



Marzena Kubisz

## Veganisation of the Academy and the New Humanities: Veganism in the Context of Literary and Cultural Studies

The concepts of “veganisation of the Academy” and “vegan turn” formulated by the author of the text refer to a growing interest of literary and cultural theorists, philosophers and psychologists in veganism perceived both as a practice and philosophy. The essay explores the history of this interest and focuses on its climax marked by the publication of *The Vegan Studies Project. Food, Animals and Gender in the Age of Terror* by Laura Wright, the monograph which creates the foundations for vegan studies. The essay makes an attempt to grasp the specificity of vegan studies in the context of human-animal studies, ecocriticism and animal rights movements and places it on the map of contemporary humanities, with a special attention paid to the concept of prefigurative humanities proposed by Ewa Domańska. Seen in this light vegan studies emerges not only as a way to read literary and cultural text but also as a platform for a debate about an alternative vision of future.

Keywords: vegan studies, vegan turn, the New Humanities, utopia

Dariusz Gzyra

## Veganism and Reducetarianism

This paper attempts to show several aspects of relations between veganism and reducetarianism. It analyses current definitions of both practices with particular emphasis on the evolution of a definition of reducetarianism – from the practice of a reduction of meat’s consumption to the practice of a reduction of consumption of animal products in general. Then, on a basis of reducetarian’s publications, the depiction of vegans and veganism is analyzed. The article ends with a presentation of arguments for maintaining a two-element classification of dietary practices with regard to animal products: reducetarianism (a reduction of animal products without an intention of their exclusion) and veganism (a reduction with an intention of such an exclusion).

Keywords: social movements, reducetarianism, the ethics of human-animal relations

Małgorzata Poks

## Radical Veganism of People of Color

This essay problematizes the complicated relationship between speciesist and racist oppression. Even though the live experience of exploitation and the long struggle for justice and rights makes racialized groups especially sensitive to the suffering of the Other, the link between human and non-human animals’ interests is, suprisingly, not so easy to make. Things are additionally complicated by the fact that veganism is usually perceived as a white, privileged lifestyle, therefore culturally alienating to people of color. This sense of alienation can

be explained by the interiorization of colonial notions of identity, which label people of color as „natural meat eaters”. The goal of radical vegans of color, a group of activists rapidly gaining visibility, is to dismantle the colonial matrix of power and struggle for a world free of all forms of oppression. This essay attempts to present their ideological positions.

Keywords: Ko sisters, Consistent Anti-Oppression, vegans of colour, decoloniality

Hanna Mamzer

### Popularization of Non-meat Diets in the Context of Thorstein Veblen’s Theory of Conspicuous Consumption

In many cultures eating meat was considered for a very long time a privilege of people enjoying higher economic and social status. Nowadays situation slowly changes: those who are rich and fortunate tend to resign from eating meat. This rejection can be treated as an important element of a lifestyle, but it can be also considered a type of fashion. In both cases, if higher social classes tend to reject meat and animal products, this tendency may gain a status of “exclusive lifestyles”. Following Thorstein Veblen’s theory of circulation of consumption patterns, one can make an attempt to explain growing popularity of vegetarian and vegan diets. The assumption is that once they are turned into elements of an attractive lifestyle, mass consumers follow the example. The article analyzes growing tendencies to reject meat consumption in Poland and in Western culture.

Keywords: vegetable diets, fashion, models of consumption

Alicja Węćławiak

### Leftist Lettuce. The Economic Aspects of Veg\*anism

Vegetarianism is – simply speaking – not eating meat. Veganism is a bit more radical option – it is not just not eating meat, but generally animal products: eggs, milk, dairy products, honey. These are relatively simple definitions for these types of diets. However, the problem begins when we define vegetarianism or veganism as a type of diet. Vegetarianism and veganism are therefore not only related to food, we can already speak of a certain lifestyle understood primarily as “the size and form of consumption.” In my article I want to follow the motives behind choosing this type of diet and to reflect not only on the health but also on the cultural aspects of veganism. There are more and more vegetarian and vegan products, new restaurants and fast food restaurants, if not completely vegetarian or vegan, at least including meatless or simply vegetable dishes in their menu. Multitudes of forums and online communities, YouTube channels and blogs with vegetable recipes are multiplying. All this lets us wonder whether the vegetarian/vegan diet has become something of a fashion that will soon pass or whether there are other reasons, and if so, what these reasons are.

Keywords: veganism, lifestyle, consumption, fashion

## Agata Sitko

### Pieces of Meat Art

Sue Coe, an English artist, said that animal slaughter has become normalized because it was hidden. Plastic-wrapped pieces of meat on supermarket shelves do not resemble living beings. Meat intended for mass consumption is no longer real, while in the contemporary art we can find examples of the reverse. Meat art puts viewers in an uncomfortable situation because what the food industry conceals (killing animals, blood, guts), they can experience directly in an art gallery. It seems that meat in the contemporary art enables symbolic reference to many issues. In my text, I would like to show examples of the use of animals/meat by artists to shock and collide viewers with the Real, as well as to ask them ethical questions.

Keywords: meat, modern art, abject, Real, das Ding/Thing

## Michał Krzykowski

### Why Is Capitalism With an Animal Face Not a Solution For Us Either? From Anthropology to a Critique of Political Economy: Florence Burgat's *Carnivorous Humanity*

This article aims to introduce Florence Burgat, a phenomenologist and one of the outstanding contemporary animalist philosophers in France, with a special emphasis put on her last book, *L'humanité carnivore* (2017) in which she analyses “the carnivorous fact.” What Burgat describes as the equivalence principle would let us liberate from our anthropologically conditioned sacrificial structure, whereas clean meat makes it possible to elude the carnivorous fact as irreducible. However, unlike Burgat, I consider this fact in the context of the technological dimension of consumerist capitalism. Going beyond Burgat's anthropological perspective (though with no intention to question the relevance of her observations), I opt for the perspective of a critique of political economy. What Burgat refers to as “ovo-lacto-meaty plethora” might be seen as an effect of a prototypical disruptive innovation. Therefore, one may read this article as an attempt for making the animal life the object of a critique of political economy.

Keywords: Florence Burgat, animal studies, French philosophy, political economy

## Wit Pietrzak

### Posthuman poetry: Kacper Bartczak's *Pokarm Suveren*

The present essay focuses on Kacper Bartczak's latest volume, *Pokarm Suveren*, which is shown to be a radical attempt at expressing a posthumanist selfhood that instantiates itself as a borderline figure between language and body.

Keywords: Polish poetry, posthumanism, voice/language

