

# *Of Body, Flesh and Meat*

## *Consuming the 'Other' and Constructing the 'Self'*

**Thursday, 13 December 2018**

**6.30-8.00 pm**

Alois Wagner Saal

C3 Centrum für Internationale Entwicklung

Sensengasse 3, 1090 Wien

Organized as part of the workshop:  
'A Body Political Approach to Food'  
supported by FWF

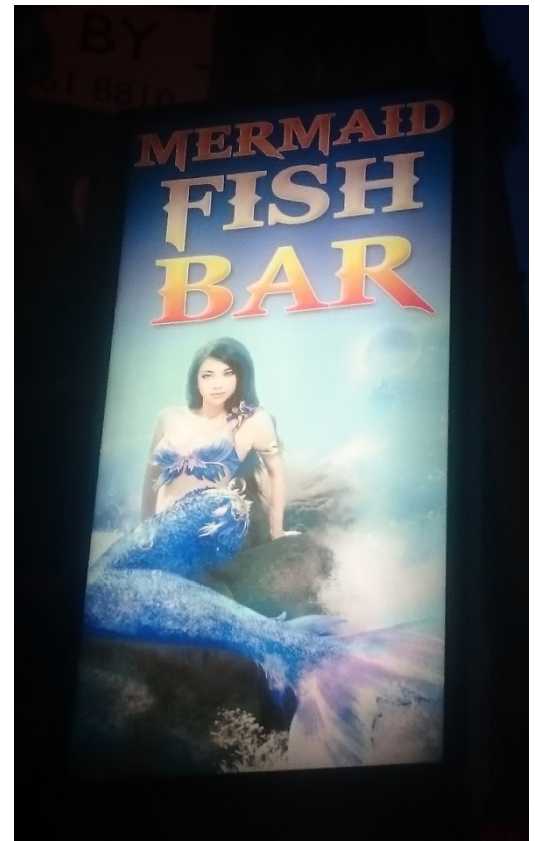


Photo: Nora Faltmann

Globally and historically, meat production has been aligned with the ebbs and flows of symbolic and material aspirations, framed by the technological 'innovations' of industrial mass production and driven by the remembrance and imaginary of an alternative small-scale. Yet, what dominates the debates on nourishing humankind is the definition of meat as food (in whatever quality).

Which societal, historical, and ethical processes lie at the root of the decision on which bodies are 'normal' to eat as well as to dominate physically and symbolically? Why does the ideological division seem so clear between the good, appropriate flesh and the superfluous one? How do we conceptualise the human body in the process of incorporating non-human bodies? Are (female) bodies as sexualised and gendered objects as well as the fleshly, embodied and affective dimensions inherent in such objectification processes? How are the objectification and figurative consumption of (female) bodies underpinned similarly by desire, lust and control? And finally, what powerful processes of identity construction lie in consuming the 'Other'?

By expanding these debates around meat, the panellists discuss meat and flesh more on the level of its ontological and epistemological roots. Engaged in a critical examination of the diverse symbolic meanings and materialities of 'bodies', the panel interrogates the constructed boundaries between the subjects and the objects of consumption.

Discussion with:

**Mara Miele:** Human Geographer (Cardiff): Post-Humanism; Human/Animal Relations; Food Consumption Practices

**Emma-Jayne Abbots:** Political and Economic Anthropologist (Wales): Cultural Politics of Food; Materialities and Material Culture; The Body and Biopolitics

**Verena Kettner:** Political Scientist (Vienna): Feminist and Queer Theory; Affect Studies; Body Politics