

Visiting Practices

A symposium of Haraway-inspired interdisciplinary engagements

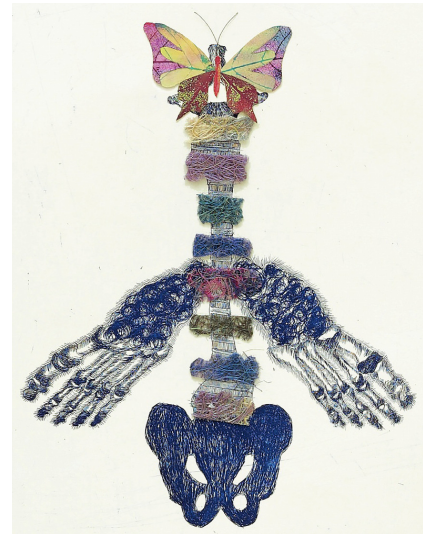
April 26, 2016

University of Kassel

Visiting is a subject- and object-making dance, and the choreographer is a trickster. Asking questions comes to mean both asking what another finds intriguing and also how learning to engage that changes everybody in unforeseeable ways.

I work with string figures as a theoretical trope, a way to think-with a host of companions in sympoietic threading, felting, tangling, tracking, and sorting.

— Donna Haraway, 2016, *Staying with the Trouble: Making Kin in the Chthulucene*



This *symposium* is a one-day event based on the outcomes of engaging with Donna Haraway's "Staying With the Trouble: Making Kin in the Chthulucene" (2016) that was done at the TBD Reading Group at the University of Kassel.

After reading and discussing Haraway's work, the *symposium* will provide space to engage and respond, both to ideas presented in the book, as well as to each other's work. Specifically, the *symposium* invites contributors to think how interdisciplinary work can be done with response-ability to the "objects" researched as well as how "visiting" as a research practice can help forge alliances across disciplinary boundaries.

The thematic scope of contributions is not limited to any particular disciplines, but we do ask the contributors to actively comment and re-work ideas presented in the book, such as those of kinship, naturecultures, composting, response-ability, sympoiesis, SF, and others. What are the potentials of these concepts and ideas for world-making practices within academia and without? What political implications does thinking in SF-inspired modes engender? Which creative practices and methodologies does the Harawayan approach generate?

In this *symposium* no format is natural, all responses are encouraged. Therefore we welcome presentation formats that include but in no way are limited to the traditional academic papers.

The *symposium* will consist of three parts: a closed workshop-session with presentations, an open discussion on visiting practices as a meta-methodological tool for interdisciplinary research, and a public film screening of the documentary "Donna Haraway: Story Telling for Earthly Survival" (Fabrizio Terranova, 2016).

If you wish to participate in the *symposium*, please send an abstract of your contribution, as well as an indication how much time you would need for it, along with your brief biographical note, to jennifer.stoll@uni-kassel.de and goda.klumbyte@uni-kassel.de by March 25.

About TBD reading group

[TBD](#) ("To Be Defined") is an interdisciplinary reading group on the intersections between Science and Technology Studies (STS), feminism, queer studies, posthumanism and new materialism. We are interested in engaging with works - both contemporary and otherwise - that deal with the relationships between technology, sexuality and culture. The group meets approximately once a month and is open to both "advanced readers" and "beginners". The goal of it is not only to explore and discuss texts but also to present each other's work and get feedback for work-in-progress. It is hosted by research group [Gender/Diversity in Informatics Systems](#) and department of the [Soziologie der Diversität](#) at the University of Kassel.

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