

## **Eimear Mc Loughlin: A Politics of Resistance: The Biosocial Neighbourhood of Industrial Porcine Life**

### **Abstract**

The emerging collaborations across medical, anthropological, and veterinary sciences are producing deeper understandings of the interconnected nature of the worlds we move in. Additionally, developments within anthropology expanding the focal point of interest beyond the human to more-than-human relationality and the associated developments of non-representational theory has opened new and exciting ways to conceptualize the world that is now populated by holobionts, proliferating with microbiota, and pulsing with microbial happenings. Pushing against disciplinary discreteness, species distinctions, sensory and modal hierarchies, what might it look like to map antimicrobial resistance as producing a social network or a biosocial neighbourhood that spans bodies, species, and environments.

Studying multispecies relationality in agricultural environments reveals a politics of resistance, be it antimicrobial or otherwise. Modes of living with, responding to, and making environments hospitable or inhospitable to microbes illustrate how the industrial farm environment is anything but bounded. Amidst an abundance of *infrastructure*, or the material configurations underpinning regimes of care and management, resistance as relation is characterized by an acceptance that we cannot choose our neighbours, but we can continually attempt to make shared environments inhospitable to undesirable others. Thinking with the situated, proximal, and multiscalar implications of the neighbourhood, this talk explores what it means to live with antimicrobial resistance relationally, not based on a belief in sanitized spaces but on the acceptance of living with neighbours we cannot choose.