

The Anthropology Department Fall 2012 Colloquia Series



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Becoming Sentient

Can fish feel pain? According to recent EU-legislation, the answer is yes. This paper tells the story of how salmon became sentient, and explores the choreographies of care across different sites of salmon aquaculture. I draw on fieldwork in Norway to reflect upon the choreographies of care in assemblages of living creatures, and suggest that attention to orderings of death can illuminate the fragile achievements of life, and guide us in the politics and practices of living.

MARIANNE ELISABETH LIEN is professor of Social Anthropology at the University of Oslo, and currently a visiting research scholar at the UCSC. Trained at the University of Oslo, she also holds a degree in Nutrition. Lien's research interests include food and consumption, food production and marketing, economic anthropology, human-animal relations and domestication. She is head of an ongoing research project called: Newcomers to the farm; Atlantic Salmon between the Wild and the Industrial. She is the author of *Marketing and Modernity* (Berg 1997), co-editor of *The Politics of Food* (Berg 2004), and *Holding Worlds Together, Ethnographies of Knowing and Belonging* (2007), as well as numerous special issues and journal articles in English and Norwegian.

Monday, November 5th
3:30 - 5:00pm
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