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01/03/1983, Paris XI
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CV

CURRENT SITUATION

Assistant Professor, Global Communications, American University of Paris

Coordinator, Civic Media Lab, Global Communications, American University of Paris

RESEARCH AREAS

- Media and war
- War studies
- Visual Anthropology
- Iconology
- Film Theory
- Amateur video practices

AREA OF INTEREST

- United States
- France

FORMATION

- 2010-12/2016** Ph.D. Media and Communications studies
Goldsmiths University, London
Supervisor: Des Freedman
Thesis title: *The Real Nasty Side of War: An iconology of amateur videos shot by American soldiers in Iraq.*
- 2009-12/2016** Doctorate, Ethnology and Social Anthropology
École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris
Supervisor: Jean-Paul Colleyn
Thesis title: *The Real Nasty Side of War: An iconology of amateur videos shot by American soldiers in Iraq*

Thesis abstract

My thesis explores the role of the soldier on the modern mediated battlefield through the study of videos shot by American troops in Iraq and posted on YouTube. I chose to address specifically three types of military operations filmed by soldiers, emblematic of the exercise of war and recurring on YouTube: encounters between soldiers and civilians, street combat, and military strikes. Through an anthropological, iconological, aesthetic and rhetorical analysis of their productions, my research explores the confrontation, within their footage, between a representation constantly referring to the “complex of visibility” (Mirzoeff) designed by the military and media communication of the war – video games, news reports, war cinema, official discourses and doctrines – and the rough and immediate account of their action on the battlefield. These disruptions reflect the contradictions inherent to their role on the frontline, beyond the military and media communication of a humanitarian, bloodless and riskless conflict. I focus, in the videos of interactions between soldiers and children, on the contradiction between the “responsibility to protect” paradigm of humanitarian intervention and the shifting nature of the enemy in counter-insurgency warfare; in street combat videos, I explore the disruption between the technological supremacy of the soldiers’ arsenal and their vulnerability to insurgent attacks; in videos of installation bombings, I examine the transformation of the role of the land forces from direct combatants to spectators of a war show happening at a distance.

Key words: amateur video practices; visual media; social media; media and communication theory; anthropology; visual anthropology; film theory; history of cinema; iconology; art history; political studies; war studies.

- 2006-2008** Master’s degree, Ethnology and Social Anthropology
École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris
Supervisor: Jean-Paul Colleyn
Thesis title: *Quebécois and First Nations in Quebecois direct cinema: confrontations and territories.*
Mention Très Bien (Graduated with honors)
- 2005-2006** Licence (B.A.) Cinema and Audio-visual Studies
Paris III Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris
- 2003-2005** Deug Cinema and Audio-visual Studies
Paris III Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris

LANGUAGE SKILLS:

- French: native speaker
- English: near native/fluent
- Italian: excellent command/highly proficient in spoken and written

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2017-2019** “Mission de recherche et de terrain”, fieldwork scholarship, Agence Nationale de La Recherche project “Violence and Sortie de la Violence”, Fondation Maison des Sciences de l’Homme, Paris
- 01/2017-01/2018** Yearly Grant for the Civic Media Lab, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, American University of Paris.
- 01-06/2009** “Aide au Terrain”, fieldwork scholarship, Anthropologie sociale et Ethnologie, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales.

ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

- 09/2017 -** Assistant Professor, Global Communication Department, American University of Paris, Paris.
- 09/2013 -** Affiliated Researcher, Centre de Recherche sur les Arts et le Language (CRAL), EHESS, Paris

WORK EXPERIENCE

- 09/2017 -** Assistant Professor, American University of Paris, Global Communications.
- 01/2017-** Coordinator, Civic Media Lab, American University of Paris, Global Communications.
Job description: coordination of students projects, organization of visual ethnography workshops and digital ethnography workshop, design and conceptualization of a research and practice based civic media website
- 10/2016 -06/2018** Enseignante Intervenant, ISCOM, Paris.
Course title: Mass Media History
- 09/2016-06/2017** Adjunct Professor, American University of Paris, Global Communications.
Courses Titles: Visual Rhetoric; Communication and Research Methods; Civic Media/Tactical Media
- 06/2016-07/2016** Adjunct Professor, American University of Paris, Global Communications.
Course title: Rhetoric and Persuasion.
- 01/2016-05/2016** Adjunct Professor, American University of Paris, Global Communications.
Course title: Visual Rhetoric: Persuasive Images.
- 09/2015-12/2015** Adjunct Professor, American University of Paris, Global Communications.
Course title: Introduction to Visual Culture
- 10/2013-12/2013** Associate Lecturer,
Goldsmiths University, Media and Communications Department
Course title: Film and the Audiovisual
- 01/2013-06/2016** Co-organizer of the Visual History and Anthropology Workshop
EHESS/Research in the Center for the Arts and Languages (CRAL) International
Research Seminar, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris
- 01/2012-10/2012**
10/2013-03/2014 Associate Lecturer, Goldsmiths University, Educational Studies Department, B.A.
Social and Cultural Studies
Course title: Film and Anthropology

10/2011-12/2012 Visiting Tutor, Goldsmiths University, Media and Communications department
Title of the course: Representation and Textual analysis.

CONFERENCES

06/2018 Conference, “Visualizing Spatial Injustice and Exploitation” University of Kent. Communication: “Videos shot by U.S. soldiers in Iraq: resisting to media and military visualizations of the war”

11/2014 Co-organizer, International Conference: “Rencontres Annuelles d’Ethnographie”, EHESS, Paris.

Rencontres Annuelles d’Ethnographie. Discutant of the opening keynote: “Ethnography and production of knowledge through images. Gregory Bateson and Margaret Mead in Bali. Guest speaker: Howard Becker, EHESS, Paris.

Rencontres Annuelles d’Ethnographie. Co-leader of the panel “The documentary relation: ethnography through images” (“La relation documentaire : une ethnographie par l’image”), EHESS, Paris.

12/2013 Conference PhotoIIAC 2013. Communication : “the experience of war in Iraq in the amateur videos shot by American soldiers”, EHESS, Paris.

07/2012 EASA International Conference, Paris, *Uncertainty and Disquiet*
Co-Organization of the panel: “The visual in times of uncertainty: experience lived, experience recorded”

03/2011 ASCA International Conference and Workshop 2011, University of Amsterdam: *Practicing Theory: Imagining, Resisting, Remembering*.
Communication: “‘US Army Destroy Iraqi Mosque’: Approaching the Experience of Modern Mediated Warfare Through the Critical Analysis of a Video Shot by an American Soldier in Iraq”.

- 09/2010** New Westminster International Conference, New Westminster University: *Global Media and the 'War on Terror'*.
Communication: 'US army destroy Iraqi Mosque': questioning the use of aesthetics in the commentary of a video shot by an American soldier in Iraq".
- 08/2008** EASA International Conference, Ljubljana:
Experiencing diversity and mutuality.
Communication: "The dynamics of "assemblage": an analysis of Perrault multiple uses of editing in 'The Land Without Trees or the Mouchouânipi'"

LECTURES

- 04/2017** Seminar "L'enquête et ses graphies: figurations iconographiques d'après société", supervised by Manon Denoun and Manuel Boutet. Communication: Amateur videos shot by American soldiers on the frontline: two case studies.
- 11/2016** Seminar "Images and War", supervised by Paul Sztulman. Communication: Practices of images on the frontline: an iconology of amateur videos shot by soldiers in Iraq", ENSAD, Paris.
- 03/2016** Seminar "Le fait guerrier", supervised by Stéphane Audoin-Rouzeau. Communication: "Images amateurs tournées par les soldats Américains en Irak: l'expérience du soldat sur le champ de bataille moderne de guérilla à travers l'étude de ses productions", EHESS, Paris
- 03/2015** Seminar "Practices of individual communications through video in context of conflict in the Arab World and the Middle East", March 2013. Communication: "Image as main field of investigation: the role of the American soldier on the modern battlefield through their amateur productions, EHESS, Paris.
- 03/2011** Seminar "Texte, Image et Son", École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales. Communication: "Street Combat Videos: the body of the soldier on the modern mediated battlefield".

FIELD RESEARCH

- 04-09/2009** Research on field conducted in the United States, in New York City and Washington D.C. Interviews with veterans and servicemen working in realm of military communication. Bibliographic research conducted at the NYU Hobst Library and the Library of Congress, Washington D.C.. Participation to the Milblogging conference and the G.I. Film Festival, in Washington D.C.
- 04-06/2008** Research on field conducted in Quebec, in Montreal and Quebec City. Interviews with anthropologists specialized in Indigenous studies, as well as with directors of direct cinema. Bibliographic research conducted at the Université Laval and the Université de Montréal. Research in the archives of the National Film Board, in Montreal.
- 06/2007** Research on field conducted in Quebec, in Montreal and Quebec City. Interviews with documentary filmmakers. Bibliographic research conducted at the Université Laval, in Quebec City.

PUBLICATIONS

- 07/2017** “The Real Nasty Side of War”: Exploring the Embodied Experience of American Soldiers on the Frontline in Iraq through their YouTube Videos, *IAFOR Journal of Media, Communication an& Film*, Vol. 4, n°1, <https://doi.org/10.22492/ijmcf.4.1.05>
- 07/2016** “The Ethnographer behind the camera: current dilemmas” (Co-supervision of the edition), *Anthrovision*, Vol. 3, n°1
- 06-09/2007** “Power and limits of the documentary relation. Ethnography through the study of visual regimes”, *Anthrovision*, Vol. 3, n°1
- 2012** *Flaky et Camarades*, Aaron Sievers (2007), *Shaman Tour*, Laetitia Merli (2009), *La Danse des Wodaabe*, Sandrine Loncke (2010). Screenings of three winning documentaries of the 29th Jean Rouch International Festival », *Visual Anthropology*, 25: 1–4, Routledge.