

2015 started with a cover story on AURA and the Anthropocene period in *Jyllandsposten* that took up the entire front page of the January 29 edition. It was followed up by a ten-page background story in the paper (see attachment). AURA's outreach to the general public as well as to an academic audience was continued throughout the year with an acclaimed art exhibition at Aarhus Kunsthall and an associated international art-science workshop. The scholarly output has also been steadily increasing with over 29 international publications; the hosting of the transdisciplinary conference *Postcolonial Natures* and of a PhD course. In total members of AURA gave 61 invited talks and presentations during the year. In addition AURA organized two panels at the prestigious annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association and one panel at the Finnish Anthropological Society meeting.

Conference: Postcolonial Natures

A major event in 2015 was the transdisciplinary conference *Postcolonial Natures* in June. The conference, which was organized by Heather Swanson and co-funded by AURA and the research program *Contemporary Ethnography*, explored how histories of inequality and oppression haunt landscapes and shape multispecies lives. The conference brought together five preeminent scholars from across the borders of postcolonial theory and landscape studies: **Itty Abraham** (National University of Singapore), **Lesley Green** (University of Cape Town), **Shiho Satsuka** (University of Toronto), Marcos Lopez (Bowdoin College), and **Paulla Ebron** (Stanford University).

Exhibition: DUMP! Multispecies Making and Unmaking.

Between June and September, AURA co-hosted with Kunsthall Aarhus the innovative and multi-sensory art exhibition *DUMP! Multispecies Making and Unmaking* at Aarhus Kunsthall. The exhibition gathered artists, scientists and organisms to probe the practices of multispecies collaboration that emerge in the ruins of modernity and industrialized progress. The exhibition was widely attended and received rave reviews from *kunsten.nu* and Aarhus Stiftstidende. The latter, for instance, applauded the exhibition as "the most well prepared and very best in the last couple of years" (<http://stiften.dk/kultur/en-smuk-symbiose#!>)

Workshop: DUMP!

On September 5 and 6, Elaine Gan, Art Director of AURA, and Aarhus Kunsthall co-hosted a well-attended workshop on art-science practices and genres for the Anthropocene. The workshop featured presentations by Professor **Anna Tsing** and Professor **Jens-Christian Svenning** (AURA), **Cecilia Vicuña** (Chile), **Åsa Sonjasdotter** (Sweden), **Etienne Turpin** (US), **Amy Balkin** (US), and others.

The *DUMP!* Workshop offered a spectrum of activities, from collecting seeds, experience performances and presentations to an experiment with harvesting potatoes.

PhD course: Storying Lively Worlds

The first AURA PhD course was held in January 2015 by guest professor **Thom van Dooren** (University of New South Wales) and **Heather Swanson**. The Ph.D. course explored modes of writing that draw anthropology into conversation with philosophy, biology, and a range of other disciplines to provide lively accounts of our more-than-human world(s). The course was attended by 13 PhD students from both Denmark and abroad and ranging in disciplinary backgrounds from anthropology, bio-science to IT studies.

AURA panels

In October and November panels organized by AURA were accepted and featured at two important anthropological events. The **Finnish Anthropological Society** in Helsinki, where Anna Tsing also gave the keynote address, featured one AURA panel, while the 114th annual meeting of the **American Anthropological Association** in Denver, which was attended by more than 6,000 anthropologists from around the world, accepted and featured two panels on the Anthropocene organized by AURA members.

