

## CURRICULUM VITAE

Debbora Battaglia  
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Department of Sociology and Anthropology  
Mount Holyoke College  
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### Education

Ph.D. Social Anthropology, Cambridge University	1981
M.Lit. Social Anthropology, Cambridge University	1975
B.A. Art History (Ethnographic Art Emphasis) University of California at Santa Barbara	1971

### Specialization

Cultural identities/differences, science/religion/media networks, expressive culture. Area specialties: Melanesia, North American public culture, cyber-locales.

### Courses Offered

Cultural Identities/Differences, Performing Culture, Visualizing Culture, Ritual as Transformative Social Action, Contemporary Issues in South Pacific Ethnography, Introduction to Anthropology.

### Academic Positions

Professor of Anthropology (1995-present); Chair, Department of Sociology and Anthropology (1990-92; 1994-1997); Associate Professor of Anthropology (July 1989-1995); Assistant Professor of Anthropology (July 1983-1989)

Member of the Graduate Faculty, Department of Anthropology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts (September 1990-present)

Visiting Associate Professor/Visiting Scholar, Department of Anthropology, Stanford University (January 1992-September 1994)

Lecturer (full-time appointment), Anthropology of Art, Department of Art, University of East Anglia, Norwich, England (October 1980-July 1981; December 1979-March 1980)

## **Keynote Addresses**

- (2005) “Ethnography Between the Lines” Cambridge University conference  
Description and Creativity: Approaches to Collaboration and Value from  
Anthropology, Science, and Technology. Cambridge University, Cambridge,  
England, July 3-6, 2005.
- (2004) “Human Cloning and Post-Apocalyptic Personhood” Keynote address  
for the European Molecular Biology Organization conference on  
Science and Society: Time & Aging – Mechanisms and Meanings, Heidelberg,  
Germany, November 6-7, 2004.
- (2003) “Invitations to Abduction: Technoscience Spirituality, The Media, and  
G.S. Peirce” Keynote Address for the Cornell - St. Andrews University  
Knowledge Exchange Conference, Cornell University, September 7, 2003.
- (2003) “Technoscience Spirituality: An Invitation to Abduction in a New Key”  
Keynote Address for the Association for Social Anthropology Decennial  
Meetings, Plenary Session, Manchester, England, July 21, 2003.
- (1998) “Ethnomathematics and Ideology” Keynote Address for Mathematics Across  
The Curriculum conference, Dartmouth College, New Hampshire, July 1998.

## **Awards and Research Grants**

### **EXTERNAL SOURCES**

John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship	1993/94
National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship	1989/90
Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research Grant-In-Aid	1986
National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend	1985
Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research	1985

### **COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY SOURCES**

Mount Holyoke Faculty Fellowship: ET Diplomacy	2008-09
Making Class Visible: A Mount Holyoke Community Project	2007
Mount Holyoke College Faculty Fellowship	2005
Mount Holyoke College Faculty Fellowship	2002-03
Mount Holyoke College Faculty Grant	2001
Mount Holyoke College Research Fellowship	1998

Mellon Grant for Community-Based Learning (Grant for course development)	1996
Mount Holyoke College Research Grant	1992/93
Mount Holyoke College Research Fellowship	1987
Mount Holyoke College Research Grant	1986
Social Anthropology Department, Cambridge University	1980/81
Trinity College, Cambridge: William Wyse Fund	1979/80
Girton College, Cambridge	1976/77
Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Cambridge	1976/77
Smuts Memorial Fund, Cambridge	1976/77
Trinity College, Cambridge: William Wyse Fund	1976/77
President's Undergraduate Fellowship: University of California (9 campus competition)	1970/71

## Publications

### BOOKS

(in progress) Battaglia, Debhora. *Seriously at Home in 0-Gravity: Essays on Outer Space Culture, Perspective, and Anthropology*

(2006) Battaglia, Debhora, ed. *E.T. Culture: Anthropology in Outerspaces*. Durham: Duke University Press.

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

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

### MONOGRAPHS

(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.

### ARTICLES/CHAPTERS

(in press) E.T. Culture and the E.T.-Effect on the Social. *Vienna Vision for Humans in Outer Space*. European Space Policy Institute, eds. Munich: Springer.

- (2007) Battaglia, Debhora. Where Do We Find Our Monsters? In Jeanette Edwards, Penny Harvey and Peter Wade, eds. *Ways of Knowing: Epistemologies in Practice*. Oxford: Berg Press.
- (2006) Battaglia, Debhora. Comments on Scaling Place and Networks: An ethnography of the imperative to connect through information and communications technologies. *Current Anthropology*
- (2005) Battaglia, Debhora. *Insiders' Voices in Outer Spaces: Toward an Anthropology of Visits*. In D. Battaglia, ed. *ET Culture: Anthropology in Outerspaces*. Durham : Duke University Press.
- (2005) Battaglia, Debhora. "For Those Who are Not Afraid of the Future" Raelians, Faith-Based Human Cloning, and the Media. In D. Battaglia, ed. *ET Culture: Anthropology in Outerspaces*. Durham: Duke University Press.
- (2004) Religion and Media Across the Great Divide of Essentialist and Situated Knowledge: Hent de Vries and Samuel Weber, eds. *Religion and Media*. (Review Essay). *Anthropological Quarterly* 77, no.1: 145-151.
- (2004) Comments on 'The Archaeology and Ethnohistory of Exchange in Pre-Colonial Roviana: Gifts, Commodities, and Inalienable Possessions.' *Current Anthropology* Vol.44, Supplement.
- (2004) Religion and Media Across the Great Divide of Essentialist and Situated Knowledge: Hent de Vries and Samuel Weber, eds. *Religion and Media*. (Review (Essay)). *Anthropological Quarterly* 77, no.1: 145-151.
- (2001) Multiplicities: An Anthropologist's Thoughts on Replicants and Clones in Popular Films. *Critical Inquiry* 27 no. 3 (Spring):493-514.
- (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 UP.
- (1995) Fear of Selfing in the American Cultural Imaginary or "You Are Never Alone With a Clone" *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.

## BOOK REVIEWS

- (2007) Birgit Meyer and Annelies Moors, eds. Religion, Media, and the Public Sphere. In *American Anthropologist* Vol.109, No. 4, pp. 801-811.
- (2005) Harry G. West and Todd Sanders, eds. Transparency and Conspiracy: Ethnographies of Suspicion in the New World Order. In *Current Anthropology*.
- (2004) Shirley Campbell. The Art of the Kula. In *Visual Anthropology Rev.*20 no.2:98-99.
- (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)**

- “E.T. Diplomacy and the E.T.-Effect” 2008 Professorial Lecture, University of Manchester, School of Social Sciences. May 20, 2008.
- “Galaxies of Discourse” Paper for conference, Imagining Outer Space, 1900-2000. Zentrum für interdisziplinäre Forschung (ZiF), Germany.
- “E.T. Diplomacy.” Paper for Johns Hopkins University, Department of Anthropology. November 13, 2007.
- “E.T. Diplomacy” Paper for the European Science Foundation/European Space Agency/European Space Policy Institute conference, Humans in Outer Space. Vienna, Austria. October 12, 2007.
- “Only (Dis)Connect: A Post-Postmodern Approach to Writing Culture” Paper for University College London. Departments of Material Culture and Social Anthropology. March 21, 2007.
- “Writing Fluid Ethnography” Paper for conference, Con/Texts of Invention. Case Western University, April 2006.

“Ethnographic Fictions and Productive Anxiety” Cornell-St.Andrews Knowledge Exchange Conference on Ethnographic Fictions, Cornell University, April 2006.

“Happenstantial Authorship” Paper presented at St. Andrews University, Scotland. November 2005.

“Writing Outer Spaces” Paper presented at the University of Lisbon, June 2003.

“Insiders’ Voices in Outer Spaces: Invitations to Abduction in a New Religious Movement” Paper presented at Yale University, January 2003.

“Writing Outer Spaces” Paper presented at the University of Chicago, Department of Anthropology, May 2002.

“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.

"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 fur Ethnologie und Afrika-Studien, Johannes Gutenberg-Universitat 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 What's Blood Got To Do With It: Rethinking Kinship. UC 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"  
Public 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).

### **Fieldwork and Archival Research**

National Air and Space Museum Archives, Washington, D.C. Summer 2008, Spring 2009

Multi-Site Ethnography: Quebec, East Coast United States, Internet, August 2001 to the present. The Raelian Movement. Faith-based science and personhood in a minority religious movement.

Papua New Guinea (Milne Bay Province and Port Moresby): Long-term and intermittent, June 1976-1987). Sabarl Island culture and society, Trobriand culture and power in Port Moresby

Elmdon, England: July 1975 - January 1976). Village/Hamlet identity.

## Professional Service and Activities

American Anthropological Association Session Organizer:

- (2007) AAA Presidential Session Honoring Marilyn Starthern.
- (2002) Writing Outer Spaces. Invited Session (SCA).
- (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).

Co-Creator (with Senior Curators): National Air and Space Museum MHC Student Internships (Summer 2008).

Organizer: Alternative Science/Alternative Religion: Views from the Margins. A 5-College faculty salon. (September 2005-2006).

Co-Organizer: Five-College Initiative on Race, Women, and Science. (September 2004-2005).

Member of the Editorial Board, *Interview Forum*: online journal, Harvard U. (June 2004-June 2005).

Member of the Editorial Board, *Anthropology Quarterly* (September 2001-present).

Member of the Editorial Advisory Board, *Material Culture* (January 1995-present).

National Research Council panelist (March 1994-present).

External Examiner, Ph.D. Dissertation in Social Anthropology, Cambridge University (February 1999); University of Manchester (May 2008)

Member of the Editorial Board, *American Ethnologist* (August 1994-1998).

Member of the Editorial Board, *Cultural Anthropology* (September 1990-September 1995).

Panelist for the National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowships (1997, 1994, 1993, 1991, 1990).

Tenure and Promotion Evaluation: Department of Anthropology, Cornell University (1996); Department of Anthropology, William and Mary College (1997), Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago (1999, 2003, 2005).

Book-length Manuscript Evaluation (ongoing): 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.

Consultant: Trinity College (Hartford, Connecticut). Anthropology candidate assessment and hiring procedures review (November 1990).

### **Local Community Events and Public Service**

Project Coordinator: *Making Class Visible: A Project of, for, and by the Mount Holyoke Community*. Including creation and supervision of an internal community-based learning course (January Term 2 units), oversight of an original student film, *Making Class Visible: A Home Movie*, publicity campaign for a MHC community forum on social class, original website: [www.mtholyoke/go/socialclass](http://www.mtholyoke/go/socialclass). Winter and Spring 2007.

Co-Organizer: Public Lecture Series: *The Culture and Nature of the Visual*. Academic Year 2002-2003.

Co-Organizer: Faculty Seminar: *Engaging The Visual: Cross-Disciplinary Exchanges*. Academic Year 2002-2003.

Organizer: "Muslim Worlds Through Film" series. Mount Holyoke College: Fall 2001.

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

Session Leader: Five-College Undergraduate Symposium: Over the years.

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 and Service**

Core Committee Membership: Chair, Multicultural Community and College Life Committee (Fall 2007-Spring 2008); Film Studies (current); Arts Group Project;

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; Member Reappointment Committee for Joshua Roth; Tenure, Review, and Promotion Committee, Dance Department; Tenure and Promotion Committee, Theatre Department.

### **Professional Development Seminars**

Participant: Arts and Humanities Seminar (NEXUS)  
Co-organizer: Faculty Seminar - Visuality Across the Curriculum  
Participant: Faculty Seminar - The Case Study Method  
Participant: Writing Beyond the Academy (Weissman Center)  
Participant: Faculty Seminar - Mathematics Across the Curriculum  
Participant: Faculty Seminar - Medieval Studies

### **Membership in Professional Organizations**

American Anthropological Association  
Royal Anthropological Institute (Fellow)  
American Ethnological Society  
Society for Cultural Anthropology  
Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania  
American Ethnological Society