights

Sound Curriculum: Sonic Studies in Educational Theory, Method, & Practice

Walter S. Gershon
Routledge (2017)

Part of a growing group of works that addresses the burgeoning field of sound studies, this book attends not only to theoretical and empirical examinations, but also to methodological and philosophical considerations at the intersection of sound and education. Gershon theoretically advances the rapidly expanding field of sound studies and simultaneously deepens conceptualizations and educational understandings across the fields of curriculum studies and foundations of education.

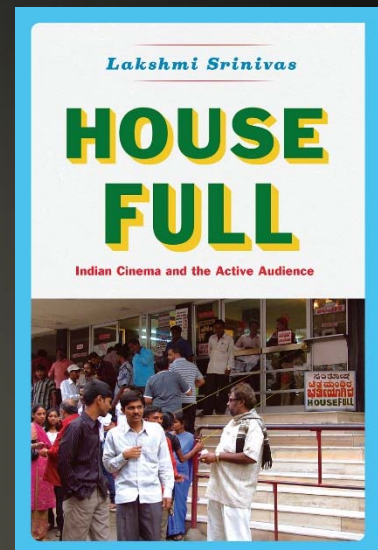
A feature of this work is the novel use of audio files aligned with the arguments within the book as well as the discussion and application of cutting-edge qualitative research methods.



Publication Highlights

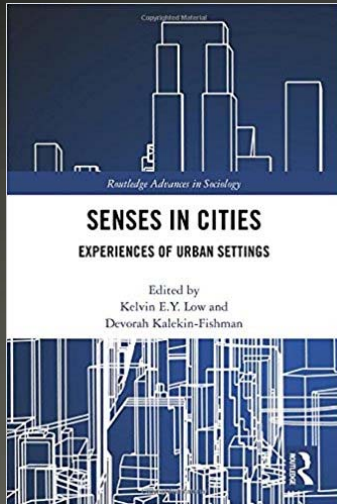
House Full: Indian Cinema and the Active Audience

Lakshmi Srinivas
University of Chicago Press (2016)



With *House Full*, Lakshmi Srinivas takes readers deep into the moviegoing experience in India, showing us what it's actually like to line up for a hot ticket and see a movie in a jam-packed theater with more than a thousand seats. Building her account on countless trips to the cinema and hundreds of hours of conversation with film audiences, fans, and industry insiders, Srinivas brings the moviegoing experience to life, revealing a kind of audience that, far from passively consuming the images on the screen, is actively engaged with them. People talk, shout, whistle, cheer; others sing along, mimic, or dance; at times audiences even bring some of the ritual practices of Hindu worship into the cinema, propitiating the stars onscreen with incense and camphor. The picture Srinivas paints of Indian filmgoing is immersive, fascinating, and deeply empathetic, giving us an unprecedented understanding of the audience's lived experience—an aspect of Indian film studies that has been largely overlooked.

Publication Highlights



Senses in Cities: Experiences in Urban Settings

Kelvin E.Y. Low & Devorah Kalekin-Fishman (eds)
Routledge (2017)

Urban landscapes are usually thought of first and foremost as engineered formations designed for functionality. It is quite clear, however, that cities and towns are sites of social structure, scenes of diversity, and hotbeds of transgressions. They are also sources of satisfying social relationships, settings for actions negotiated on an everyday basis, and opportunities for kinesthetic and aesthetic experiences. Within these processes, the senses mediate engagement with the optimism of urban growth, the comfort of urban traditions, and a consciousness of the diverse relationships that embellish urban living, but also with the repellent sights and sounds that invade zones of comfort.



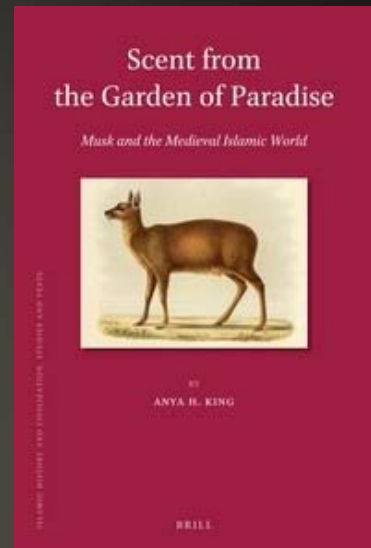
This book examines how qualities of place and their sensuous reorganisation elucidate particular sociocultural expressions and practices in urban life. The collection illuminates how urban environments are distinguished, valued, or reconfigured with the senses as media for evaluating authentic spaces and places that endure and change over time.

Publication Highlights

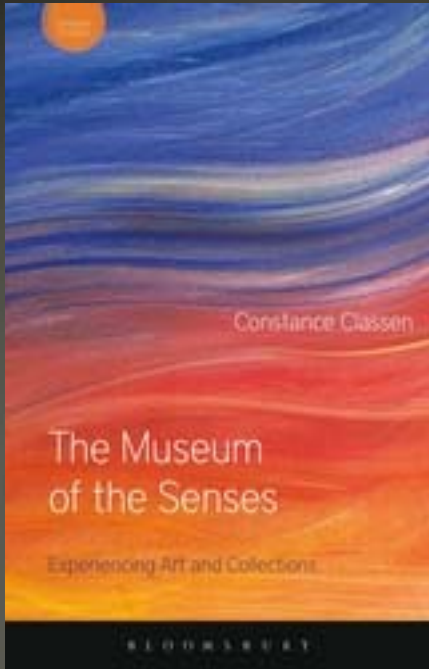
Scent from the Garden of Paradise: Musk and the Medieval Islamic World

Anya H. King
Brill (2017)

Since antiquity, musk has been a valued perfume and medicine. Because the musk deer only lives in Central Eurasia, people in other locations had to trade for its musk. For medieval Islamic civilization, musk became the most important of all aromatics. The musk trade thus illuminates the nature of medieval Asian trade and musk's cultural effects on the Islamic world. *Scent from the Garden of Paradise: Musk and the Medieval Islamic World* examines the history of musk from its origins in Asia to its uses in the medieval Middle East, surveys the Islamic literature on musk, and discusses the roles of musk in perfumery and medicine, as well as the symbolic importance of musk in Islam.



Publication Highlights



The Museum of the Senses: Experiencing Art and Collections

Constance Classen
Bloomsbury Publishing (2017)



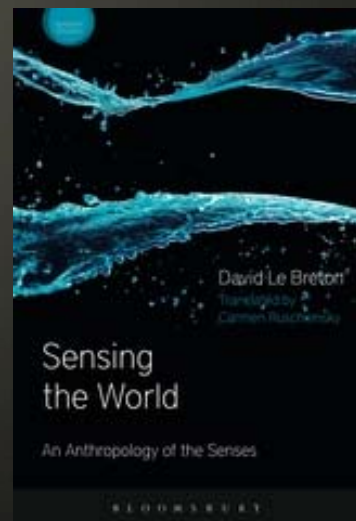
Traditionally sight has been the only sense with a ticket to enter the museum. The same is true of histories of art, in which artworks are often presented as purely visual objects. In *The Museum of the Senses* Constance Classen offers a new way of approaching the history of art through the senses, revealing how people used to handle, smell and even taste collection pieces. Topics range from the tactile power of relics to the sensuous allure of cabinets of curiosities, and from the feel of a Rembrandt to the scent of Monet's garden. The book concludes with a discussion of how contemporary museums are stimulating the senses through interactive and multimedia displays.

Publication Highlights

Sensing the World: An Anthropology of the Senses

David Le Breton
Bloomsbury Publishing (2017)

Sensing the World: An Anthropology of the Senses is a highly original and comprehensive overview of the anthropology and sociology of the body and the senses. Discussing each sense in turn – seeing, hearing, touch, smell, and taste – David Le Breton has written a truly monumental work, vast in scope and deeply engaging in style. Among other pioneering moves, he gives equal attention to light and darkness, sound and silence, and his disputation of taste explores aspects of disgust and revulsion. Part phenomenological, part historical, this is above all a cultural account of perception, which returns the body and the senses to the center of social life.



Publication Highlights

Resonant Masculinities: Affective Co-production of Sound, Space, and Gender in the Everyday Life of Belgrade, Serbia

Andrija Filipović

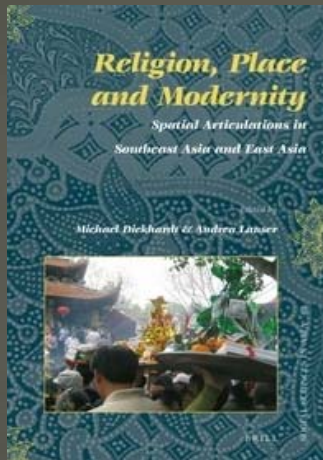
NORMA: INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FOR
MASCULINITY STUDIES 2017



Space in general is produced through the establishment of certain lines. There are straight lines that enable the affective closeness of certain objects to certain bodies, and there are lines that are aslant – queer lines. Queer lines are considered to be ‘empty’, ‘superfluous’, ‘opaque’, and even ‘deathly’ (in AIDS discourse), and made silent through various social technologies (‘the closet’). Synonyms for resonant include resounding, vibrant, deep, rich, clear, loud, booming, thunderous, deafening, and I would argue that it is exactly these terms that describe the straight line and space, as well as the sounds produced within that space. Indeed, the public (and private) life of heterosexuality is loud and clear, deafening for those who are queer. Analysing three case studies – sound recordings from the hallway of my building, from Tašmajdan, one of the largest public parks in Belgrade, and ‘the sound of institutions’, such as the church bells in the downtown of Belgrade – I illustrate the complex ways in which straight masculinity and queer subjectivities are being produced in affective relations to the sounds within this space, complicating the boundaries between the private and public in the urban soundscape.

Announcements

We invite book proposals to the interdisciplinary *Social Sciences in Asia* Monograph Series. It publishes original materials and the revised editions of special issues of the *Asian Journal of Social Science*. The *Social Sciences in Asia* Monograph Series welcomes submissions from specialists on any facet of Asia, including sociologists, anthropologists, political scientists, economists, geographers, and historians.



The *Social Sciences in Asia* Monograph Series was the initiative of the editorial team of the *Asian Journal of Social Science* at the Department of Sociology, National University of Singapore. It was initially the Asian Social Science Series, with Brill and the Times Academic Press co-publishing the first three volumes between 2001 and 2002. In 2003, the Series became *Social Sciences in Asia* and henceforth carries only the Brill imprint.

www.brill.nl/publications/social-sciences-asia

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Social Sciences in Asia Monograph Series, Brill

