



Dear readers,

In 2011 the founders of Ethnographic Encounters conceived the idea of creating this journal, providing a platform for undergraduate Social Anthropology students at the University of St Andrews to publish their second-year ethnographic projects. Nevertheless, a wish to expand our content to include a wider variety of undergraduate work was also put forward by the original editorial team, and it was agreed that there was scope to add a more creative dimension to our publication.

This idea was finally concretised this year, and we are now proud to present the first number of *Inspired by Ethnographic Encounters*. This issue aims to give students the opportunity to publish their work without restricting them to only submitting second-year ethnographic projects. Our goal in doing this is to create a space where we can reflect on the creative aspects of Social Anthropology in St Andrews, as well as to broaden the subject areas included in the journal. It is hoped that this section will expand in the future, also giving access to submissions from undergraduates studying this degree at other universities.

Indeed, one of the mission statements of the Ethnographic Encounters Journal is to “offer a means for Social Anthropology students throughout the world to engage with their peers in St Andrews, establish new connections, share ideas and to begin to engage in an exchange of knowledge that is fundamental to the discipline”. This year we have been fortunate enough to become acquainted with colleagues living and studying across the ocean; the editors of *Revista Habitus*, an online anthropology journal run by undergraduates at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, have been exchanging ideas with us. Their publication is celebrating its ten year anniversary this year, as well as the release of a bilingual version of the journal, which we are looking forward to engage with.

Our gratitude goes to our authors and readers. Thanks also to Dr Craig Lind, from the Department of Social Anthropology, for all the time he has offered us this semester. Welcome to the first issue of *Inspired by Ethnographic Encounters*!

—The Editors

In this Issue

ARTICLES

Anthropology, Literature & Writing

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| Ethnography and the novel: persuasion, proclivity, register | Michael Melia |
| 'The novel is ethnography': <i>Shantaram</i>, by Gregory David Roberts | Pia Noel |
| 'The novel is ethnography': <i>As I Walked Out One Midsummer Morning</i>, by Laurie Lee | Jake Threadgould |
| <u>Anthropological Musings</u> | |
| Grave-visiting, Spirituality and Animistic Beliefs amongst the Bisaya of Rural Borneo | Alice Cottle |
| The popularity of sky burials in Tibet | Dávid Gáspár |
| How are perceptions of environment and climate change linked to social and cultural conceptions? | Abigail Lee |
| <u>Ethnographic Encounters</u> | |
| Deaf not Dumb: Perceptions of the d/Deaf Community in Dundee | Georgina Church |
| Birds of a Feather: The Jewish Retirees of Boca Raton | Lucie Fuller-Kling |
| <i>The Salon</i> | Ines Geraldine Cardoso |
| Contemporary Use of American Youth Slang: 'Sluts with Pride' | Madeleine King |
| POETRY | |
| The Lost Letters from the Congo | Joe Makangu |
| PHOTOGRAPHY | |
| Nadaam | Carolyn Wason |
| The Coat | Livia Marinescu |

Editor

Francesca Vaghi

Sub-Editors

Adele Oates, Sophie Patterson, Sabrina Russo

Photography Editor and Publicity Manager

Ilina Vânău

Journal Manager

Dr. Craig Lind

OJS Support

Jackie Proven

Janet Aucock

Academic Liason Librarian

Alice Crawford

Special thanks to the University of St Andrews' Department of Social Anthropology.

Aims and Scope

Ethnographic Encounters is an undergraduate e-journal which provides a platform for the work of the social anthropology students of University of St Andrews. Established in 2011, the e-journal's main aim is that of publishing research projects conducted by students in their second year of study. Additionally the publication promotes visual and other experimental expressions of ethnographic interest. The e-journal is intended to present the work of the University of St Andrews' undergraduate, social anthropology students for two main audiences. In the first instance, Ethnographic Encounters presents a valuable resource for future students to draw on the experience and insights of their predecessors. In the second instance, Ethnographic Encounters offers a means for social anthropology students throughout the world to engage with their peers in St Andrews, establish new connections, share ideas and to begin to engage in an exchange of knowledge that is fundamental to the discipline.