Secrets from the Greek Kitchen
David E. Sutton

Secrets from the Greek Kitchen: Cooking, Skill, and Everyday Life on an Aegean Island explores the changing nature of everyday cooking practices on the Greek island of Kalymnos. It asks how cooking skills, practices, and knowledges are being reproduced or transformed, concomitant with other changes associated with contemporary life. Kalymnian islanders, both women and men, have an elaborate, shared discourse on ingredients, tastes, and recipes, and they consciously use food as a way of evoking personal and collective memory. Thus cooking knowledge, controlled mainly by women, has been a key way in which women have been socially evaluated by other women and by men. This ethnography treats the kitchen as an environment through which people move in the course of pursuing tasks, displaying skills, confronting culturally defined risks, and deploying their culturally shaped sensory abilities. On Kalymnos, cooking is much more than a mechanical chore to be executed. It is a central feature of people’s discourses and practices, which unlocks larger understandings of what is entailed in “the good life.” These larger meanings, however, can only be fully understood through a thick description that pays attention to the cutting of onions, the use of a can opener, and the rolling of phyllo dough. Through attention to these micropractices in the kitchen, I show how we can open up new perspectives on the anthropology of everyday life.

Performing Ethnomusicology
Ted Solis (ed.)
This book deals with creating, teaching, and contextualizing academic world music performing ensembles. Considering the formidable theoretical, ethical, and practical issues that confront ethnomusicologists who direct such ensembles, the sixteen chapters it contains discuss problems of public performance and the pragmatics of pedagogy and learning processes. Their perspectives, drawing upon expertise in Caribbean steelband, Indian, Balinese, Javanese, Philippine, Mexican, Central and West African, Japanese, Chinese, Middle Eastern, and Jewish klezmer ensembles, provide a uniquely informed and many-faceted view of this complicated and rapidly changing landscape. The chapters examine the creative and pedagogical negotiations involved in intergenerational and intercultural transmission and explore topics such as reflexivity, representation, hegemony, and aesthetically determined interaction. The book affords insights into the structuring of ethnomusicologists' careers and methodologies. It offers a history and contemporary examination of academic world music performance in the West, especially in the United States.

The Spirit and the Letter
Chris Hann and Hermann Goltz
in Eastern Christians in Anthropological Perspective
Published in print: 2010 Published Online: May 2012
Item type: chapter

This chapter examines how religious knowledge is produced and transmitted in the context of Orthodox monastic lives in contemporary Romania. It considers the use, by novices and those who train them, of notions of mysticism and charisma, in both discourse and practice, with particular reference to the use of texts. Cliché characterizations of Orthodoxy commonly emphasize a contemplative and mystical outlook. Such representations are not limited to Western observers. Orthodox theologians themselves speak of mysticism as the faith's central defining characteristic.

Exorcising Demons in Post-Soviet Ukraine
Chris Hann and Hermann Goltz
in Eastern Christians in Anthropological Perspective
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Item type: chapter
This chapter explores the making and unmaking of a monastic community in post-Soviet Ukraine. The postsocialist revival of religion occurred within a ferment of unrest that saw the splintering and emergence of many religious communities. This process of religious restructuring has often been attributed to sociopolitical transformations, the emergence of competitive markets of religion, and the rise of nationalism. There has been little systematic inquiry into the transformations each religious tradition underwent in terms of content and modalities of expression, and little engagement with the anthropological literature addressing processes of cultural transmission. The chapter approaches the religious tradition of western Ukraine, a local variant of Eastern Christianity as a living tradition, a “cosmology in the making.” The account is based on a search for correlations between the social organization, forms of religious transmission, and variation in religious knowledge in this tradition.

Concepts for the Study of Regional Culture

Claudio Lomnitz-Adler

in Exits from the Labyrinth: Culture and Ideology in the Mexican National Space

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Item type: chapter

This chapter proposes a terminology and conceptual framework for studying culture in internally differentiated regional spaces. It develops a notion of regional culture as culture in power-regions, and illustrates five concepts: “intimate culture,” “culture of social relations,” “localist ideology,” “coherence,” and “mestizaje.” It reviews key areas for the ethnographic description of regional culture and hegemony. It is shown that there are internal contradictions involved in the organization of social space. The spatial structure of sign distribution is linked to the general economic regional structures in which sign transmission occurs. The manipulation of national mythology and the construction of frames and idioms of interaction between cultural groups are elaborated. Three major dimensions of the analysis have been the economy of sign transmission and distribution, the regional political economy of class and its implications for the spatial analysis of meaning, and the ways in which dominant discourses help organize social space.
. Discrimination and Its Discontents
Peter Baldwin

in Disease and Democracy: The Industrialized World Faces AIDS

Published in print: 2005 Published Online: March 2012
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DOI: 10.1525/california/9780520243507.003.0006
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This chapter discusses the forms of discrimination of AIDS patients and HIV infection high-risk groups in different developed countries, including the ways these countries are dealing with this issue. Western nations differed significantly in how they countered discrimination against the infected. Attitudes toward AIDS victims varied in tandem with the legal protection offered the handicapped, women, and ethnic and other minorities in the legal systems considered here. In the United States, the issue of discrimination against the victims of HIV was incorporated as part of broader protections for the handicapped. This chapter also discusses the regulations imposed by industrialized countries on prostitution as this is a possible area for the transmission of HIV/AIDS. The issues related to HIV/AIDS among medical personnel and prisoners, as well as aspects regarding insurance coverage and marriage are also discussed.

. The Polymorphous Politics of Prevention
Peter Baldwin

in Disease and Democracy: The Industrialized World Faces AIDS

Published in print: 2005 Published Online: March 2012
Publisher: University of California Press
DOI: 10.1525/california/9780520243507.003.0008
Item type: chapter

This chapter discusses the similarities and differences in the approach that developed countries employed in the control and prevention of HIV/AIDS. It provides an account of the laws and restrictive measures present in these countries to conduct epidemiological surveillance of HIV/AIDS, and penalize irresponsible behavior among HIV/AIDS patients. This chapter also discusses the civil rights aspects of these public health measures regarding HIV/AIDS control and the evolution of these public health measures to becoming more democratic and voluntary.
Massacre of the Innocents
Didier Fassin

in Humanitarian Reason: A Moral History of the Present
Published in print: 2011 Published Online: May 2012
Publisher: University of California Press
DOI: 10.1525/california/9780520271166.003.0007
Item type: chapter

This chapter focuses on the three different problems faced by the children in South Africa which include the increasing prevalence of AIDS and transmission of HIV virus from mother-to-child, the increasing abuse of children, particularly girls and infants and the state of orphans in South Africa. It refers to the struggle of Nkosi Johnson, a HIV-positive child abandoned by her mother, which made South Africans aware of the epidemiological reality of the HIV infection and conceives a different moral representation of AIDS. The HIV-positive children in South Africa were the victims of both the reckless behavior of their parents and the inappropriate decisions of the government that was too slow to introduce programs for reducing the rate of transmission from mother to child. It also reveals how the issue of orphans and more generally of children separated from their parents is not just the consequence of a biological misfortune, but also the result of historically constituted structural inequalities in the society.

On the Nature and Transmission of Bimo Knowledge in Liangshan
Bamo Ayi

in Perspectives on the Yi of Southwest China
Published in print: 2001 Published Online: May 2012
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DOI: 10.1525/california/9780520219885.003.0009
Item type: chapter

This chapter discusses the education of the bimo, the importance of patrilineal transmission of knowledge, and the ideas of education embodied in the long training and apprenticeship before a bimo can perform rituals on his own. For the national Chinese discourse, and to some extent for the local discourse of Yi identity, Nuosu society in Liangshan represents a kind of paradigm for the Yi in general—a society where outside influences were minimal and where one could see in the present what other Yi must have been like in the past, before their cultures were heavily intermixed with acculturative elements from the Han. The cosmopolitan discourse, in recent decades at least, has rejected
such rigidly typological and general evolutionary schemes, and tends to view Nuosu society as something sui historically related to the other Yi.

American Graffiti: The Social Life of Jim Crow Signs
Elizabeth Abel

in Signs of the Times: The Visual Politics of Jim Crow
Published in print: 2010 Published Online: March 2012

This chapter examines the material history of Jim Crow signs, their tangible forms, and circuits of transmission. Tracing the signs' “biography” across the twentieth century, it discusses how, through whose agency, and in what material manifestations they appeared on, disappeared from, and reappeared in the United States. It places Jim Crow signs in conversation not with the intellectual history of the racial sign, but with other forms of public signage that bring into focus racial segregation's distinctive modes and spectrum of expression. In contrast to the standardization of commercial signage, Jim Crow's perversely populist production encouraged idiosyncratic and self-revealing forms of utterance that were especially apparent to the signs' primary addressees—and to their eventual preservers, collectors, and consumers. By juxtaposing two stages in the signs' life history—their production at the turn of the twentieth century and their reproduction at the turn of the twenty-first century, when an industry emerged to meet the growing demand for ownership, primarily among African Americans—this chapter explores how race has been configured through the signs' production and recirculation as commodities.

Trade in Roman Berenike
Steven E. Sidebotham

in Berenike and the Ancient Maritime Spice Route
Published in print: 2011 Published Online: March 2012

Evidence for Berenike's commercial contacts in the Roman period is far better than for the Ptolemaic. There are two major sources of information about items traded at or passing through Berenike in Roman times. Literary can be combined with archaeological evidence to establish which regions Berenike did business with and attempt to identify which
ports Berenike most likely had as trading partners. The most noteworthy import to Berenike was black pepper. Items excavated at Berenike that came from India or the Indian Ocean basin include sorghum, rice, coconuts, mung beans, Indian gooseberry, sesame seeds, Nile catfish bones, escargot, Job's tear, rosary peas, frankincense, and myrrh. The presence of Roman coins in India does not necessarily indicate any balance-of-trade deficit, nor does it invariably signal that merchandise was purchased in every case. Finally, examples of cultural transmission are described.

Scholasticism and Orality
Georges B. J. Dreyfus

in The Sound of Two Hands Clapping: The Education of a Tibetan Buddhist Monk
Published in print: 2003 Published Online: May 2012

Scholasticism revolves around the interpretation of constitutive texts in light of commentaries. This chapter examines the nature of interpretation that Tibetan scholastic practices presuppose and the tools that support such practices. In the Western medieval tradition, the core practice was the lecture (lectio), which includes both reading and the lecture proper. The lecture was supplemented by the disputation (disputatio), during which students debated questions raised by the lecture. But because of its double meaning, lectio signals the connection between aural practice and reading, a connection that may surprise those of us accustomed to think of reading as silent and solitary. The chapter discusses the connections between commentary, reading, and orality in the Tibetan scholastic tradition. The role of oral commentary can be better understood by relating it to notions of authority, the continuity of the tradition, and the transmission of the teaching.

Factors Associated with Extirpation of Sage-Grouse
Michael J. Wisdom, Cara W. Meinke, Steven T. Knick, and Michael A. Schroeder

in Greater Sage-Grouse: Ecology and Conservation of a Landscape Species and Its Habitats
Published in print: 2011 Published Online: March 2012
Geographic ranges of Greater Sage-Grouse (Centrocercus urophasianus) and Gunnison Sage-Grouse (C. minimus) have contracted across large areas in response to habitat loss and detrimental land uses. However, quantitative analyses of the environmental factors most closely associated with range contraction have been lacking, results of which could be highly relevant to conservation planning. This study analyzed differences in twenty-two environmental variables between areas of former range (extirpated range), and areas still occupied by the two species (occupied range). Fifteen of the twenty-two variables, representing a broad spectrum of biotic, abiotic, and anthropogenic conditions, had mean values that were significantly different between extirpated and occupied ranges. Best discrimination between extirpated and occupied ranges, using discriminant function analysis (DFA), was provided by five of these variables: sagebrush (Artemisia spp.) area, elevation, distance to transmission lines, distance to cellular towers, and land ownership. The DFA model was used to estimate the similarity between areas of occupied range with areas where extirpation has occurred. These results have direct relevance to conservation planning.

Influence
Lawrence Kramer

in Interpreting Music

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Item type: chapter

There are many examples of musical influence. The young Ludwig van Beethoven was influenced by Franz Joseph Haydn and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, but cut loose, became himself, and influenced everyone else thereafter. Dmitri Shostakovich's symphonies were influenced by Gustav Mahler, and his string quartets by Beethoven, but the voice in all of them is distinctively his own. The word most likely to be associated with “influence” today is “anxiety.” Like “deconstruction,” “the anxiety of influence” is a term that passed into common use after its literary currency had faded. In both its traditional and Bloomian versions, influence appears as the negative form of cultural transmission. This chapter examines musical influence and considers the fugal portion of “Cool Fugue” from Leonard Bernstein's Symphonic Dances from West Side Story that begins with the opening motto of Beethoven's Grosse Fuge and stays with it for quite a while.
This chapter discusses the structure and function of hearing in aquatic amphibians, reptiles, and birds. It examines patterns of evolutionary change in the auditory systems of amphibians, reptiles, and birds that have returned to an aquatic lifestyle. It begins with the basic features of the ancestral terrestrial auditory system, followed by the terrestrial auditory system underwater and the mechanisms used for underwater hearing. These mechanisms include sound transmission (bone conduction and pressure transduction) and sound localization. It also compares the auditory systems of aquatic amphibians, reptiles, and bird. Finally, it examines the evolutionary transformations of the ears of secondarily aquatic tetrapods.

Hearing in Aquatic Mammals
Sirpa Nummela

This chapter discusses the structure and function of the auditory system in aquatic mammals. It also examines the evolutionary changes of the ear and presents a comparative analysis of hearing in several species of mammals. It begins with a description of the basic features of the auditory system of land mammals, and moves on to the mechanisms of airborne sound transmission and bone conduction. It then describes Fleischer's classification of ears found in land mammals. Finally, it discusses mammalian aquatic ear types and the mechanisms of underwater hearing.
Technology as Human Social Tradition

Peter Jordan

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This book outlines a new approach to studying variability and cumulative change in human technology, a definitive research theme spanning archaeology and anthropology. The central argument is that human material culture is best understood as an expression of social tradition, with each artifact the outcome of a distinctive operational sequence, and with specific choices made at each stage in its production. The main focus is on exploring how different traditions of material culture are propagated through social learning, the factors that promote coherent lineages of tradition to form, and the extent to which these cultural lineages exhibit congruence with one another and with language history. Drawing on the application of cultural-transmission theory to empirical research, chapters develop a descent with modification perspective on the technology of northern hunter-gatherers. Case studies are set in northwestern Siberia, the Pacific northwest coast, and Northern California, and together, they generate crosscultural insights into the evolution of material-culture traditions at different social and spatial scales. Overall, the approach presented in this book promises new ways of exploring some of the primary factors that generate human cultural diversity, both in the deeper past and through to the present.

From Sources of Impurity to Circles of Impurity

Mira Balberg

in Purity, Body, and Self in Early Rabbinic Literature

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The first chapter overviews some of the central innovations that the rabbis introduced to the biblical system of purity, arguing that these innovations effectively turn impurity from a concern restricted to those who function as sources of impurity or to those in their immediate vicinity (as is the case in the Bible and in the Qumran Scrolls) to a concern pertaining to anyone and everyone at any given time. These innovations include a system of graded impurity, as well as new forms of impurity transmission. Through this transformation in the scope and impact of impurity, the rabbis of the Mishnah portray the entire lived
world as infused with impurity, and they depict one's daily interactions
with people and things as governed by constant attention to impurity.

Introduction
Mariane C. Ferme

in Out of War: Violence, Trauma, and the Political Imagination in Sierra Leone

The introduction explores the temporalities of war's aftermath and its
conceptual framework: it is the latency of a material aftereffect that
eludes both agency and consciousness. Among the harms of war was
the break in intergenerational transmission of farming knowledge.
This chapter also explores the Freudian notion of nachträglichkeit,
“afterwardness,” delayed action elaborated in material traces of violence
reinscribed in the present—smells, sights, sounds—folded in bodies,
landscapes, and neologisms in language.

Belatedness
Mariane C. Ferme

in Out of War: Violence, Trauma, and the Political Imagination in Sierra Leone

This chapter offers an example of violent and sensory transmissions
—and belated encounters with trauma—in the context of masked
political and ritual performances by a male secret society. Latency is
the temporality of traumatic memories and their erasures. This chapter
offers an analysis of the ways in which the violence of an event is fully
experienced only in the aftermath of its performance, informing the gap
between images and textuality. It weaves material from the photographic
and textual archive of T. J. Alldridge and the anthropologist’s experience
of a related event a century later to elaborate how the trace of the Real
emerges from past erasures.