

CONTRIBUTORS

Thomas Allen studied English and Philosophy at Newcastle University and at the University of Sussex. He is currently living in Berlin and preparing papers on Adorno's aesthetics, as well as an extended thesis on the Frankfurt School and photography. Photographic attempts can be witnessed at [http://www.tomallenphotography.net./](http://www.tomallenphotography.net/) Email: t.callen1@yahoo.co.uk.

Alexa Athelstan (igsaa@leeds.ac.uk) is a University of Leeds Research Scholarship funded PhD student at the Centre for Interdisciplinary Gender Studies, supervised by Dr. Shirley Anne Tate and Professor Ian Law from the Centre for Ethnicity and Racism Studies. Her PhD research theorises queer, alternative and subversive modes of feminine embodiment and subjectivity in everyday life. Further research interests pertain to gender, feminist and queer theory, critical femininity studies, everyday experiences and representations of embodiment and identity, intersectional approaches to power and identity, visual methodologies, as well as discursive formations and daily practices of age and ageism. Alexa was one of the editors of the October 2011 GJSS special edition 'Thriving on the Edge of Cuts: Inspirations and Innovations in Gender Studies', *GJSS* Vol. 8 (2). Currently, Alexa Athelstan edits the Graduate Journal of Social Science in collaboration with Rosemary Deller (Manchester University). Email: editors@gjss.org

Gwendolyn Beetham received her PhD from the Gender Institute at the London School of Economics, where her work examined the reproduction of gender stereotypes in international development programming. She currently lives in Brooklyn, New York, where she does consulting for gender justice organizations, edits the column *The Academic Feminist* at Feministing.com and participates in feminist, queer and food justice activism. She has published work in *The International Handbook on Gender and Poverty*, *the Gender and Development Journal*, *The Scholar & Feminist Online*, *The Women's Movement Today: An Encyclopaedia of Third Wave Feminism*, and written for the blogs *University of Venus* and *Girl w/ Pen*. She has work forthcoming in *Gender: The Key Concepts*, *Women's Studies International Forum*, and the *SAGE Handbook of Human Rights*. Email: gbeetham@gmail.com.

Caitlin Boland recently graduated from the University of St Andrews with an MLitt in International Political Theory with Distinction. At St. Andrews, her dissertation was awarded the Sir Menzies Campbell prize for the best Masters dissertation in the School of International Relations. Before pursuing graduate studies, Caitlin received her Bachelor's Degree in Government with Honors from Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. In the autumn of 2012, she will be attending law school in her home state of Montana so she may pursue her joint career interests in advocacy and the philosophy of law. Email: caitie.boland@gmail.com

Sam de Boise is a doctoral research student in the School of Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Leeds. His research focuses primarily on Western constructions of masculinities, specifically exploring how notions of rationality and emotionality relate to historic and contemporary discourses around music. Having worked previously in commercial sector research, he is also interested in questions of application of theory, ethics and methodologies to empirical sociological enquiry. Email: s.deboise@leeds.ac.uk

Rosemary Deller is a first year PhD student in the School of Arts, Histories and Cultures at the University of Manchester. Her PhD research investigates the transformation of living flesh into dead meat in a range of cultural texts drawn from the sixties to the present day. This forms part of her broader interest in feminist, gender and queer theory, questions of embodiment, and visual culture. She has published in *Feminist Theory* and in the edited collection *Queers in American Popular Culture*. Rosemary previously worked as liaison officer for GJSS between 2010-2011. Email: editors@gjss.org

Julia Downes is a Research Associate in the School of Applied Social Sciences at Durham University where she is currently working on a longitudinal study into the impact of community domestic violence perpetrator programmes on the safety and freedom of women and children. Julia has a BSc in Psychology, MA in Gender Studies (Research) and PhD in Interdisciplinary Gender Studies from the University of Leeds. Julia's ESRC-funded PhD critically examined contemporary queer feminist activist music cultures in the UK including riot grrrl, Ladyfest and grassroots DIY collectives. She has lectured on popular music and society, feminist cultural activism and queer girl cultures at the University of Leeds, University of Derby, University of Birmingham and Durham University. Julia has been active in DIY queer feminist cultural activism for over 10 years

within Manifesta, Ladyfest Leeds, rock camp for girls UK, the Star and Shadow Cinema, even clean hands cause damage and as a drummer in the bands The Holy Terror, Fake Tan, Vile Vile Creatures and the Physicists. Her forthcoming edited collection *Women Make Noise: Girl Bands from the Modettes to the Modern* will be published by Supernova books in September 2012. Email: julia.downes@durham.ac.uk

Melissa Fernández Arrigoitia is a Research Officer at the LSE research centre in the London School of Economics, where she carries out investigations to do with the capital's social, economic and political life. She has taught gender and politics at Queen Mary University and is a sessional lecturer at the Department of Psychosocial Studies, Birkbeck for the Culture Diaspora Ethnicity and Culture Community Identity MA programmes, where she is also an MSc dissertation supervisor. Melissa has degrees in Philosophy and Women's Studies (BA, Tufts University), Gender and International Development (MSc, LSE) and a PhD on the political, material and symbolic co-productions of public housing in Puerto Rico (LSE, Sociology-Cities). She is interested in interdisciplinary approaches to processes of urban 'othering', critical geographies of home and architecture, and the imports of gender, race and postcolonial theories to cultural and urban studies. Email: M.Fernandez1@lse.ac.uk

Christian Rojas Gaspar is currently pursuing a MA in Sociology at Queen's University. His research interests include criminology, street populations, qualitative research design and irregular migration. He is currently volunteering with an NGO in Mexico over the summer, in order to explicate: (1) the reasons why street youth leave home; (2) their criminal activities; (3) relationships; and (4) reasons for street permanence, through a criminological framework. Email: Christian.rojas@queensu.ca

Hwa Yi Xing is a queer-trans-feminist artist and activist based in Budapest, Hungary. Much of yx's work right now is closely linked to the activities of the Radical Queer Affinity Collective – <http://rqac.wordpress.com>. See also <http://hyxdesign.tumblr.com/>

Gerald Koessl is currently working on his PhD thesis, which explores new temporalities of working lives in the banking and finance industry in London. In his thesis he examines permanently employed banking staff as well as subcontracted service-sector workers such as cleaners, securities and caterers in terms of how each group is thinking about their future working lives and how this relates to questions of uncertainty. Before he

started my PhD at Goldsmiths, University of London, he completed a BA and MA at the University of Vienna in the subjects Sociology and Political Sciences, developing a particular focus on quantitative and qualitative research methods. Gerald Koessl is also working as a researcher at Goldsmiths in a project on the impacts of public sector modernisation on law centres in the UK, exploring the motivations and ethos of people working in law centres and the dilemmas and challenges law centre workers are facing in the current funding climate. Email: g.koessl@gold.ac.uk

Jan Hein Mooren is assistant professor in the psychology of the meaning of life and in methods of humanist counseling at the University for Humanistics in Utrecht, The Netherlands. He has published several books and articles on these subjects, his latest being *Verbeelding en Bestansoriëntatie* [Imagination and orientation towards existence] (2011).

Allison Kinsey Robb is a PhD Candidate in English and American Studies at the University of Manchester. She completed her M.A. in Art History from the University of Manchester and has a B.F.A. from Syracuse University in New York. Her research interests include: feminist art, feminist theory, identity, gender and sexuality studies.

Email: kinsey.robb@gmail.com

Anneke Sools (PhD) is assistant professor in narrative psychology and qualitative methodology at the University of Twente (department of Psychology, Health, and Technology) in Enschede, The Netherlands. She is the co-founder of the Network for Narrative Research Netherlands (NNN) and the co-founder of the Life Story Lab at Twente University. Her current research concerns the development of narrative theory and methodology in mental health research. Email: a.m.sools@utwente.nl

Marianna Szczygielska is a PhD student in the Gender Studies Department of the Central European University in Budapest. Her background is in philosophy and gender studies and she is interested in posthumanism, queer theory and the philosophy of science. Her current project, entitled "Queer(ing) Naturecultures: The Study of Zoo Animals", examines how the concepts of nature, animality, and humanness have been and continue to be constructed in relation to sexuality through the specific site of the modern zoological garden. Apart from academic work Marianna is also a feminist-queer activist. Email: mariannaszcygielska@gmail.com

Yvette Taylor is Professor in Social and Policy Studies and Head of the

Weeks Centre for Social and Policy Research, London South Bank University. She has held a Fulbright Scholarship at Rutgers University (2010-11). Books include *Fitting Into Place? Class and Gender Geographies and Temporalities* (Ashgate, 2012); *Lesbian and Gay Parenting: Securing Social and Educational Capitals* (Palgrave, 2009) and *Working-Class Lesbian Life: Classed Outsiders* (Palgrave, 2007). Edited collections include *Educational Diversity* (Palgrave, 2012); *Sexualities: Reflections and Futures* (2012); *Theorizing Intersectionality and Sexuality* (Palgrave, 2010) and *Classed Intersections: Spaces, Selves, Knowledges* (Ashgate, 2010). She has articles in a range of journals including *British Journal of the Sociology of Education*, *European Societies*, *Sociological Research Online*, *Sexualities*, and *Feminist Theory*. Yvette is currently working on an ESRC standard grant 'Making space for queer identifying religious youth' and recently completed an ESRC (2007-2009) funded project 'From the Coal Face to the Car Park? Intersections of Class and Gender in the North East of England'. She regularly blogs on the British Sociological Association's (BSA) *Sociology and the Cuts* and the *Gender and Education Association* (GEA) websites and is director of the MA Gender and Sexuality at the Weeks Centre. Follow Yvette @YvetteTaylor0 and see the Weeks Centre for Social and Policy Research blog at: <http://weekscentreforsocialandpolicyresearch.wordpress.com/>

Jenny Thatcher is one of the co-establishers and co-convenors for the BSA Bourdieu Study Group (<http://www.britsoc.co.uk/specialisms/Bourdieu.htm>) along with Dr Nicola Ingram (University of Bristol) and Dr Ciaran Burke (Queen's University Belfast). She is interested in issues of social class inequality and in particular how they are reproduced through the education system especially given the increasing marketisation of education. Her PhD focuses on Polish migration to London and Nottingham and looks at how Polish parents choose secondary schools for their children. The research explores their narratives and their perceptions of social divisions in Britain as well as what awareness the Polish migrants hold regarding issues of 'race', ethnicity and social class and whether their understandings of these issues influence their interaction with the quasi-market education system in the two different cities. It was this focus on how the education system can intensify and maintain positions of social domination that led to her concern about what is currently happening in the higher education sector and her co-founding of The Postgraduate Workers Association. She often use a Bourdieusian framework to understand social reproduction in education as she is interested in the signifi-

cance of class distinctions and cultural capital as a mechanism for social reproduction rather than simply economic capital. This can be seen through the choices students will make when deciding which university to attend even though nearly all universities shall be charging £9,000 a year. Email: u0933657@uel.ac.uk

Tracey Walker completed her Masters degree in Psychosocial Studies at Birkbeck, University of London. She is currently involved in community and social diversity research, working with public sector clients to help them make more authentic connections with marginalised groups. Tracey's wider research interests include Race and Psychoanalysis, Critical Whiteness, Cultural Histories and Black Subjectivity. Email: tracey_walker@hotmail.com