

Transversal Practices: Matter, Ecology and Relationality

VI Conference on New Materialism

27–29 September 2015

The Victorian College of the Arts
The University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia.

Extension on Call for Papers

New deadline – 16 February 2015

Abstracts for academic papers, creative proposals and experimental and/or experiential laboratories are invited from scholars/writers/artists/scientists. Please submit a 250-word abstract or proposal with a title, keywords and technical requirements along with a short 100 word biography via the Newmats2015 website template.

Submit your abstracts online at: www.newmats2015.net

Confirmed Keynotes:

A/Professor Erin Manning, SenseLab, Concordia University, Canada
Professor Hayden Lorimer, University of Glasgow, Scotland
Professor Brian Martin, Deakin University, Australia

Transversal Practices focuses on how things, subjects, collectives, politics and disciplines are in the making; how they take-form and transform in relation to other elements, both human and nonhuman. Transversal Practices are concerned with ecologies where intensities of movement are aligned with and embrace hands-on attitude and artistic, scientific, ethnographical, philosophical and activist praxis.


We offer three keywords to inspire thinking and to carve out the specificities of practice. Matter refers to ubiquitous, vibrant and continuous becoming that is one of the central concerns of New Materialism: practices are always material, and surprising in nature. Ecology indicates an open and continuously transforming system, which depends upon how its components relate to each other. Relationality, for its part, is the moving principle of being in the world, or with the world. We become in relation to others. We co-emerge, as do artworks, ideas and collectives.

We welcome contributions that address, for example, the following questions:

How do transversal practices work and how can we account or conceptualise them? What kind of methodologies do they necessitate, or call for?

We encourage critical approaches that transversally cross the following: collectivity, corporeality/incorporeality, materiality/immateriality, indigeneity, individual/group subjectivity, knowledge-production/onto-epistemologies, language, temporality, transdisciplinarity, processes of making art/philosophy/activism, and the three Ss—spatiality, sociality and the sensorium. All conference submissions will be referred with opportunities to submit completed papers for a refereed publication.

Enquiries about the conference can be directed to: admin@newmats2015.net



The Newmats2015 conference is sponsored by the Faculty of the VCA and MCM at the University of Melbourne in co-operation with ISCH COST Action New Materialism: Networking European Scholarship on 'How Matter Comes to Matter.'