

CV
MACON HOLT (B. 1990)
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FOCUS AREAS

My research investigates interconnections and influence of popular culture and political possibilities, particularly as they pertain to the creation of a post-capitalist form of desire in the conditions of the Anthropocene. My approach to this builds on my empirical work with climate activists and takes an interdisciplinary approach drawing from an affect theory, post-Deleuzian critical theory and new materialism and drawing on the methodological approaches of cultural studies, sociology, anthropology, media studies and musicology. In my current position at the Department of Management, Society and Communication at Copenhagen Business School, I research the influence of the popular culture genre of climate change fiction on climate change activists using affective ethnographic methodologies to trace the operative force of this genre as empirically observed in organizational practices. The first research paper from this project, co-authored by me and the project's PI, Ana Alacovska, was published by *The Sociological Review*. The second was published this summer in *Ephemera: Theory and Politics in Organization*, with another under the first round of peer review at *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space*. Additionally, I have recently published an audiopaper on the contested political identity of the urban soundscape at *Siesmograff* for a special issue on generic sounds.

My PhD applied the critical theoretical framework of capitalist realism to the affective field of post-financial crisis popular music through the analytic methodology of sonic fiction. This research formed the basis of my book, *Pop Music and Hip Ennui: A Sonic Fiction of Capitalist Realism* published by Bloomsbury Academic in 2019. I have since developed and expanded on this work in chapters for *The Bloomsbury Handbook of Sound Art* (2020), and *The Bloomsbury Handbook of the Anthropology of Sound* (2021) and in a peer-reviewed article for the journal *Periskop* (2022).

As an educator, I have experience in teaching contemporary cultural and social theory, qualitative research methods and organizational politics. At both introductory and advanced levels, my focus is to get students to see the practical relevance of these tools in coming to know more about the world around them and how to act responsibly as they engage with it. To this end, I have developed an effective pedagogical approach that emphasizes student interaction and continuous feedback to allow students to access skills and knowledge that may at first appear to be overly abstract without sacrificing the nuance of these perspectives. Further, my approach highlights for students their role as active participants in culture both in and out of the classroom encouraging a reflective engagement with their education and the power it gives them.

The popular communication of my research has been an important part of my scientific practice and contribution. To that end, I have worked as an editor and commissioning editor for the music criticism platform *Passive/Aggressive* since 2019. In this position, I have commissioned, overseen and contributed explanatory material for the publication of the first Danish translations of work by internationally renowned theorists including Steve Goodman, Mark Fisher and Kodwo Eshun. In my capacity as a member of the editorial board at P/A, I host and produce a podcast Series with the Lake Radio which will explore the contemporary Danish music scene through long-form interviews with practising artists. I have also curated many public events through the non-profit cultural centre *Ark Books* to bring academic work from the humanities into public spaces.

EMPLOYMENTS AND EDUCATION

2023 - 2025: Research Assistant Department of Management, Society and Communication at Copenhagen Business School.

2020 - 2023 Present: Postdoc in Operative Fictions, Department of Management, Society and Communication at Copenhagen Business School.

2021-2022: Assistant Professor Program: Copenhagen Business School (higher education teaching qualification to be completed in Spring 2023).

2018-2020: External Lecturer in Musicology, Faculties of Humanities and Theology, Lund University.

2018-2020: Research Assistant with Special Qualifications, Institute for Art and Cultural Studies, The University of Copenhagen.

2019-2019: External Lecturer in Conceptual and contextual practice, The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Art.

2019-2019: Research Assistant, Faculties of Humanities and Theology, Lund University.

2013-2014: External Lecturer in Musicology, Leeds College of Music

2017: PhD in Cultural Studies (01.09-2017), Goldsmiths University of London

2012: Master of Research in Sonic Arts, The University of Hull

2011: Bachelor of Music (Hons) in Creative Music Technology, The University of Surrey

OTHER ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

2023: Seminar organizer for *Speculative Wagers on Other Worlds*, With Martin Savransky and Paula Serafini at Copenhagen Business School April 26th.

2022: Peer Reviewer, Jazz Research Journal

2019 – present: Peer Reviewer, Seismograf

MODERATED/ORGANIZATION OF PANEL DISCUSSIONS, TALK AND EVENTS

Feb 2024: Workshop: *I'm Curious: What does it meant to be Critical?* w/ Anna Ullman, SuperCPH.

August 2023: *Book Launch: A Philosophy of Ambient Sound*, w/ Ulrik Schmidt, Sorte Firkant.

April 2023: Panel: *Struggling for Other Worlds*, w/ Martin Savransky and Paula Serefini, Ark Books.

Nove 2022: *Panel: Dystopia/Utopia*, w/ Extinction Rebellion, Paul Bendsen, Madeline Kate & Mette Riise, HUSET.

Oct 2022: *Book talk: The Value of a Whale*, w/ Adrienne Buller, Ark Books.

June 2022: *Book talk: Pop Music and Hip Ennui*, w/ Holger Schulze, Ark Books.

June 2022: *Book Lauch: The Bloomsbusry Hand Books of Sound Art*, w/ Holger Schulze, Sanne Krogh Groth, Elke Moltrecht, Rolf Großman, Errent Sounds (Berlin).

April 2021: *Book Launch: Kapitalisk realisme*, w/ Mathias Ruthner, Cecillie Lousie Kjølholt, Sorte Firkant.

Nov 2019: *Books talk: Going Nowhere Slow*, w/ Mikkel Frantzen, Jakob Jakobsen and Ida Bencke, Ark Books.

June 2019: *Talk: On the Ontology of Gilles Deleuze*, w/ Todd May, Sorte Firkant.

April 2019: *Panel:* w/ Federico Campagna & Ayesha Hameed, Avisen Live.

April 2019: *Talk: Plant Organising*, w/ Michael Marder, Ark Books.

October 2018: *Book Talk: After the Great Refusal*, w/ Mikkel Bolt, Ark Books.

April 2018: *Book Talk: The Sonic Perona*, w/ Holger Schulze, Ark Books.

Feb 2018: *Panel: Xenofeminism in Copenhagen*, w/ Diann Bauer, Martin Hauberg-Lund & Rebecca Lund, Sorte Firkant.

Feb 2017: *Panel: Accused Growth!*, w/ John Auring Grimm & Rebecca Lund, Ark Books.

Feb 2016: *Panel: Hideous Men*, w/ Emma Holten & Mikkel Frantzen, Ark Books.

MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

2020- 2025: Course coordinator: Cultural Analysis for Business, 1st semester course of Business Language and Culture BSc. A 7,5 ects mandatory course with 120 students.

2023: Course coordinator: Qualitative and Quantitative Methods, 2nd semester course for Digital Management BSc. A 15 ects mandatory course with 150 students

2019- present: Editor Passive/Aggressive, Critical a publishing platform for music and theory.

2018- present: Founder of Ashford Cultural Consultancy, a firm offering a variety of humanities related specialist services.

2017-2020: Chairperson of Ark Books, community run non-profit international bookshop and cultural center specializing in literary fiction and critical theory.

2013-2014: Departmental Student Coordinator, Centre for Cultural Studies, Goldsmiths University of London. A role that facilitates dialogue between student representatives and department staff.

RELEVANT CRITICAL PRACTICE

In addition to my academic work, I work as a critic and commentator on contemporary cultural and political issues published through several outlets. These include *Passive/Aggressive*, *The Lake Radio*, *Seismograf*, *Projector Pod* and *The Arts of the Working Class*.

REFERENCES

Professor **Holger Schulze**
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