

COMPOSING WORLDS WITH ELEPHANTS

Interdisciplinary dialogues

Edited by Nicolas Lainé Paul G. Keil Khatijah Rahmat

Editions

COMPOSING WORLDS WITH ELEPHANTS

Interdisciplinary dialogues

collection [mondes vivants]

COMPOSING WORLDS WITH ELEPHANTS

Interdisciplinary dialogues

Edited by Nicolas Lainé Paul G. Keil Khatijah Rahmat



Editorial coordination

Corinne Lavagne

Copy editing

Octopus editing

Proof reading

Anne Causse

Graphic design

Alan Guilvard - Format Tygre

Page layout

Aline Lugand - Gris Souris

Photo engraving

IGS-CP

Cover: © Paul G. Keil

The mahout, Oupe, caringly hand-feeding the sub-adult female, Rohila, before she returns to the forest for the evening (Kamrup, Assam, 2014).



This publication is open-access and made available to the public under the terms of the Creative Commons license CC BY-NC-ND 4.0, which can be viewed at https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-rednd/4.0/deed.en. Under this license, the original work can be freely distributed as long as the authors and publishers are credited and a link to the license CC BY-NC-ND 4.0 is provided. Modifications are not authorised and the work must be published in its entirety. The material may not be used for commercial purposes.

© IRD, 2023

FRENCH NATIONAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Paper ISBN: 978-2-7099-2993-6 PDF ISBN: 978-2-7099-2994-3 Epub ISBN: 978-2-7099-2995-0

CONTENTS

FOREWORD Vivek Menon		7
ACKNOWLED	GMENTS -	— 10
INTRODUCTIO	DN —	— 13
PART 1 WILD	RELATIONS, WILD INDIVIDUALS, WILD AFFECTS	
Chapter 1.	Political and affective ecologies of human-elephant relation A gendered perspective ————————————————————————————————————	ons — 29
Chapter 2.	Affective ecologies in Sri Lanka Farmers' experiences of relational dialogues amidst elephants in cultivated fields Elizabeth Oriel, Toni Frohoff	49
Chapter 3.	The outliers Reimagining human-elephant relations in rurban South India Nishant M. Srinivasaiah, Anindya Sinha	— 67
Chapter 4.	The implications of being a "problem" elephant ————————————————————————————————————	— 83
Artistic inter	lude 1 "Lantana Elephants" Shubhra Nayar, Paul G. Keil	- 101
	G WITH ELEPHANTS OM DEEP HISTORY TO FUTURE IMAGINARIES	
Chapter 5.	War elephants and forest people Thomas R. Trautmann	- 113
Chapter 6.	Tusks of wisdom The elephant in the Buddhist art of Kanaganahalli, southern India Srikumar M. Menon, Anindya Sinha	- 123
Chapter 7.	From the mouth of the mahout A review of elephant command words Teckwyn Lim	- 137

Chapter 8.	Mahuto-futurism Human-elephant cohabitation in the ecumenopolis Jacob Shell	
Artistic inter	My photographic experience with elephants and their mahouts in Laos Philippe Coste	— 17 1
	G WITH ELEPHANTS HOUTSHIP	
Chapter 9.	Laotian mahouts and elephants Glimpses into a multispecies system of medicine and care Nicolas Lainé	183
Chapter 10.	Nāgādhyakshaçaritha Elephant-mahout relationships in two communities of southern India Sreedhar Vijayakrishnan, Anindya Sinha	— 19 7
Chapter 11.	Mahout-elephant relationships A review of the literature Jennifer A. H. Crawley	— 213
Chapter 12.	Musth as a biosocial event How musth disrupts the relational dynamics of a human-elephant community in Assam Paul G. Keil	— 233
Artistic inter	clude 3 Cemetery: multispecies intimacies and extinction Deborah Schrijvers	— 253
PART 4 THINK	KING WITH ELEPHANTS	
Chapter 13.	Time and the elephant Temporality as attunement with more-than-human others Khatijah Rahmat	— 263
Chapter 14.	Elephant-farmer coexistence Multiple methods Anandi Gandhi	_ 279
Chapter 15.	How elephants are bridging epistemological boundaries Tarsh Thekaekara	_ 297
Chapter 16.	Widening the lens Relationships and interactions between humans and elephants in behavioural ecology studies Hannah S. Mumby	— 313
AFTERWORD		— 331
Nigel Rothfels LIST OF CONT	RIBUTORS	— 335