

MAT KEEL

mat.keel@gmail.com * (240) 595-9421 * matkeel.net * yeswecannibal.org * Proctor, VT

Curriculum Vitae

Education

- PhD, Anthropology & Geography, *Louisiana State University* (LSU), Baton Rouge *
Committee: Dr. Helen Regis (Chair), Dr. Sophie Moore, Dr. Chris Barrett (ENG)
- MA, Geography, *University of California* (UCLA), Los Angeles
Committee: Dr. Eric Shepherd (Chair), Dr. Jessica Cattelino (ANTH), Dr. Judith Carney.
- BA, Geography, *University of Massachusetts* (U-Mass), Amherst
Advisor: Dr. Julie Graham
- Pre-doctoral study, Geography, *University of Bristol*, UK
* Anticipated May 2026

Select Academic Work Experience

- Co-Founder/Co-Director, *Yes We Cannibal*, Baton Rouge / Proctor, VT, 2020-current
Yes We Cannibal (YWC) is a non-transactional project space for new art and thought co-founded with my wife, artist Liz Lessner. Yes We Cannibal has received local, national and international acclaim for its programming, publications, and activities which span the worlds of political ecology, critical theory, ultracontemporary art, performance, experimental music, and more. A separate cv for YWC is available.
- Assistant to the Director, *LSU Ethics Institute*, 2021-2023
- Editorial Assistant, *Association of American Geographers Review of Books*, 2019-2021
- Teaching Assistant, Anthropology & Geography, *Louisiana State University* 2019-2021
- Instructor of Record, Anthropology & Geography, *Louisiana State University* 2020
- Adjunct Instructor, Sociology and Geography, *Shepherd University*, 2018-2019

Select Awards

- Louisiana Project Grant, *LA Office of Cultural Development*, 2024
- Everett Award, *Baton Rouge Arts Council*, 2024
- Graduate Student Leader, *LSU NAACP*, 2023 (nominated)
- Full Artist Fellowship, *La Baldi* (Grossetto, IT), 2022
- Louisiana Project Grant, *LA Office of Cultural Development*, 2022
- Monroe Fellow, *Center for Gulf Coast*, Tulane University, 2022
- Project Development Grant, *American Ethnological Society*, 2021

- Graduate Assistantship, Department of Philosophy, *LSU*, 2021-2023
- Graduate Assistantship, Department of Anthropology and Geography, *LSU*, 2019-2021
- Alumni Award, Department of Geosciences, *University of Bristol*, 2015-2017

Peer Reviewed Publications

- "We Were Presented with Evidence of... the Sun': Political Ontology and the Māori Claim to the Radio Spectrum at the Waitangi Tribunal" (forthcoming), 2026
- "Yes We Cannibal Panel Discussion: Reading, Unearthing and Eating Anthropocentrism with Cesar and LOIS" *Anthropology of Consciousness*, 2022
- "Neuroplastic Shamanism? Towards a Political Ontology of Whiteness and the Psychedelic Renaissance" *Anthropology of Consciousness*, 2022

Peer Reviewed Publications in Process

- "Hard Time in the Garden of Eden: The Gnostic Looks at Cataclysm" In review.
- "The Machete Must Not Go: Disarming Political Affects in the Afterlife of the Plantation" In review.
- "The Sphinx That Remains: Opacity Effects, Productive Dissociation, Dark Recognition" In revision.
- " Glaring Omission: Ether / Spectrum / Saturation" In review.

Book Reviews

- "Dismantling the Masters Clock by Rasheedah Phillips" (Forthcoming)
- "Anarchy in the Big Easy by Max Cafard and Vulpes" *Antipode* 2025.
- "A World of Many Worlds: by Marisol de la Cadena and Mario Blaser *AAG Review of Books* 9(2) 2021
- "The Political Sublime by Michael J Shapiro" *AAG Review of Books* (7)1 2019

Select Other Publications

- "I don't see it not happening: This never happened or Jeremy Toussaint-Baptiste on how to Disappear" *Geopsychic Wonders of _____*, Yes We Cannibal (2025)
- "We Were Never Alone" *Emptiness Ecologies*, Yes We Cannibal (2025).
- *Profiles in Cannibalism*, editor, Yes We Cannibal (2021)
- "Intimacy and Reflection in Vegetal Time: Steven L. Anderson's Entropy Plan for the Western Fam" (as Yes We Cannibal) Lyndon House Art Center (2024)
- "Foraging Wild Mushrooms" (as Yes We Cannibal) *Earthbound Almanac*, 2021

- “On Freak Space, the Risk of the Subject and the Deferral of Philip Guston” *REFUSE: A Journal of Iconoclasm*, 2021

Select Recent Invited Lectures and Conference Presentations

- "Inscription, Sedimentation, and Counter-Memorialization: Contemporary Artistic Engagements with Endurance & Fracture" *American Anthropological Association* (2025) Chair, Discussant.
- Plenary for Jeremy Toussaint-Baptiste, *BR Gallery*, Baton Rouge (2025) Chair
- “Hegel and Viveiros de Castro” *RGS-IBG London UK* (2022) Presenter.
- “Psychedelic Liberalism” *Cultivate Projects*, Rockville, MD (2021) Speaker.
- “More-than-Earth: Mutiny Ecologies.” *World Ecology Research Network* (2021) Chair.
- “Strange Times: Plant temporality and more-than-human geography” *University of Maryland* (2019) Speaker
- “Horizontal Responses to the Opioid Epidemic” *La Terre*. New Orleans (2018) Speaker
- “Life to Death, Flower to Needle, Afghanistan to West Virginia: Contemporary and Historical Geographies of the Opioid Epidemic” *Shepherd University* (2018) Speaker.
- “Hard Time in the Garden of Eden: Agency and Original Sin in the Gnostic Anthropocene.” *Consciousness Reframed*. Porto, Portugal (2018) Presenter.
- “The Post-Ferguson Police State.” *AAG*. Chicago, IL (2015) Organizer.

Service

- Peer review, ongoing.
- Music Curator, Red Stick Rhythms, Baton Rouge Library, 2024-2025.
- Jury Committee and Grant Review, Baton Rouge Arts Council, 2024
- Graduate Student Representative, LSU Anthropology & Geography, 2021-2022.
- Graduate Student Member of Hiring Committees, LSU Anthropology & Geography, 2021

Skills

- Extensive familiarity with all stages in the production of print media and vinyl records
- Wide range of experience in both organizational systems analysis and project management in private, public, NGO sectors
- Extensive experience in all aspects of fine art curation
- Over two decades of experience and intimate familiarity with core principles of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and geospatial data.

In a previous life, after college and before returning to graduate school, I was the head of research and development for a cartography company.

- Successful grant-writing experience in wide variety of contexts (public, private, academic, etc.). I am additionally a skilled technical writer and editor.
- Directing organizational perception management including press releases, media strategies, etc.

Available on Request

- Professional references
- Academic publications and other writing
- Art and curation cv
- Teaching and Mentoring statement
- Portfolio of media produced including posters, books, vinyl records, and more