

ERC project ARTIVISM 2016 – 2021

**Two open Ph.D. student positions (100%) - Deadline
September 10th**

**Research team led by Prof. Dr. Monika Salzbrunn, FTSR-ISSRC, University of
Lausanne, Switzerland**

We invite applications for two fully funded, full-time, 4 year doctoral positions in social and cultural anthropology, sociology of art, or migration and diversity studies at the University of Lausanne, department of social sciences of contemporary religions, to join a 5-year European Research Council funded project on "ARTIVISM - Art and Activism: Creativity and Performances as Subversive Forms of Political Expression in Super-Diverse Cities" directed by Prof. Dr. Monika Salzbrunn, chair "Religion, Migration, Diaspora Studies".

The project explores new artistic forms of political expression under difficult, precarious and/or oppressive conditions. It asks how social actors create belonging and multiple forms of resistance when they use art in activism or activism in art. It focuses on a broad range of artistic tools, styles and means of expression, namely festive events and parades, cartoons and comics and street art. The applied methodology considerably renews the field by bringing together event-, actor- and condition-centred approaches and a multi-sensory framework. It is based on ethnographic research in three principal urban contexts: Mediterranean coastal cities in Italy and France, Californian Latino immigrant cities in the US, gateway cities in Cameroon.

The University of Lausanne offers an exceptionally resource-rich academic and cultural environment and the chair "Religion, Migration, Diaspora" studies hosts a stimulating team of a dozen excellent PhD and Post-Doc researchers (comprising 7 Swiss National Research Foundation Grantees).

Applicants should have demonstrated a high research potential, an outstanding commitment to team work as well as proven knowledge and experience in ethnographic fieldwork. The working language is English: excellent academic writing skills are compulsory. The team is based in Lausanne, except during a total amount of 1,5 years fieldwork.

PhD 1: Scope and Language requirements

This position requires a very good level of Spanish and basic knowledge of French in addition to the main research language English (excellent level required). The candidate will conduct his/her main fieldwork on Latino mural art in California. He or she will use audio-visual and other sensory methods of research.

PhD 2: Scope and Language requirements

This position requires a very good level of French and of Italian in addition to the main research language English (very good to excellent level required). The candidate will conduct his/her main fieldwork on carnivalesque forms of art in Italy and France, Mediterranean coastal cities. He or she will use audio-visual and other sensory methods of research.

General requirements

- The candidates hold a master's degree in social and cultural anthropology or a related field (e.g. sociology of arts, migrations studies)
- They are well versed in ethnography and audio-visual research methods and techniques
- They have a profound interest in multi-sensory ethnography and the development of innovative research methods
- They have an excellent knowledge of oral and written English as the main project language. Very good knowledge in oral and written French is required as the second language since the team is based in French-speaking Switzerland.
- The applicants are expected to complete their PhD thesis in the team of Prof. Salzbrunn within four years
- High engagement and willingness to work in an interdisciplinary, international team
- Willingness and ability to conduct fieldwork of at least 18 months
- Willingness to short-visit the field-sites of other team members
- Excellent technical skills (IT, audio-visual, other technics are a plus)
- Communication skills

Application

- Application letter (including motivation)
- CV (publications list and paper presentation list, if applicable)
- Certificates of diplomas (marks/distinctions)
- A statement of the candidate's ethnographic training, understanding, experience, applied methods and techniques (1 -2 pages)
- One or two referees

Employment

100% employment for four years. From October 2016 or later

The applicants will be employed by the University of Lausanne. Salary and social benefits are in accordance with the university's rates.

Work place : Lausanne, Switzerland

Field-sites of the whole team : Italy, France, US (California), Cameroon

Further information about the project and its details will be available to selected candidates.

Submission

Please send your application via email in one PDF file to Dr. Raphaela von Weichs, with the following subject header: Application ERC ARTIVISM - PhD1 (or PhD2)
raphaela.vonweichs@unil.ch

Deadline September 10th 2016

Prof. Dr. Monika Salzbrunn

Institut de sciences sociales des religions contemporaines (ISSRC)

Université de Lausanne

<http://www.unil.ch/issrc/home/menuguid/Projet-Europeen-ERC.html>