Painting a True Picture of Globalization



Susan Ossman Professor, Anthropology and Director of Global Studies

CURRENT RESEARCH

Combining anthropology and art to understand globalization

It is easy to see that "globalization" has accelerated. The world is ever more mobile and interconnected. How does this change how we will live, work, love or imagine community in the future? Dr. Susan Ossman, of the University of California, Riverside draws on her long-term and up-close research on four continents to seek answers this question. Long-term she develops models for understanding the interplay of individual experience, culture and politics. Dr. Ossman was the first to develop "linked comparison," a method of on the ground research on cultural practices that cross national and regional boundaries. Up-close, she takes the time to engage people in cafes, beauty salons, tv studios, or local arts organizations. Over two decades she has developed numerous collaborations with scholars and artists around the world while working in the US, France, Morocco and the UK. She studies history and fine art as well as anthropology: her artwork has been exhibited in Europe and California. Her cutting-edge approach to the study of globalization grew out of her experience of migration and her ongoing practice as an artist.

Ossman is a trailblazer in the emerging domain of research between anthropology and the arts. For instance, her study of people who have lived in several countries led her to conceive the "The Moving Matters Traveling Workshop," a mobile international program of research, exhibitions and performances including dozens of artists and researchers worldwide. Her book, *Moving Matters, Paths of Serial Migration,* serves as the touchstone for this project. The award-winning *Son of Semele Ensemble* in Los Angeles is also developing a play based on Ossman's book. These...

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AFFILIATION

University of California, Riverside

EDUCATION

- Ph.D., in Anthropology, 1991 , University of California, Berkeley
- M.A., in Anthropology, 1986 , University of California, Berkeley
- D.E.A., in History, 1983 , Université de Paris VII
- B.A., in History, 1980 , University of California, Berkeley

AWARDS

- Guggenheim Fellowship
- Invited Professor, SorbonneNEW Grant for "Online Project"
- New Grant for Online Project

RESEARCH AREAS

Humanities, Global Policy

FUNDING REQUEST

Your contributions will support the continued work of Dr. Susan Ossman, of the University of California, Riverside, as she and her team of scholars and artists explore how globalization affects individuals, cultures and communities. Donations will fund the necessary \$180K required for each field research project or workshop, supporting travel, personnel, supplies, communication and production costs. In choosing to donate, you will play a role in imagining the global future.

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