
From the Editors

Sonja Luehrmann and Alicia Sliwinski

In the introduction to their special theme section on “Ethnography, Performance and Imagination,” Magdalena Kazubowski-Houston and Virginie Magnat point to the collaborative and co-produced nature of anthropological knowledge. Through incorporating film, role play, musical performance and dramatic storytelling into their work with research participants, contributors to the special section look for anthropological approaches to the imagination, which, though “firmly grounded in the real,” has a “potentiality to subvert and remake the existing world” (this volume, p. 364). By looking beyond their own imaginative worlds and foregrounding those of their interlocutors, they also show how anthropological research, while always constrained by its dependency on structures of power, can take small steps toward unsettling global hierarchies of attention. For example, Andrew Irving hands the camera to two boys who lost their father and their expected future to AIDS; Denise Nuttall spent years learning and teaching a South Asian approach to musical transmission that feels frustratingly slow to her North American students; and Magdalena Kazubowski-Houston asks an elderly Roma woman not only to supply facts about her life but to create and enact scenarios that show her as a social commentator in her own right. In one of the stand-alone articles following the theme section, Dominique Raby draws attention to the expertise of indigenous Nahua women, whose conceptualisations of masculinity generate ideas for fighting against domestic violence.

In the more solitary worlds of scholarly writing to which most of us return sooner or later, the work of reviewing and editing is perhaps the closest we come to collaborative knowledge creation. Having taken over the task of editing *Anthropologica*, Sonja Luehrmann is struck by how the journal’s mandate of representing the breadth of Canada-based anthropological research is sustained through the collective efforts of many people: the editorial team and staff at the University of Toronto Press and the editorial board members, but also the authors who submit their work and the reviewers who leave their imprints on the articles through generous and insightful comments.

At this time of transition, we thank outgoing editor-in-chief Jasmin Habib for her creativity and commitment, through which she significantly expanded the scope and readership of *Anthropologica*. Together with incoming French editor Alexandrine Boudreault-Fournier and book review editors Karine Gagné and Daniel Tubb, Sonja hopes to build on the work of previous editors, who kept *Anthropologica* grounded in its role as the Canadian Anthropology Society’s (CASCA) flagship journal and its origins in circumpolar studies, but also opened it up to a more globalised vision of world anthropologies. This “opening up” will continue over the next three years, as CASCA and *Anthropologica* explore avenues to transition to open access publishing. This will make the journal more accessible to readers from diverse geographic and institutional locations, not least among them the research interlocutors whose imaginations inform our work.

We look forward to English and French manuscripts reflecting the diverse topics, theoretical orientations and geographic locations that Canadian anthropologists and their colleagues engage. When submitting your work, also consider our other genres, such as *Reflections* (represented in this issue by Trienke Gastmeier’s essay on Jamaican society seen with the “foreign familiarity” of a Canadian-born child of emigrant parents), *Ideas* (a space for collections of short essays debating a particular anthropological concept) and *Practitioner’s Corner* (where we would like to hear from anthropologists working outside of academia – for example, in museums, community-based research, government consulting or journalism). In the face of increasing pressures to specialise and defend areas of expertise, general journals such as *Anthropologica* are a place to look beyond our particular corner of the discipline to a broader imaginary of what the endeavour of humans studying humans can look like.

Alicia, the outgoing French editor, would also like to thank Jasmin Habib for her stewardship and dedication to the journal and welcome the incoming French editor, Alexandrine Boudreault-Fournier. It has been very rewarding for me to participate in this endeavour for the past five years. *Anthropologica* has undergone important changes and stands strong in the field of Canadian scholarly publications. I wish all the best to *Anthropologica*’s new editorial team!
