

Melanie J. Sindelar

Curriculum Vitae

Phonogrammarchiv
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EDUCATION

- Dr.phil Social & Cultural Anthropology (*w/ distinction*), University of Vienna, 2019
Dissertation: *Their past in an image: contemporary art and the imagination of local heritage in the UAE*
Supervisors: Andre Gingrich, Ayse Caglar, Examiners: Burkhard Schnepel, Matti Bunzl
- MSc Social Anthropology, University of Oxford, 2013
- BA Prehistoric & Medieval Archaeology, University of Vienna, 2011

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2020-2021 Post-Doc Researcher, Austrian Science Fund (FWF) Stand-alone Project P28736 Death & Life: Local Conceptions of Reincarnation among the Druzes in the Middle East, Phonogrammarchiv, Austrian Acad. of Sciences (Dec 20 – Mar 21)
- 2019-2020 Coordinator, Center for Doctoral Studies & Research Support Services, Academy of Fine Arts Vienna (Oct 19 – Dec 20)
- 2019 Independent Translator & Editor (Jun 19 – Oct 19)
- 2018-2019 IFK Junior Fellow Abroad, Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology, Fellow Group Connectivity in Motion, Halle/Saale, (Jul 18 – May 19)
- 2017-2018 IFK Junior Fellow, International Research Center for Cultural Studies, University of Art and Design Linz, (Oct 17-Jun 18)
- 2015 Projects & Artists-in-Residence program team, Art Dubai, UAE (Jan 15 – Apr 15)
- 2014-2017 Uni:docs PhD researcher, Dep. of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Vienna (Oct 14 – Sept 17)

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS

- 2020 Publication funding for book project “Total replication”, Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Vienna
- 2018 Dissemination grant, AAA 2018 San Jose, Österreichische Forschungsförderungsgesellschaft
- 2018 Summer school grant, Archaeology, Cultural Heritage, and Contemporary Connectives of Indian Ocean History, Center for Global Asia, New York University Shanghai
- 2017-2019 IFK Junior Research Fellowship
- 2017 Dissemination grant for MESA 2017, University of Vienna
- 2017 Participation grant, The Indian Ocean World and Eurasian, Connections Summer School, Center for Interdisciplinary Area Studies, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg
- 2014-2017 Uni:docs fellowship for outstanding doctoral candidates, Dep. of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Vienna

- 2014 Summer school grant, Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research, Maxwell School, Syracuse University & Faculty of Social Sciences, Graduate Center of Social Sciences, University of Vienna

INVITED TALKS

- 2019 Die Vergangenheit in einem Gemälde: zeitgenössische Kunst und die Vorstellungswelten lokalen Kulturerbes in den VAE, Österreichische Orient-Gesellschaft Hammer-Purgstall, May 28th
- 2018 Artistic responses to local heritage in the United Arab Emirates LSE Middle East Centre, Workshop National Identity and the Emirati State, October 5th
- 2018 Artists as Nation-Builders? Heritage, Nationalism, and Art in the Arab Gulf International Research Center for Cultural Studies University of Art and Design Linz, January 29th
- 2013 Contemporary Arts Production in Contexts of Nation-Building in the Arab Gulf Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies, Humanities Research Cluster, University of Exeter, November 4th
- 2012 An Anthropology of Oil in Muslim societies, Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, University of Oxford, May 2nd

CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

Conferences Organized

- 2020 Graduate Conference, Academy of Fine Arts Vienna, 22nd October
- 2017 The many social lives of policy, Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Vienna, 28th-29th April
- 2015 European Universities Debating Championships, University of Economics and Business Vienna, Competition Manager, 2nd-8th August

Panels Organized & Chaired

- 2020 Provoking Visuals: Creative Engagements with Borders, Wars, and Conflicts, w/ Katja Seidel, Patrick Naef, European Association for Social Anthropology, Peace and Conflict Studies in Anthropology Network, 20th-24th July
- 2018 Beyond Resistance and Complicity: New Approaches to Middle Eastern Art Production and Circulation, w/ Kyle Craig, American Anthropological Association, San Jose, CA, 14th-18th November
- 2017 Visual Engagement: Between the Self and the Nation, Middle East Studies Association, Washington DC, 18th-21st November

Papers (excerpt, since 2018)

- 2020 Past-Present-Future: Time-based artistic practices from the Gulf, Middle East Studies Association, Online, 5th October
- 2020 Productive Provocations: death, narco-violence and border regimes in the work of Teresa Margolles, European Association for Social Anthropology, 22nd July
- 2019 The nation takes place in the future: artistic responses to cultural heritage in the Arab Gulf, Horizon 2020 Global Traces Conference: Art Practice, Ethnography, Contested Heritage, University of Oslo, 8th February
- 2018 Between market demand and state dictate: contemporary artistic practice in and from the Arab Gulf, American Anthropological Association, San Jose, CA, 15th November

2018 Peril, Petroleum, and Passports: Artistic responses to crisis and recession in the Gulf,
Association of Social Anthropology of the UK & Commonwealth, Oxford, UK, 20th
September

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Anthropological Association • European Association of Social Anthropologists
Middle East Studies Association • The International Art Market Studies Association • Association for
Gulf and Arabian Peninsula Studies • Deutscher Arbeitsverband Vorderer Orient • Austrian Association
of Scientific and Literary Translators