



MATERIAL TEMPORALITIES

A workshop organized by
Jeremy F. Walton (MPI-MMG), Patrick Eisenlohr (CeMIS, University of Göttingen)
and Sasha Newell (Université Libre de Bruxelles)
23-24 January 2020 | Göttingen, Hermann-Föge-Weg 11, Library Hall

- by invitation only -

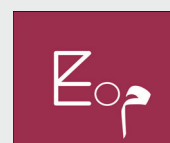
From Kula to Coca-Cola, anthropologists have long considered objects as the connective tissue of and mediums for social relations. In doing so, they have forged a long-standing, multifaceted relationship to forms of materiality that trouble the Enlightenment dichotomy between subject(s) and object(s), building a vocabulary for evaluating the potencies and agencies of material worlds that are rarely, if ever, simply “objective.” Yet anthropologists have only rarely considered how human modes of historicity and projections of futurity saturate and constitute materialized worlds, rendering them simultaneously subjective and objective in myriad ways.

In conjunction with the Centre for Modern Indian Studies at the University of Göttingen and the German Research Foundation (DFG) special focus program “Ästhetische Eigenzeiten (Proper Times of the Esthetic)”, our workshop, “Material Temporalities,” reconvenes the participants in a 2018 double panel at the American Anthropological Association meetings to continue our ethnographic explorations of mediations of temporality and materiality, in contexts ranging from New York City to Mumbai, from Kurdistan to China, from southeast Europe to the American southwest.



Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity
Max Planck Research Group “Empires of Memory”
Hermann-Föge-Weg 11 • 37073 Göttingen • www.mmg.mpg.de

Contacts: Dr. Jeremy F. Walton walton@mmg.mpg.de
Marina Cziesielsky cziesielsky@mmg.mpg.de



Thursday 23 January

- 9.30 Welcome, introductory remarks
- 10.00-12.00 "THE SOCIAL TIMES OF THINGS"**
- Robert Matej Bednar (Southwestern University) "Trauma Remains: The Material Temporalities of Objects Placed at Roadside Crash Shrines"
- Sasha Newell (Université Libre de Bruxelles) "The Time of Clutter: Anti-Kairos, the Space of Storage in U.S. Domestic Life"
- 12.00-13.00 Lunch
- 13.00-15.00 "VIOLENT AFTERLIVES"**
- Çiçek Ilengiz (MPI-MMG) "Secular Aesthetics of Divine Temporalities: The Statue of a Holy-Madman in the post-Genocidal landscape of Turkey, Dersim"
- Marlene Schäfers (Gent University) "Animated Images in Revolutionary Times: The Photographic Afterlives of Kurdish Martyrs"
- 15.00-15.30 Coffee break
- 15.30-17.30 "MEDIA(TING) COSMOLOGIES"**
- Stefan Binder (CeMIS, University of Göttingen) "Localizing Time, Temporalizing Space: Media Landscapes of Twelver Shi'ites in South India"
- Patrick Eisenlohr (CeMIS, University of Göttingen) "Latent cosmologies, latent media: The material temporality of Twelver Shi'i media practices in Mumbai"
- 18.30 Dinner for workshop participants at Abessina

Friday 24 January

- 10.00-12.00 "GROUNDS OF THE PAST"**
- Anoush Tamar Suni (University of Michigan) "Buried Gold, Buried Histories: Myth, Magic, Materiality"
- Jeremy F. Walton (MPI-MMG) "The Dead Wait: Epochal Time(s) in Sepulchral Spaces"
- 12.00-12.45 Lunch
- 12.45-15.00 "UNRULY OBJECTS, UNRULY TIMES"**
- Sofia M. Pinedo-Padoch (Princeton University) "Materiality, Time, and Value in the Work of Estate Administration"
- Leksa Lee (New York University Shanghai) "Modeling Uncertain Futures: The Material Promises of China's New Urban Planning Museums"
- 15.00-15.30 Coffee break
- 15.30-17.30 Final discussion and publication plans
- 18.30 Dinner for workshop participants at Apex



Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity
Max Planck Research Group "Empires of Memory"
Hermann-Föge-Weg 11 • 37073 Göttingen • www.mmg.mpg.de

Contacts: Dr. Jeremy F. Walton walton@mmg.mpg.de
Marina Cziesielsky cziesielsky@mmg.mpg.de

