



Singapore

TG07 SENSES & SOCIETY

International Sociological Association

Newsletter Issue 14

Spring 2018

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Editorial Note

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to present the 14th 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 recently published books and essays in sensory studies that pertinently 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.

Yours,

Kelvin Low

President/Newsletter Editor, TG07
socleyk@nus.edu.sg

[TG07 Senses and Society website](#)

XIX ISA WORLD CONGRESS OF SOCIOLOGY

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



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

TG07 Panels & Organisers **Location: 201E (MTCC NORTH BUILDING)**

Sensory Journeys: Foodscapes of Movement and Belonging for Difficult Times

Jean Duruz, University of South Australia
Monday, 16th July, 10:30 – 12:20

Urban Sensescapes: Sensory Excursions in the City

Noorman Abdullah and Kelvin Low, National University of Singapore
Monday, 16th July, 15:30 – 17:20

The Politics of Sensation I – Theory

Mark Paterson, University of Pittsburgh
Tuesday, 17th July, 08:30-10:20

The Politics of Sensation II – Aesthetics

Mark Paterson, University of Pittsburgh
Tuesday, 17th July, 15:30-17:20

Drugs and the Senses in Popular Culture: An Ambiguous Relationship

Alexandre Marchant, ENS de Cachan France
Wednesday, 18th July, 08:30-10:20

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Fluid Borders: Sensory Interactions in the Arts

Florence Figols, Concordia University Canada

Wednesday, 18th July, 15:30-17:20

The Senses in Interaction

William Gibson, University College London

Dirk vom Lehn, King's College London

Wednesday, 18th July, 17:30-19:20

Future-Making and the Senses

Catherine Earl, Federation University Australia

Wednesday, 18th July, 19:30-20:50

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

Thursday, 19th July, 10:30-12:20

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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 in Toronto on Friday, 20th July 2018, 10:30am.

Positions include:

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

For any enquiries, please contact the following elections officers:

Jean Duruz jean.duruz@unisa.edu.au

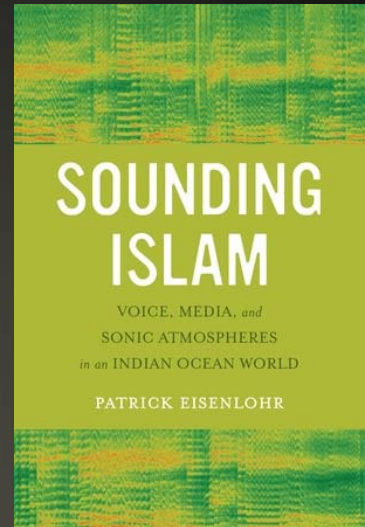
Emma Felton e.felton@qut.edu.au

Publication Highlights

Sounding Islam: Voice, Media, and Sonic Atmospheres in an Indian Ocean World

Patrick Eisenlohr
University of California Press (2018)

Sounding Islam provides a provocative account of the sonic dimensions of religion, combining perspectives from the anthropology of media and sound studies, as well as drawing on neo-phenomenological approaches to atmospheres. Using long-term ethnographic research on devotional Islam in Mauritius, Patrick Eisenlohr explores how the voice, as a site of divine manifestation, becomes refracted in media practices that have become integral parts of religious traditions. At the core of Eisenlohr's concern is the interplay of voice, media, affect, and listeners' religious experiences. *Sounding Islam* sheds new light on a key dimension of religion, the sonic incitement of sensations that are often difficult to translate into language.



Publication Highlights



Senses, Affects and Archaeology: Changing the Heart, the Mind and the Pants

José Roberto Pellini
Cambridge Scholars Publishing (2018)



Senses and affects, despite what some schools of thought in modern science think, are not only a physiological tool that captures the stimuli present in the world, but are also an apparatus that constantly updates our position in the world. They are material-discursive practices that we employ on a daily basis in the interpretation and evaluation of the world, a material-discursive practice that limits, delimitates, includes and excludes, arranges and rearranges the elements we grasp and interpret within the assemblies in which we are participating. That is why it is so important to understand how we are educated within these material-discursive practices, for this is the first step towards freeing our sense-affective processes and decolonizing our worldview. An archaeology of the senses and affects is aesthetically decolonized. It recognizes that we have been educated within a senso-affective aesthetic that normalizes and colonizes our behaviour. An archaeology of the senses and affects fights against epistemological violence like that manifested in the thinking that people in the past, as well as the present, thought and acted like Westerners.

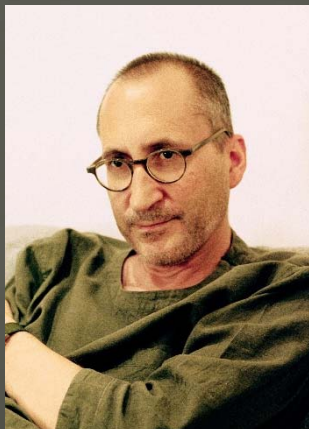
Publication Highlights



Disturbance, Translation, Enculturation: Necessary Research in New Media, Technology, and the Senses

Chris Salter

Visual Anthropology Review 34(1): 2018



This article examines a research program centered at the nexus of five seemingly unrelated fields: art practice with new technologies, anthropology, cultural studies of technology, the development of new technologies that seek to make new forms of sensation, and Indigenous new media studies. First, I articulate a broader area of interdisciplinary research called sensory studies. Subsequently, and switching to the pronoun “we,” I briefly describe the aims of *Sensory Entanglements*: a collaborative research program that asks how different bodies and cultures can transform/resist dominant paradigms of power and oppression through the senses. Finally, I conclude with a broader set of questions around the increased role the senses are playing in the organization of new modes of political-socio-technical reason.

Publication Highlights

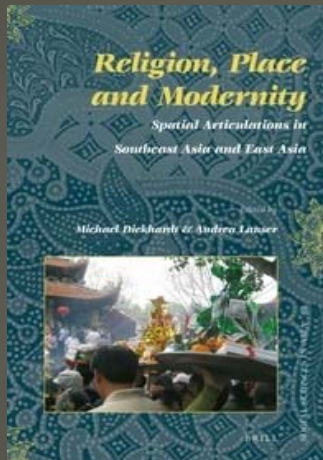
Sex Work, Sensory Urbanism and Visual Criminology: Exploring the Role of the Senses in Shaping Residential Perceptions of Brothels in Blackpool

Emily Cooper, Ian R. Cook and Charlotte Bilby
International Journal of Urban and Regional Research
42(3): 373-389 (2018)

Urban studies and criminology have much to offer each other, but the links between the two have so far been underexplored. This article is an illustration of how aspects of both can, and should, be brought into conversation: namely the literatures on sensory urbanism (in urban studies) and visual criminology. The benefits of doing so are evidenced by a case study exploring the ways in which the senses shape residents' perceptions of brothels in Blackpool. Three key findings emerge from the case study. First, the residents interviewed tended to focus on the visual aspects of brothels rather than other sensory aspects. Nevertheless, touch and smell (and their interaction with the visual) also played small but important roles in shaping residential perceptions. Second, residential perceptions of sex work and brothels are linked to, and encompass, a plurality of emotional responses. Third, while the residents could see or hear little of what was happening inside the brothels, they often sought out sensory clues from outside, typically drawn from the architectural features of the brothels. Such insights, we argue, are made possible by, and highlight the possibilities of, the bringing together of urban studies and criminology.

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

For all enquiries, please contact the academic editor, Kelvin Low at socleyk@nus.edu.sg

Kelvin E.Y. Low
Department of Sociology
National University of Singapore
Social Sciences in Asia Monograph Series, Brill

