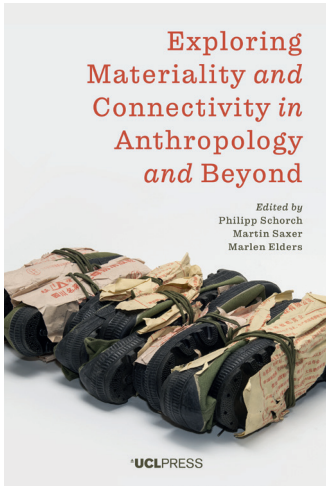


# Exploring Materiality *and* Connectivity in Anthropology *and Beyond*

*Edited by*  
Philipp Schorch  
Martin Saxer  
Marlen Elders



## Exploring Materiality and Connectivity in Anthropology and Beyond



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*Exploring Materiality and Connectivity in Anthropology and Beyond* provides a new look at the old anthropological concern with materiality and connectivity. It understands materiality not as defined property of some-thing, nor does it take connectivity as merely a relation between discrete entities. Somewhat akin to Heisenberg's uncertainty principle, it sees materiality and connectivity as two interrelated modes in which an entity is, or more precisely – is becoming, in the world. The question, thus, is how these two modes of becoming relate and fold into each other.

Throughout the four-year research process that led to this book, the authors approached this question not just from a theoretical perspective; taking the suggestion of 'thinking through things' literally and methodologically seriously, the first two workshops were dedicated to practical, hands-on exercises working with things. From these workshops a series of installations emerged, straddling the boundaries of art and academia. These installations served as artistic-academic interventions during the final symposium and are featured alongside the other academic contributions to this volume.

Throughout the pages of this volume, we invite the reader to travel beyond imaginaries of a universe of separate planets united by connections, and to venture with us instead into the thicket of thing~ties in which we live.

### About the Editors

**Philipp Schorch** is Professor of Museum Anthropology at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich, Germany. Martin Saxer leads the ERC project 'Remoteness & Connectivity: Highland Asia in the World' at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich, Germany. **Marlen Elders** completed her MA in Social and Cultural Anthropology with a thesis on exploring aesthetics and sensory perception, experimenting with creative research methods.

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