Record Nr. UNINA9910787132303321

Titolo Wording the world: Veena Das and scenes of instruction / / edited by

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Pubbl/distr/stampa New York: ,: Fordham University Press, , 2015

ISBN 0-8232-6890-X

0-8232-6188-3 0-8232-6189-1

Edizione [First edition.]

Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (495 p.)

Collana Forms of living

Disciplina 301.01

Soggetti Responsibility

Social sciences

Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese

Formato Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico Monografia

Note generali Description based upon print version of record.

Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references (pages 445-467) and index.

Nota di contenuto Acknowledgments -- Conversations, generations, genres :

anthropological knowing as a form of life / Roma Chatterji --Ethnography in the time of martyrs: history and pain in current anthropological practice / Sylvain Perdigon -- Pedagogies of the clinic : learning to live (again and again) / Aaron Goodfellow -- Disembodied conjugality / Lotte Buch Segal -- Word, image, and movement: translating pain / Ein Lall and Roma Chatterji -- Conceptual vita / Bhrigupati Singh -- The child bears witness: menace, despair, and hope in a courtroom / Pratiksha Baxi -- Experiments with fate : Buddhist morality and human rights in Thailand / Don Selby --Communitas and recovered life: suffering and recovery in the Sikh carnage of 1984 / Yasmeen Arif -- Sexual violence, law, and qualities of affiliation / Sameena Mulla -- On feelings and finiteness in everyday life / Clara Han -- "Listening to voices": immigrants, settlers, and citizens at the ethnic margins of the state / Sangeeta Chattoo --Punjabi inscriptions of kinship and gender: sayings and songs / Rita Brara -- In the event of an anthropological thought / Anand Pandian --The Ayodhya dispute: law's imagination and the functions of the status quo / Deepak Mehta -- The death of nature in the era of global warming / Naveeda Khan -- Triste Romantik : ruminations on an ethnographic encounter with philosophy / Andrew Brandel -- Making

claims to tradition: poetics and politics in the works of young Maithil painters / Mani Shekhar Singh -- The mirror as frame: time and narrative in the folk art of Bengal / Roma Chatterji -- Adjacent thinking: a postscript / Veena Das -- Between words and lives. a thought on the coming together of margins, violence, and suffering: an interview with Veena Das.

Sommario/riassunto

The essays in this book explore the critical possibilities that have been opened by Veena Das's work. Taking off from her writing on pain as a call for acknowledgment, several essays explore how social sciences render pain, suffering, and the claims of the other as part of an ethics of responsibility. They search for disciplinary resources to contest the implicit division between those whose pain receives attention and those whose pain is seen as out of sync with the times and hence written out of the historical record. Another theme is the co-constitution of the event and the everyday, especially in the context of violence. Das's groundbreaking formulation of the everyday provides a frame for understanding how both violence and healing might grow out of it. Drawing on notions of life and voice and the struggle to write one's own narrative, the contributors provide rich ethnographies of what it is to inhabit a devastated world. Ethics as a form of attentiveness to the other, especially in the context of poverty, deprivation, and the corrosion of everyday life, appears in several of the essays. They take up the classic themes of kinship and obligation but give them entirely new meaning. Finally, anthropology's affinities with the literary are reflected in a final set of essays that show how forms of knowing in art and in anthropology are related through work with painters, performance artists, and writers.