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# Melanie Sindelar, MSc. Ph.D.

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## Research Areas

Melanie Sindelar is an art anthropologist, translator, and editor, as well as an academic career coach and university teacher. At Charles University, she is conducting a research project titled “Decolonizing the Ethnographic Museum in Central Europe”, a comparative study of three ethnographic museums in Vienna, Prague, and Budapest. The project is supported by the Fond Junior Postdoctoral Program. She is also teaching courses in art anthropology and decolonizing museums; her teaching approach is interdisciplinary, encompassing history, anthropology, philosophy, art, and the social sciences. Her previous research has focused on contemporary art production in the United Arab Emirates, Germany, and Austria.

## Courses

See [SIS](#).

## Contact Information and Office Hours

See [SIS](#).

## Education

PhD	University of Vienna: Social & Cultural Anthropology (with distinction), 2019
MSc	University of Oxford: Social Anthropology, 2013
BA	University of Vienna: Prehistoric & Medieval Archaeology, 2011

## Previous Positions

2022	Visiting Professor in Visual Theory and Practice, Central European University, Vienna, AT (Apr-Jun 22)
2021	Post-Doctoral Fellow, Ruhr University Bochum, GER (Aug 21-Jan 22)

## Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

2019	When Workers Toil Unseen, Artists Intervene: On the In/visibility of Labor in the Arabian Gulf States. <i>Visual Anthropology</i> 32 (3-4): 265–86. DOI: 10.1080/08949468.2019.1637672.4.
2017	Land Art as a Means to Negotiate Natural and Cultural Heritage in the United Arab Emirates <i>Český lid</i> 104 (2): 213–30. DOI: 10.21104/CL.2017.2.03.
2016	Local, Regional, Global: An Investigation of Art Dubai's Transnational Strategies. <i>Arabian Humanities</i> (7). DOI: 10.4000/cy.3250.

## Grants & Awards

2022	Dissertation award for outstanding dissertations, Dr. Maria Schaumayer Foundation for Austrian female scholars
2021	Visiting Post-Doc Grant, DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service)
2020	Translation grant for <i>B. Noys, Accelerationism and Capitalism</i> , into German; Literar Mechana, Austrian Copyright Collecting Society

## Invited Talks

2023	FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg, Department of Political Science, <i>Contemporary Art and Politics in the United Arab Emirates</i> , July 11th
2019	Österreichische Orient-Gesellschaft Hammer-Purgstall, <i>Die Vergangenheit in einem Gemälde: zeitgenössische Kunst und die Vorstellungswelten lokalen Kulturerbes in den VAE</i> , May 28 <sup>th</sup>
2018	London School of Economics, Middle East Centre, <i>Artistic responses to local heritage in the United Arab Emirates</i> , Workshop National Identity and the Emirati State, October 5 <sup>th</sup>

## Conference Activity

### Panels Organized & Chaired

2022	<i>Hopeful Chronopolitics: Contemporary Art and Ethnography</i> , with Jennifer Clarke, Maxime LeCalve, European Association for Social Anthropology, Belfast, Northern Ireland, 26 <sup>th</sup> -29 <sup>th</sup> July.
2020	<i>Provoking Visuals: Creative Engagements with Borders, Wars, and Conflicts</i> , with Katja Seidel, Patrick Naef, European Association for Social Anthropology, Peace and Conflict Studies in Anthropology Network, 20 <sup>th</sup> -24 <sup>th</sup> July.
2018	<i>Beyond Resistance and Complicity: New Approaches to Middle Eastern Art Production and Circulation</i> , with Kyle Craig, American Anthropological Association, San Jose, CA, 14 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> November.

## Curatorial and Exhibition Experience

2015	Projects & Artists-in-Residence exhibition team, Art Dubai, UAE (Jan-Apr 15) Curatorial assistance and exhibition organisation
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