

## EDITORIAL

I am delighted to be involved in presenting this Special Issue of *SITES*, entitled ‘Anthropology and Imagination.’ Four of the papers contained within this Special Issue were originally delivered at the 37th annual conference of the Association of Social Anthropologists of Aotearoa/New Zealand, organised by Dr Catherine Trundle, Professor Brigitte Bönisch-Brednich, Associate Professor Jeff Sissons, and me. The conference, which ran from 8–10 December 2012, formally opened at Victoria University of Wellington’s Hunter Council Chamber with a welcome from Assistant Vice Chancellor (Pasifika) Associate Professor Hon. Luamanuvao Winnie Laban QSO and keynote address by Professor Elizabeth Povinelli (Columbia University, New York). For the plenaries and panels we moved to Wellington’s Gryphon Theatre, a smaller, more intimate venue that, in the words of one participant, allowed us to ‘perform anthropology to one another.’ The Introduction to this Special Issue provides a short report of key issues arising from the conference related to the theme of anthropology and imagination. I wish to thank the sign language interpreters – and Professor Julie Park, Associate Professor Ruth Fitzgerald and Catherine Trundle for employing them in the spirit of inclusiveness – who did an outstanding job with the keynote address (I imagine ‘geontologies’ and ‘Anthropocene’ are not commonly signed), plenaries and selected conference panels during the conference. Special thanks also goes to Good Chemistry Catering, whose staff not only provided excellent food but also didn’t mind us turning part of their space backstage into a parents’ room. I am indebted to Brigitte Bönisch-Brednich, Catherine Trundle, Jeff Sissons and Dr Hal Levine for their advice and support throughout the process of collating this Special Issue. I am especially grateful to Dr Cyril Schäfer and Julie Park for their invaluable guidance in publishing the present volume, to the reviewers and copyeditors for their efforts, and to Mr Les O’Neill for his contribution to its production quality.

*Lorena Gibson*, July 2014

The publication of this issue of *SITES* is the first under my General Editorship. I take this opportunity to emphasise that *SITES* is a journal of social anthropology and cultural studies located in the Pacific and look forward to

forthcoming general and special issues that reflect this orientation. Editorial transitions require a good deal of assistance. I would especially like to thank Dr Cyril Schäfer, the immediate past Editor, for his patient and timely help. Associate Professor Ruth Fitzgerald and the *SITES* Board, Les O'Neill, our layout editor, and Allison Brown, the Digital Service Co-ordinator, have all graciously assisted with this transition. Dr Lorena Gibson's collegial editorship of this Special Issue has been a pleasure. Thanks too to the reviewers and copy-editors for their work in helping the Issue reach the standards set by my predecessors.

*Julie Park*