

THOMAS HENDRIKS

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Date of birth: August 21st 1982

SUMMARY

Dr. Ir. Thomas Hendriks works as Departmental Lecturer / Evans-Pritchard Fellow in African Anthropology at the African Studies Centre and the Institute of Social and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Oxford, where he teaches and supervises graduate students in the MSc in African Studies and the MSc in Social Anthropology.

His critical theoretical work emerges from long-term intensive fieldwork in the Democratic Republic of Congo and occurs at the crossroads of African anthropology, gender studies and queer theory. His ethnographic interest ranges from sex, gender and desire, to labour, race and memory in urban and rural central African settings.

Thomas obtained an MSc in bio-engineering at Ghent University (2005), a special degree in development studies at the Université Libre de Bruxelles (2007) and a PhD in social and cultural anthropology at KU Leuven University (2013). From 2013 to 2016, he worked as FWO Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Institute for Anthropological Research in Africa (KU Leuven).

EDUCATION

1994–2000 **Sint-Jozefscollege** **Lommel, Belgium**

Secondary education

- Graduated in Latin-Mathematics with a score of 87%

2000–2005 **Ghent University** **Ghent, Belgium**

Master in Bioengineering Sciences (Land and Forest Management)

- Graduated Magna Cum Laude

2005–2007 **Université Libre de Bruxelles** **Brussels, Belgium**

Advanced Master in Development Studies

- Graduated Summa Cum Laude

2007–2009 **KU Leuven University** **Leuven, Belgium**

Preparatory Program in Social and Cultural Anthropology

- Exams passed as a “credit contract”

2009-2013 **KU Leuven University** **Leuven, Belgium**

PhD in Social and Cultural Anthropology

- PhD dissertation: “Work in the rainforest: labour, race and desire in a Congolese logging camp”

RESEARCH

2008-2009 **Royal Museum for Central Africa** **Kinshasa/Lubumbashi, DRC**

Research project manager

2009-2013 **KU Leuven University** **Bumba, DRC**

Doctoral researcher

- Doctoral research funded by a VLADOC PhD scholarship from the Flemish Interuniversity Council (VLIR).

2013-2014 **KU Leuven University** **Kisangani, DRC**

Postdoctoral research fellow

- Research funded by a postdoctoral mandate from the KU Leuven Bijzonder Onderzoeksfonds (BOF).

2014-2016 **KU Leuven University** **Kisangani/Kinshasa, DRC**

Postdoctoral research fellow

- Research funded by a postdoctoral fellowship from the Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO).

TEACHING

2009-2016

KU Leuven University

Leuven, Belgium

Doctoral Researcher and Postdoctoral research fellow

- Lectures, classes and seminars for our graduate and postgraduate students
- Guest lectures at the Université de Genève, the Université de Kisangani, the Université Saint-Louis and the Université Libre de Bruxelles.

2016-present

University of Oxford

Oxford, UK

Departmental Lecturer and Evans-Pritchard Fellow in African Anthropology

- Teaching, tutoring and supervising graduate students in the MSc in African Studies and the MSc in Social Anthropology, as well as supervising three future DPhil students in Social Anthropology.

SKILLS

Languages

- Dutch: native speaker
- English: fluent
- French: fluent
- Lingala: good
- German: basic

Computing

- Microsoft: Word, Excel, Access, Powerpoint and Project
- Statistics and Data Analysis: Matlab, SPSS, S-plus and Nvivo
- Geographic Information Systems: Idrisi and Arc-GIS

PUBLICATIONS

Articles in internationally reviewed journals

Hendriks, T. (2017). A darker shade of white: expat subjectivities and ambivalent whiteness in a Congolese rainforest enclave. *Africa*, 87(4): 683-701.

Hendriks, T. (2017). Queer(ing) popular culture: homo-erotic provocations from Kinshasa. *Journal of African Cultural Studies* (Online publication 21 July 2017, print publication will follow)

Hendriks, T. (2017). "Erotiques cannibales": a queer ontological take on desire from urban Congo. *Sexualities* (Online publication 30 March 2017, print publication will follow).

Hendriks, T. (2016). SIM cards of desire: sexual versatility and the male homoerotic economy in urban Congo. *American Ethnologist*, 43(2): 230-242.

- Hendriks, T. (2014). Race and desire in the porno-tropics: ethnographic perspectives from the postcolony. *Sexualities*, 17(1/2): 213-229.
- Hendriks, T. (2014). Queer complicity in the Belgian Congo: autobiography and racial fetishism in Jef Geeraerts' (post)colonial novels. *Research in African Literatures*, 45(1): 63-84.
- Hendriks, T. (2013). Erotics of sin: promiscuity, polygamy and homo-erotics in missionary photography from the Congolese rainforest. *Visual Anthropology*, 26(4): 355-382.

Edited volumes, internationally recognized scientific publisher

- Hendriks, T. & R. Spronk (forthcoming). *Readings in Sexualities from Africa*. Accepted by the International African Institute and Indiana University Press.

Book chapters, internationally recognized scientific publisher

- Hendriks, T. & Spronk, R. (forthcoming). Introduction: Reading "sexualities" from "Africa". Accepted in: Hendriks, T. & Spronk, R. (eds.). *Readings in Sexualities from Africa*. Indiana University Press.
- Hendriks, T. (forthcoming). Awkwardly queer: (Stra)turning the ontological turn. Accepted in: Boyce, P., Gonzalez-Polledo, E.J. & Posocco, S. (eds.). *Queering anthropological knowledge: analytics, devices and investments after Marilyn Strathern*. Lexington Press.
- Hendriks, T. & Malaquais, D. (2016). Sammy Baloji's Kolwezi: Imag(in)ing the Congo-China nexus. In: Malaquais, D. & Khouri, N. (eds.). *D'Afrique en Asie, d'Asie en Afrique: Rencontres au coeur d'un monde globalise*. Presses Universitaires de Rouen et du Havre, pp. 213-228.
- Hendriks, T. (2015). Sexualities, Africa. In: Whelehan, P. & Bolin, A. (eds.). *The International Encyclopedia of Human Sexuality*. Wiley-Blackwell.
- Hendriks, T. (2015). Ethnographic notes on 'camp': centrifugality and liminality on the rainforest frontier. In: Amilhat-Szary, A. & Giraut, F. (eds.). *Borderities: the politics of contemporary mobile borders*. Palgrave Macmillan, pp. 155-170.
- Hendriks, T., Kabuyaya, N., Ngoy, B. & Trefon, T. (2011). L'économie politique de la filière charbon de bois à Kinshasa et Lubumbashi. In: De Herdt, T. (ed.). *A la recherche de l'état en R-D Congo*. L'Harmattan, pp. 39-70.

Papers for international conferences and symposia

- Hendriks, T. (2017). *Making concessions: power and impotence in the Congolese rainforest*. Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association. Chicago, 16-18 November 2016.
- Hendriks, T. (2016). *Queering the occult: witchcraft, kinship and erotic dissidence in urban Congo*. Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association. Washington, 1-3 December 2016.
- Hendriks, T. (2016). *Queer(ing) popular culture: homo-erotic provocations from Kinshasa*. African Studies Association UK biannual conference. University of Cambridge, 7-9 September 2016.
- Hendriks, T. & Spronk, R. (2016). *Thinking (with) bodies: affect, ontology and queer worlding from "Africa"*. European Association of Social Anthropologists biannual conference. University of

- Milan, 20-23 July 2016.
- Hendriks, T. (2015). *Partially queer: Strathern and the ontological turn*. Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Denver, 18-22 November 2015.
- Hendriks, T. (2015). *Fucking kinship: procreation, marriage and queer desire in urban Congo*. Non-Monogamies and Contemporary Intimacies Conference. Lisbon, 25-27 September 2015.
- Hendriks, T. (2015). *Looking for serious love in urban Congo: the normalization of queer desire on social network sites*. European Geographies of Sexualities Conference. Rome, 16-18 September 2015.
- Hendriks, T. (2015). *Unthinking sexuality: theorizing male same-sex desire from urban Congo*. European Conference on African Studies. Paris, 8-10 July 2015.
- Hendriks, T. (2014). *On the cosmopolitan aspirations of sexual style: fashion, hip-hop and queer modernity in Kisangani*. African Studies Association UK biannual conference. University of Sussex, 9-11 September 2014.
- Hendriks, T. (2014). *Capturing the gay network(s): a queer ontography of connection in urban Congo*. European Association of Social Anthropologists biannual conference. Tallinn University, 31 July - 3 August 2014.
- Hendriks, T. (2013). *"The last specimens of the white man in Africa": racialisation, nostalgia and self-exoticization among European expats in the Congolese rainforest*. European Conference on African Studies. Lisbon, 27-29 June 2013.
- Hendriks, T. (2012). *On the "centrifugal" tendencies of flower representations in a Congolese logging camp*. African Studies Association UK Biennial Conference. Leeds, 6-8 September 2012.
- Hendriks, T. (2012). *Interracial intimacies in the Congolese rainforest: ethical reflections from the field*. Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. San Francisco, 14-18 November 2012.
- Hendriks, T. (2012). *Building a body in the new scramble for Africa: labour and masculinities at the Congolese rainforest frontier*. Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association. Philadelphia, 29 November – 1 December 2012.
- Hendriks, T. (2011). *Revisiting the porno-tropics: construction of masculinities at the interracial contact zone*. European Geographies of Sexualities Conference. Brussels, 8-10 September 2011.

Papers for workshops and seminars

- Hendriks, T. (2017). *Making concessions: power and ecstasis in the Congolese rainforest*. Anthropology Departmental Seminar. University of Oxford, 24 November 2016.
- Hendriks, T. (2017). *Queer(ing) popular culture: homo-erotic provocations from Kinshasa*. Symposium on "Dissident Desires Africa/Asia: critical comparative analyses on gender and sexuality". University of Amsterdam, 20 March 2017.
- Hendriks, T. (2016). *Queer provocations, nightlife and popular culture in Kinshasa*. African Studies Centre Seminar. University of Oxford, 24 November 2016.
- Hendriks, T. (2015). *On folles, swageurs and other ambiançeurs: popular culture and queer extraversion in urban Congo*. Centre of African Studies Seminar. University of Cambridge, 9 November 2015.
- Hendriks, T. (2015). *Queering ambiance in urban Congo: spatial practices and imaginaries of fioto seduction*. Geographies of Social Change Seminar. Newcastle University, 27 October 2015.
- Hendriks, T. (2015). *The queer side of kinship: witchcraft, ambiance and same-sex desire in urban Congo*. European Network for Queer Anthropology Workshop. Central European University,

Budapest, 12 September 2015.

- Hendriks, T. (2015). *Comment penser l'économie homo-érotique au Congo urbaine? Réflexions ethnographiques sur la pénétration, l'ambiance et la réputation*. Atelier Genre(s) et Sexualité(s). Université Libre de Bruxelles, 27 April 2015.
- Hendriks, T. (2015). *What should anthropology do? Notes on an ontological turn to difference*. Towards an ethical anthropology: encounters, practices and lessons learned. KU Leuven University, 25 March 2015.
- Hendriks, T. (2013). *Queering Congo Studies: urban masculinities and homo-erotic desires*. Workshop on Current Perspectives in Congo Research. Université de St Louis (Brussels), 20 December 2013.
- Hendriks, T. (2013). *Out of control: ethnographic notes on ecstasy from the Congolese rainforest*. Ecstasy and Intoxication International workshop. University of St Andrews, 25-27 October 2013.
- Hendriks, T. (2013). *Roads in the rainforest: (Im)mobility and (dis)connection in and around a Congolese logging camp*. International Workshop on Technology & Mobility in Africa. Leuven, 17-18 October 2013.
- Hendriks, T. (2013). *Une ethno(photo)graphie de l'imagination: les posters chinois chez Sammy Baloji et dans un camp forestier*. Congo Research Network Meeting. Kinshasa, 17 September 2013.
- Hendriks, T. (2011). *Désir et déplacement sur la frontière raciale*. Atelier Singulières Frontières. Université de Genève, 15 December 2011.
- Hendriks, T. (2011). *An ethnography of a logging concession in the DRC*. Young Researchers Days. Brussels, 20-21 January 2011.

Reviews

- Hendriks, T. (2017). Book Review of "Tropical Cowboys: Westerns, Violence, and Masculinity in Kinshasa" (Ch. Didier Gondola, 2016, Indiana University Press). Submitted to *Africa*.
- Hendriks, T. (2017). Book Review of "Gesture and Power: Religion, Nationalism, and Everyday Performance in Congo" (Yolanda Covington-Ward, 2016, Duke University Press). Accepted by *Journal of African History*.
- Hendriks, T. (2015). Book Review of "Forests of belonging: identities, ethnicities and stereotypes in the Congo river basin" (Stephanie Rupp, 2011, University of Washington Press). *Environment and Society*, 6: 180-181.
- Hendriks, T. (2013). Review of the David Livingstone Spectral Imaging Project. *Postcolonial Text*, 8 (2).

PhD Thesis

- Hendriks, T., De Boeck, F. (sup.), Trefon, T. (cosup.) & Lund, C. (cosup.) (2013). *Work in the rainforest: labour, race and desire in a Congolese logging camp*. KU Leuven University.

Miscellaneous publications

- Hendriks, T. (2012). *Into the hidden abode of a multinational corporation: reflections on fieldwork in a*

Congolese logging concession. In: ICA Magazine, Summer, 14-17. Leiden: Itiwana.

Trefon, T., Hendriks, T., Kabuyaya, N., Ngoy, B. (2010). *L'économie politique de la filière du charbon de bois à Kinshasa et à Lubumbashi.* Antwerp: Institute of Development Policy and Management.