

18th European Association of Social Anthropologists Biennial Conference
“Doing and Undoing with Anthropology”
University of Barcelona, 23–26 July 2022

**DOING ETHNOGRAPHY OF
CONTEMPORARY ‘SPIRITUAL’ PRACTICES:
METHODOLOGICAL CHALLENGES TOWARDS
RELATIONALITY, COMMUNICATION, AND PRESENCE**

CONTEMPORARY ‘SPIRITUAL’ PRACTICES NETWORK PANEL
— CALL FOR PAPERS —

As anthropologists keep discussing the ‘reflexive turn’ and the possible ways of conducting critical reflections on their integration, interaction, and departure within the milieus they work with, our discipline continues to be held accountable for reproducing Eurocentric paradigms and power imbalances in researcher-interlocutor relationships (Leve, 2022). At the same time, scholars focused on extraordinary experience, interbeing rituality, or healing have proposed analytical frameworks for fostering horizontal knowledge co-production, valorising non-Western ontologies, and legitimizing alternative sources of knowledge (Meintel, Béguet & Goulet, 2020; Chamel & Dansac, 2022; Pierini, Groisman & Espírito Santo, 2023).

Following on from these reflections, we would like to discuss the establishment of methodological tools that creates a conversation within the “regimes” (Espírito Santo & Blanes, 2014) of relationality, communication, and presence. We are specifically interested by the entire production chain of ethnography, from gaining access to the field and collecting data, to sharing our findings among peers and beyond. As ethnographers, how do we relate, communicate, and are in presence with both the humans we work with and the other-than-humans with whom our respondents interact? How can we name, describe, and interpret different ways of relating, communicating, and being present in the field? How can we use our subjectivity, empathy, reflexivity, critical concepts, and so on to do so?

Considering ethnographic research on contemporary ‘spiritual’ practices, we invite papers that deal with these questions in this face-to-face panel. Papers proposing other reflections based on relationality, communication, and presence in ‘spiritual’ fieldworks are also welcome.

DEADLINE: 22 January 2024

SUBMISSION & GUIDELINES: <https://easaonline.org/conferences/easa2024/cfp>

Please note that this panel will be held **in person** and that **presenters must be members of EASA** and pay their subscription before the Conference.

PANEL CONVENORS:

Nicolas BOISSIÈRE — boissiere.nicolas_pierre@uqam.ca
Université du Québec à Montréal (Canada)

Yael DANSAC — yael.dansac@ulb.be
Université Libre de Bruxelles (Belgium)

Laure MONTARRY — laure.montarry@gmail.com
Université Paris-Nanterre (France)