

## CONTRIBUTORS

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**Maddie Breeze** is an ESRC-funded PhD researcher in Sociology at the University of Edinburgh, where she is currently working on her thesis based in ethnographic work with one women's roller derby league. Maddie contributed to founding Edinburgh's roller derby league in 2008 and played and organized roller derby with them for four years. Her PhD work develops an analysis of seriousness, as skaters negotiate sociologically familiar trajectories of institutionalization and organizational solidification. Her research interests focus on collaborative methods, gender, social change and ambivalence.

**Marco Briziarelli's** scholarly interests range widely from Critical and Cultural approaches to Media, Persuasion and Social Change. His current research project explores the relationship between social movements and their media/communicative strategies.

**Harriet Cooper** is a doctoral candidate in the Department of English and Humanities at Birkbeck, University of London. Her research explores the figure of the disabled child in contemporary culture. Drawing on both her personal experience of growing up with a physical impairment, and on a wide range of cultural objects and texts, Harriet's work seeks to understand how the disabled child gets 'made' by culture, with a particular focus on the impact of gazes and discourses.

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**Julia Downes** is a Research Associate in the School of Applied Social Sciences at Durham University where she is currently working on a project about domestic violence. Julia's ESRC-funded PhD critically examined contemporary queer feminist grassroots activist cultures in the UK including riot grrrl, Ladyfest and local collectives. Julia has been active in DIY queer feminist cultural activism for over ten years within Manifesta, Ladyfest Leeds, Ladies Rock UK, Star and Shadow Cinema and even clean hands cause damage and as a drummer in the bands The Holy Terror, Fake Tan, Vile Vile Creatures, the Physicists and the collective Power Vag. Her research interests focus on activism-academia, social movements, feminist activism, and gendered violence.

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**Evelien Geerts** obtained an M.A. in Philosophy from Antwerp University (Belgium), was an international exchange student at UCLA's Women's Studies department (USA), and recently graduated from the Gender and Ethnicity Research Master programme at Utrecht University (the Netherlands). Her interests include Continental and feminist philosophy, Irigaray Studies, sexual difference philosophy and cultural studies. And as a journalist and feminist activist, she writes about gender and women's issues,

multiculturalism, the representation of women in politics and culture, and female artists in alternative music.

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**Naomi Griffin** is a PhD Researcher in Sociology at Northumbria University. She is currently undertaking (auto)ethnographic research into DIY cultures with a focus on DIY punk in the North East of England. Naomi has been involved in DIY and DIY punk to varying degrees for just over a decade. She co-founded the Equestrian Collective (a collective based in Durham City which organises punk shows and other events), she is involved in the running of a DIY record label (Discount Horse records) and has also been in several bands over the years (most recently Martha and No Ditching). Her research interests focus on DIY culture and DIY cultural activism, sub-cultures, punk, activism, social change and gender.

**Anna Kuslits** has graduated with an MA in Gender Studies from Central European University and an MA in Comparative Literature from ELTE University, Budapest. Her main field of interest is continental philosophy, deconstruction and queer theory. Her current research involves the concept of representation in 18th century aesthetics and political philosophy.

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**Emily Miles** recently graduated with an MSc from the London School of Economics and Political Science, and has previously worked with various NGOs and charities that combat gender-based violence. She has written in student newspapers and blogs on issues of politics and gender, with a particular focus on the sexual harassment of women in protest movements. She currently works for a South African NGO that works with men and boys for gender equality, developing ways to improve men's health-seeking behaviour and sexual health, reducing the impact of HIV and gender-based violence on both men and women.

**Maya Nitis's** forthcoming dissertation, *Languages of Resistance*, addresses the chiasmic intertwining of language and action in performative terms, forging a path away from the collapse of language into violence. For an abstract see: [www.ethnographyofflight.blogspot.com](http://www.ethnographyofflight.blogspot.com). After her defence this summer, she is also hoping to participate in starting an independent theoretical praxis zine in Berlin.

**André Pusey** is a PhD student in the School of Geography at the University of Leeds researching the (re)production of the common(s) within social movements and a part-time lecturer at Leeds Metropolitan University.

**Leon Sealey-Huggins** is a PhD student in the School of Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Leeds researching the politics of responses to climate change in the Caribbean.

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**Whitney Stark** is a queer feminist into social justice. After a BA in Media Arts from Antioch College she spent several years doing activist and NGO work, producing and teaching socially conscious video, media literacy and rape culture 101s, and working with homeless teenagers- as well as pouring countless cups of coffee and working on a few terrible reality TV shows. Whitney is committed to principles of anti-oppression and increasingly shifting activism in order to work toward less violent ways of being, and to build beautiful, intentional community. She has just received a masters in gender studies through the GEMMA consortium.

**Marianna Szczygielska** is a PhD Candidate in the Gender Studies Department of the Central European University in Budapest. Her background is in philosophy and gender studies and she is interested in posthumanism, animals studies, queer theory and the philosophy of science. Her current project, entitled 'Queer(ing) Naturecultures: The Study of Zoo Animals', examines how the concepts of nature, animality, and humanness have been and continue to be constructed in relation to sexuality through the specific site of the modern zoological garden. Apart from her academic work Marianna is also a queer-feminist activist and performer involved in various groups.

**Katharina Wiedlack** has a diploma in German Literature and Gender Studies and a doctoral degree in English and American Studies from the University of Vienna. She teaches Gender, Queer and Disability Studies at University of Vienna, and currently works at the Gender Research Office, University of Vienna. Her research fields are queer and feminist theory, decolonial and disability studies as well as the studies of countercultures and punk rock, cultural studies and feminist literary criticism to name but a few. Since 2010, one important focus of her work and personal activism is on queer theory and activism within the global East, Western hegemonies and global solidarity. Additional to her scholarly work, she is active in the queer-feminist d.i.y. community of Vienna.  
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**Charlotte Wu** graduated from the University of Cambridge in 2012 with a MPhil in Multi-Disciplinary Gender Studies, having previously read English at BA level. Her research dissertation focused on the presentation of eating disorders online in communities such as Tumblr, and analysed how feminist, biomedical, and popular discourse were internalised, rejected and/or reconfigured in young women's attempt to understand their identification as anorexic or 'pro-ana'. After graduating Charlotte worked as a research analyst at the London School of Economics. She is currently working for a public policy consultancy while applying for PHD programmes.