

**Dans le cadre du programme d'échange  
avec l'Université de Chicago**

●●●●● **STUFF & THINGS**  
**Disintegrating into  
Immateriality?**



université  
Paris Ovest  
Nanterre La Défense

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UNIVERSITÉ PARIS 1



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
CHICAGO



**MARDI 4 DÉCEMBRE – 9 h 30 - 17 h**

Maison Archéologie & Ethnologie, René-Ginouvès  
**SALLE DU CONSEIL (4<sup>e</sup> étage)**

# STUFF & THINGS. DISINTEGRATING INTO IMMATERIALITY?



The PUF program, organized between the University of Chicago and Université Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense, has dedicated its third and final year to an ongoing discussion of material culture. Both Anglophone approaches to "materiality" and Francophone approaches to "techniques" have in recent years expanded their discussions to include an increasingly wide range of topics. Danny Miller's "Stuff" and Birgit Meyer's "Things" are but two examples of the productive expansion of the concept of materiality into previously ignored domains. In the same manner, the return to a Maussian conception of technique permits its extension into domains in which it is not commonly applied, such as ritual or the construction of the subject. In these works we see concretely what can be gained from an ethnography of material broadly defined and including the unexpected. Yet what do we stand to lose from a dilution of this category?

As more and more disciplines join this discussion, what are the limits to materiality conceptually and across disciplines? Do these terms retain any boundedness or theoretical heft as the discourse framing them expands almost infinitely? How much utility as categories of analysis do terms like "materiality," "material culture," or "techniques" still possess? What is lost by expanding the study of material culture into disciplines once unconcerned with "stuff and things" (such as Religious Studies, Literary Theory, History, Philosophy). What is lost when the existing discussion of material culture is expanded to include "stuff and things" no longer part of the material world?

## Programme de la journée d'étude

9 h 30 - Accueil des participants

10 h - Nathan Schlanger (INRAP / Trajectoires) : *Présence de la technologie : Marcel Mauss*

11 h - Nathalie Ortar (ENTPE) : *Conserver, se débarrasser, donner, vendre : place et vie des objets. Une étude de cas sur la baie de San Francisco*

12 h 30 - Déjeuner sur place

14 h - Frédéric Joulian (LAS / EHESS) : *Les techniques ont-elles une autonomie heuristique ?*

15 h - Katerina Kerestetzi (LESC) : *Objets, architecture et performance rituelle dans le palo monte*

16 h - Discussion générale



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LES COMMUNICATIONS SE DÉROULERONT EN FRANÇAIS. LES DISCUSSIONS EN FRANÇAIS ET EN ANGLAIS.