

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## **Debbora Battaglia**

### **Office:**

Department of Sociology and Anthropology

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### **Education**

1981 Ph.D., Social Anthropology, Cambridge University M.Lit., Social Anthropology, Cambridge University

1975 B.A., Art History (Ethnographic Art Emphasis)

1972 University of California at Santa Barbara

### **Specialization**

Identity theory, culture and power, social memory and forgetting, gender, expressive culture, Melanesian ethnography, spirituality

### **Courses taught:**

Constructing Cultural Identities, Introduction to Anthropology, Person and Self in Cross-Cultural Perspective, Poetics and Politics of Ritual Practice, Dramaturgical Approaches to Ritual, Urban Anthropology, Cultural Responses to Mortality, Social Process in Oceania, Anthropology of Art, Visualizing Culture, The Anthropology of Spirituality

### **Professional Teaching and Research Positions**

1995-present Professor of Anthropology;  
1994-1997 Chair, Department of Sociology and Anthropology  
1992-1994 Visiting Associate Professor/Visiting Scholar, Department of Anthropology, Stanford University  
1990-1992 Chair, Department of Sociology and Anthropology  
1989-1995 Associate Professor of Anthropology  
1983-1989 Assistant Professor of Anthropology  
1990-present Member of the Graduate Faculty, Department of Anthropology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts  
1985 Visiting Research Fellow, Papua New Guinea Institute for Applied Social and Economic Research, Boroko, Papua New Guinea  
1979-1981 Lecturer (full-time appointment), Anthropology of Art, Department of Art, University of East Anglia, Norwich, England  
1979-1979 Anthropologist/Pacific Area Consultant, Ethnographic Film: "The Commanding Sea", BBC/Malone-Gill Productions, London  
1975- 1976 Research Anthropologist, Elmdon Village Project, England (Supervisor, Audrey Richards)

#### **Awards and Research Grants**

2001 Mount Holyoke College Research Grant

1997/98 NSF Mathematics Across the Curriculum: Ethnomathematics (Grant for seminar participation)

1998 Mount Holyoke College Research Fellowship

1996 Mellon Grant for Community-Based Learning (Grant for course development)

1993-1994 John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation

1992-1993 Fellowship Mount Holyoke College Research Grant

1989-1990 National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship

1987 Mount Holyoke College Research Fellowship

1986 Mount Holyoke College Research Grant

1986 Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research Grant-In-Aid

1985 National Endowment for the Humanities, Summer Stipend

1985 Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research Grant-in-Aid

1980-1981 Social Anthropology Department, Cambridge University

1979-1980 Trinity College, Cambridge: William Wyse Fund

1976-1977 Girton College, Cambridge

1976-1977 Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Cambridge

1976-1977 Smuts Memorial Fund, Cambridge

1976-1977 Trinity College, Cambridge: William Wyse Fund

1970-1971 President's Undergraduate Fellowship: University of California (9 campus competition)

### **Fieldwork**

1976-1987 Papua New Guinea (Milne Bay Province and Port Moresby): Long-term and intermittent

1975 -1976 Elmdon, England. Research anthropologist for Audrey Richards

### **Publications**

#### **BOOKS:**

in progress Battaglia, Debora. *The Self Displaced*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

1995 Battaglia, Debora, ed. *Rhetorics of Self-Making*. Berkeley: The University of California Press.

1990 Battaglia, Debora. *On the Bones of the Serpent: Person, Memory, and Mortality In Sabarl Island Society*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

#### **ARTICLES AND CHAPTERS:**

2001 *Multiplicities: An Anthropologist's Thoughts on Replicants and Clones in Popular Films*. *critical Inquiry* 27 no. 3 (Spring).

1999 *Toward an Ethics of the Open Subject: Writing Culture in*

*Good Conscience*. In H. L. Moore, ed. *Anthropological Theory Today*. Cambridge: Polity Press

1997 Ambiguating Agency: The Case of Malinowski's Ghost. *American Anthropologist* 99 (3): 18-22.

1997 Displacing the Visual: Trobriand Axe Blades and Ambiguation.

In H. Morphy and M. Banks, eds. *Rethinking Visual Anthropology*. Yale: Yale University Press.

1995 "You Are Never Alone With a Clone": Human Cloning and the Value of Individuality in the American Cultural Imaginary. *American Anthropologist* 97 (4): 15-21.

1995 Problematizing The Self: A Thematic Introduction. In D. Battaglia, ed. *Rhetorics of Self-Making*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

1995 On Active Nostalgia: Self-Prospecting Among Urban Trobrianders. In D. Battaglia, ed. *Rhetorics of Self-Making*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

1994 Retaining Reality: Some Practical Problems With Objects as Property. *Man* (n.s.) 29: 1-15.

1993 At Play in the Fields (and Borders) of the Imaginary: Transformations of Forgetting in Melanesia. *Cultural Anthropology* 8 (3): 20-32.

1992 Displacing Culture: A Joke of Significance in Urban Papua New Guinea. *New Literary History* 23 (4):1003-1017.

1992 The Body in the Gift: Memory and Forgetting in Sabarl Mortuary Exchange. *American Ethnologist* 19 (1): 3-18.

1991 Punishing the Yams: Leadership and Gender Ambivalence on Sabarl. In M. Godelier and M. Strathern, eds. *Big Men and Great Men: The Development of a Comparison in Melanesia*. Cambridge and Paris: Cambridge University Press and Maison des Sciences de L'Homme.

1985 "We Feed Our Father": Paternal Nurture Among the Sabarl of Papua New Guinea. In *American Ethnologist* 12 (3): 427-441.

1983 Projecting Personhood in Melanesia: The Dialectics of Artefact Symbolism on Sabarl Island. In *Man* (n.s.) 18: 289-304.

1983 Syndromes of Ceremonial Exchange in the Eastern Calvados: The View from Sabarl Island. In E. Leach and J. Leach, eds. *The Kula: New Perspectives on Massim Exchange*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

#### SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS:

1986 *Bringing "Home" to Moresby: Urban Gardening and Ethnic Pride among Trobrianders in the National Capital*. Special Publication no.11. Port Moresby: Institute for Applied Social and Economic Research.

#### BOOK REVIEWS:

2001 Marilyn Strathern, ed. *Audit Cultures*. In *The Journal of The Royal Anthropological Institute*.

1993 Marilyn Strathern. Partial Connections. In *American Anthropologist* 95: 189-90.

1991 Frederick Damon and Roy Wagner, eds. Death Rituals

and Life in the Societies of the Kula Ring. In *Journal of Ritual Studies* 5:2 pp. 145-8.

(1991) Giancarlo Scoditti. Kitawa: A Linguistic and Aesthetic Analysis of Visual Art in Melanesia. In *Man* (n.s.).

1991 James F. Weiner. The Heart of the Pearl Shell: The Mythological Dimension of Foi Sociality. In *American Anthropologist*.

1991 David Freedberg. The Power of Images: Studies in the History and Theory of Response. In *American Ethnologist*.

1990 Frederick Errington and Deborah Gewertz. Cultural Alternatives and a Feminist Anthropology: An Analysis of Culturally Constructed Gender Interests In Papua New Guinea. In *Signs* 15:4 pp. 869-72.

1985 Michael Young. Magicians of Manumanua. In *Man* (n.s.):415-16.

#### **Invited Presentations (selected)**

"Multiplicities: The Anthropology of Human Replication in Popular Cinema". Paper presented at the Humanities Center, Harvard University, History of Science seminar, April 2000.

"Corporealizing Theory". Discussant's paper, presented at the Annual Meetings of the American Anthropological Association session, Narratives of Modernity, November 1999.

"Time and Race in Replication Genre Films: An Anthropological Reading". Paper presented at the annual Cinema Studies Conference, West Palm Beach, Florida, April 1999.

"Writing Performance in Good Conscience". Paper presented at Cambridge University, Department of Social Anthropology, February 1999.

"Ethics and Ambiguity". Paper presented at the Annual Meetings of the American Anthropological Association session, Ethics and Other Technologies of Self, December, 1998.

"Toward an Ethics of the Open Subject: Writing Culture In Good Conscience". Paper presented at Columbia University, Department of Anthropology, October 1998.

"Ethnomathematics and Ideology". Keynote address: Mathematics Across the Curriculum Conference, Dartmouth College, July 1998.

"The Culture in the Clone". Paper presented at the Annual Meetings of the

American Anthropological Association session, Cloning Around (President's invited panel), Washington, D.C., November 1997.

"Towards a Pacific Ethnography of Contingency". Discussant's Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association session, Rethinking Subjectivities, Washington, D.C., November 1997.

"Multiplicities: An Overview of Animation and Cessation". Discussant's Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, session on Animation and Cessation, San Francisco, November 1996.

"Ambiguating Agency: The Case of Malinowski's Ghost" Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, session Agency, Washington, D.C. November 1995.

"Fear of Selfing in the American Cultural Imaginary". Paper presented at the conference Anthropology and the Question of the Other. Rudesheim am Rhein, Germany. Institut für Ethnologie und Afrika-Studien, Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz, Apr 30-May 5, 1995.

"Meditations on the Social Life of Things: Some Critical Considerations" Paper presented at the 21st Annual Conference of the Association of Art Historians, Victoria and Albert Museum, London, England, April 7-9, 1995.

"Displacing Identities: Cultural Process Among Urban Trobrianders" Department of Anthropology, Harvard University. Cambridge, December 1994.

"Aesthetics/Anti-Aesthetics: Introducing the Issues". Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Atlanta, Georgia, session on Aesthetics/Anti-Aesthetics, November 1994.

"Who Authors/Authorizes The Self: Anthropological Perspectives" NSF Workshop on Cultural Pluralism and Ethical Decision-Making, Stanford University, May 12, 1994.

"You Are Never Alone With a Clone: The Ethics and Aesthetics

of Human Cloning in the American Media". Paper presented at the NEH-sponsored conference What's Blood Got To Do With It: Rethinking Kinship. University of California at Santa Cruz, June 1994.

"Retaining Reality: Some Practical Problems with Objects as Property". Paper presented at the Association for Social Anthropology Decennial meeting, Oxford, July 1993.

"On Practical Nostalgia". Paper presented at the Department of Anthropology, Rice University. February 1993.

"Urban Trobriand "Publicity" in the National Press: Thinking About Self-Prospecting". Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association (invited session) "The Rhetoric of Self-Making". San Francisco (December 1992).

"Urban Trobriand Identity Displacement: An Indigenous Problematic". Colloquium, Department of Anthropology, Stanford University. Stanford, (April 1992).

"Humor and Self Displacement in Urban Trobriand Practice".

Open lecture sponsored by the Department of Anthropology, University of California at Berkeley. Berkeley (March 1992).

"Serious Joking About the Self: A Trobriand Example" Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, invited session "History In Person: Social Formation In Practice" Chicago (November 1991).

"Displacing Culture: A Joke of Significance in Urban New Guinea". Paper presented at the conference on "Culture and Change", The Commonwealth Institute for Literary and Cultural Change, University of Virginia (November 1991).

"Cultural Screen Memory and Ideologies of Persistence: Preliminary Thoughts from Melanesia". Paper presented at the conference "Embodiment and Sociality", University of Manchester, England (July 1991).

"Ideologies of Persistence: Comment on Fredrik Barth". Paper presented at the Plenary Session "Culture and Memory", Annual Meeting of the Society for Cultural Anthropology, Boston (May 1991).

"The Body in the Gift: Further Thoughts on Sabarl Gender and Exchange". Paper presented to the Department of Anthropology, University of California at Santa Cruz (January 1991).

"Intentional Forgetting in Gendered Exchange" Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association session, "The Reproduction of the Person" (November 1990).

"Memory and Exchange in Melanesia: An Introduction" (co-author, Susanne Kuechler). Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, invited session, "Memory and Exchange: Social History Through Narrative and Objectification". Phoenix, Arizona (November 1988).

"Punishing the Yams: Leadership and Gender Ambivalence on Sabarl Island". Paper presented at the conference on "Big Men and Great Men in Melanesia". Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris (July 1987).

"Urban Gardens and their Magic". Paper presented at the Department of Anthropology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst (October 1985).

"Urban Gardens and Self-Construction". Paper presented at the Department of Anthropology, University of Papua New Guinea (August 1985).

"Patrilineality in a Matrilineal Society". Paper presented at the Philadelphia Anthropological Society, University of Pennsylvania (February 1985).

"Lines and Circles: Melanesian Myth, Reciprocity and Reproduction". Paper presented to the Department of Anthropology, New York University (March 1984).

"Body-Building in Melanesia: Constructs of the Person in Sabarl Mortuary Rituals" Paper presented at the Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago (May 1982).

"Body-Building in Melanesia: Preliminary Thoughts". Paper presented at the

Department of Anthropology, University of California at San Diego (May 1982).

"Self-Decoration in Melanesia" Paper presented at the Department of Art, University of California at Los Angeles (December 1981).

"Witchcraft and Sorcery Among the Sabarl". Paper presented at the Neuropsychiatric Institute, University of California at Los Angeles (October 1981).

"Ceremonial Exchange in the Eastern Calvados". Paper presented at the conference on "Rethinking the Kula". Cambridge University, Cambridge, England (July 1977).

### **Professional Service and Activities**

University

1999 External Examiner, Ph.D. Dissertation in Social Anthropology, Cambridge

1999 Promotion Evaluation: Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago

1994-present Member of the Editorial Board, American Ethnologist.

1995-present Member of the Editorial Advisory Board, Material Culture

1990-1995 Member of the Editorial Board, Cultural Anthropology

1994-present National Research Council panelist.

1996 Promotion Evaluation: Department of Anthropology, Cornell University

1997 Promotion Evaluation: Department of Anthropology, William and Mary College

1997 Panelist for the National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowships

1993-1994 Panelist for the National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowships

1990-91 Panelist for the National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowships

1990 Consultant: Trinity College (Hartford, Connecticut).  
Anthropology candidate assessment and hiring procedures review  
Ongoing Book-length Manuscript Evaluation: Duke University Press, University of California Press, University of Chicago Press, Smithsonian Institution Press, Cambridge University Press, Harvard University Press, Routledge Press, Princeton University Press.

AAA Session Organizer:

1994 "Aesthetics/Anti-Aesthetics: Culture at Large" Invited Session (SCA).

1992 "Rhetorics of Self Making". Invited Session (GAD/AES).

1988 "Memory and Exchange: Social History Through Narrative and Objectification". Invited Session (GAD/AES).

**Mount Holyoke College Public Events**

Oganizer: Mellon/Mount Holyoke College Distinguished Lecture Series, *New Directions in Sociology and Anthropology*: 2001, 1999, 1997.

Organizer: Public Lecture - Film Studies and Anthropology. Professor Steven Caton (Harvard University), "Lawrence of Arabia." February 2000. Also, Film Studies Seminar on Orientalism in "Lawrence of Arabia."

Organizer: Public Lecture - Professor Steven Feld (New York University), "World Music and Afro-Pop." February 1999.

Organizer and Chair: "Gender Imagery - New Approaches in Anthropology". A Symposium at Mount Holyoke College (November 1988). Panelists: Emily Martin, Marilyn Strathern, Alfred Gell

**Mount Holyoke College Committees**

Committee to Appoint Committees; Faculty Fellowships and Grants Committee; Five-College Women and History Curriculum Committee; Academic Policy Committee (including Literacies sub-committee); Scheduling Committee; Five-College Dance Reappointment Committee; Chair of two Tenure and Promotion Committees for Sociology and Anthropology; Chair of the Search Committee for position in Anthropology (three times); Chair of the Search Committee for African-American Studies positions (twice); Chair of the Search Committee for position in Sociology (once); Chair of the Search Committee for Five-College medical anthropology position; Appeals Committee (current); Member Reappointment Committee for Joshua Roth; Tenure and Promotion Committee Member, Dance Department; Tenure and Promotion Committee, Theatre Department.

**Membership in Professional Organizations**

American Anthropological Association

Royal Anthropological Institute (Fellow)

American Ethnological Society

Society for Cultural Anthropology

Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania

**Professional Development Seminars**

Mellon Seminar in the Case Study Method

Writing Beyond the Academy

Mathematics Across the Curriculum