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Anna Fedele

Associate Researcher

Centre for Research in Anthropology - Iscte (ECISH)
[Circulation and Place-Making Group]



Contacts

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Curriculum

Anna Fedele is an anthropologist whose research focuses on the intersections of gender and religion with a particular emphasis on corporeality, sexuality and ritual creativity. She is a Senior Researcher at the Center for Research in Anthropology (CRIA) at the Lisbon University Institute (ISCTE-IUL) and is currently coordinating a research project on the centenary of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima focusing on pilgrimage, gender and lived religion funded by FCT (the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology).

Anna holds a Ph.D in Social and Cultural Anthropology from the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (Paris) and the Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona. She has been a chercheure associée of the Groupe de Sociologie Politique et Morale, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Paris until the dissolution of this laboratoire in 2013. Her Master thesis has been published as a Spanish book entitled *El camino de María Magdalene* (RBA, 2008). This text explores the long exegetical path that the figure of saint Mary Magdalene has performed from the beginnings of Christianity until the publication of *The Da Vinci Code* (2003). Particular attention is paid to contemporary interpretations of Mary Magdalene and its relationship with the feminist spirituality movement.

Anna's dissertation has recently been published as part of the Oxford Series in Ritual Studies under the title: *Looking for Mary Magdalene. Alternative Pilgrimage and Ritual Creativity at Catholic Shrines in France* (Oxford University Press, November 2012). This book has received the Award for Excellence in the Study of Religion of the American Academy of Religion.

In 2010 Anna has been a Visiting Scholar at the anthropology department of Stanford University. She has also been a Visiting scholar at the European University Institute, the University of Lausanne and the University of Trento.

She co-edited with Ruy Llera Blanes *Encounters of Body and Soul in Contemporary Religious Practices; Anthropological Reflections* (Berghahn Books, EASA series, 2011)

Gender and Power in Contemporary Spirituality: Ethnographic Approaches, the volume Anna co-edited with Kim Knibbe has been published as part of the Routledge Studies in Religion Series (2013).

Research Interests

religion, gender, pilgrimage, ritual, corporeality

Academic Qualifications

University/Institution	Type	Degree	Period
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona	PhD	Social and Cultural Anthropology	2008
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona	M.Sc.	Social and Cultural Anthropology	2004
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore	M.Sc.	Lingue e Letterature Straniere	1998

Supervisions

• Ph.D. Thesis

- Ongoing

	Student Name	Title/Topic	Language	Status	Institution
1	Joana Rita Rosa Martins	Teias de plenitude e transformação: dinâmicas de género, ecologia e poder em grupos Neopagãos em Portugal e no Reino Unido	English	Developing	ISCTE-IUL
2	Ana Catarina de Figueiredo Barata	Perceptions, discourses and representations related to experiences of obstetric violence	English	Developing	ISCTE-IUL

- Concluded

	Student Name	Title/Topic	Language	Institution	Concluding Year
1	Joana Rita Rosa Martins	Teias de plenitude e transformação: dinâmicas de género, ecologia e poder em grupos Neopagãos em Portugal e no Reino Unido	Portuguese	ISCTE-IUL	2023

Total Citations

Web of Science®	50
Scopus	313

Publications

• Scientific Journals

- Scientific journal paper

1	Fedele, A. (2020). La spiritualité comme terrain d'entente entre la religion et le sécularisme : une approche ethnographique. <i>Social Compass</i> . 67 (2), 177-190 - Times Cited Web of Science®: 2 - Times Cited Scopus: 1
2	Fedele, A. (2018). When homebirth "goes wrong": holistic mothers who end up giving birth in a Portuguese hospital. <i>Etnográfica</i> . 22 (3), 691-714 - Times Cited Scopus: 4
3	Fedele, A. (2017). Che genere di spiritualità? Riflessioni antropologiche su donne, maternità e spiritualità nei paesi tradizionalmente cattolici del Sud dell'Europa. <i>Religioni e Società: Rivista di scienze sociali della religione</i> . 32 (88), 96-106
4	Fedele, A. (2016). 'Holistic mothers' or 'bad mothers'? Challenging biomedical models of the body in Portugal. <i>Religion and Gender</i> . 6 (1), 95-111 - Times Cited Scopus: 16
5	Fedele, A. (2014). Créativité et incertitude dans les nouveaux rituels contemporains. <i>Social Compass</i> . 61 (4), 497-510 - Times Cited Web of Science®: 6 - Times Cited Scopus: 10
6	Claverie, E. & Fedele, A. (2014). Incertitudes et religions vernaculaires = Uncertainty in vernacular religions. <i>Social Compass</i> . 61 (4), 487-496 - Times Cited Web of Science®: 6 - Times Cited Scopus: 9
7	Fedele, A. (2014). Energy and transformation in alternative pilgrimages to Catholic shrines: deconstructing the tourist/pilgrim divide. <i>Journal of Tourism and Cultural Change</i> . 12 (2), 150-165 - Times Cited Web of Science®: 13 - Times Cited Scopus: 25
8	Fedele, A. (2014). Reversing Eve's curse: Mary Magdalene Pilgrims and the creative ritualization of menstruation. <i>Journal of Ritual Studies</i> . 28 (2), 23-35
9	Fedele, A. (2009). From Christian religion to feminist spirituality: Mary Magdalene pilgrimages to La Sainte-Baume, France. <i>Culture and Religion</i> . 10 (3), 243-261 - Times Cited Web of Science®: 15

• Books and Book Chapters

- Book author

1	Fedele, A., Knibbe, K. & Knibbe, K. (2020). Secular societies, spiritual selves?: The gendered triangle of religion, secularity and spirituality. - Times Cited Scopus: 12
2	Fedele, A., Knibbe, K. & Knibbe, K. (2020). Introduction: Spirituality, the third category in a gendered triangle. - Times Cited Scopus: 8
3	Fedele, A. & Isnart, C. (2015). From cryptic to critique: Early and contemporary French contributions to the study of pilgrimage. - Times Cited Scopus: 4
4	Fedele, A. (2013). Looking for Mary Magdalene. Alternative Pilgrimage and Ritual Creativity at Catholic Shrines in France. Oxford University Press. - Times Cited Scopus: 107
5	Fedele, A. (2013). "Black" madonna versus "white" madonna: Gendered power strategies in alternative pilgrimages to Marian shrines. - Times Cited Scopus: 9
6	Fedele, A. (2012). The Goddess movement in traditionally Catholic countries of Southern Europe and its reinterpretation of Christian public spaces Il movimento della Dea nei paesi tradizionalmente cattolici del Sud dell'Europa e la sua reinterpretazione di spazi pubblici cristiani.
7	Fedele, A. (2012). Gender, sexuality and religious critique among mary magdalene pilgrims in Southern France. - Times Cited Web of Science®: 5 - Times Cited Scopus: 9
8	Fedele, A. & Blanes, R. (2011). Encounters of body and soul in contemporary religious practices: Anthropological reflections. - Times Cited Scopus: 6
9	Fedele, A. & Blanes, R. (2011). Introduction. - Times Cited Web of Science®: 2 - Times Cited Scopus: 9
10	Fedele, A. (2008). El camino de Maria Magdalena. un recorrido antropológico por la ruta de peregrinaje de la nueva espiritualidad. RBA.

- Book editor

1	Fedele, A. (2020). Secular Societies, Spiritual Selves? The Gendered Triangle of Religion, Spirituality and Secularity. London and New York. Routledge. Anna Fedele and Kim Knibbe (Ed.).
2	Fedele, A. & Knibbe, K. (2013). Gender and Power in Contemporary Spirituality: Ethnographic Approaches. Routledge. - Times Cited Scopus: 65
3	Fedele, A. & Blanes, R. (2011). Encounters of Body and Soul in Contemporary Religious Practices. Anthropological Reflections. Berghahn Books.

- Book chapter

1	Fedele, A. (2021). Mo(nu)ments of Vulnerability: The Centrality of Ritual Creativity in Pilgrimages to Catholic Shrines in France and Portugal. In (pp. 275-296).: Springer International Publishing. - Times Cited Scopus: 1
2	Fedele, A. (2020). "God wants spiritual fruits not religious nuts": Spirituality as middle way between religion and secularism at the Marian shrine of Fatima. In (pp. 166-183).
3	Fedele, A. (2020). God Wants Spiritual Fruits Not Religious Nuts. In Anna Fedele and Kim Knibbe (Ed.), (pp. 166-183). London and New York: Routledge. - Times Cited Scopus: 3
4	Fedele, A. (2020). Introduction. In Anna Fedele and Kim Knibbe (Ed.), (pp. 1-29). London and New York: Routledge.
5	Fedele, A. (2019). Spirituality and gender. In (pp. 135-141). - Times Cited Scopus: 3
6	Fedele, A., Knibbe, K. & Knibbe, K. (2016). From Angel in the home to sacred prostitute: Unconditional love and gendered hierarchies in contemporary spirituality. In L. Gemzöe, ML. Keinänen, A. Maddrell (Ed.), Contemporary Encounters in Gender and Religion. (pp. 195-216). Cham: Palgrave. - Times Cited Scopus: 10

• Other Publications

- Other publications

1	Fedele, A. (2018). When homebirth ¿goes wrong¿: holistic mothers who end up giving birth in a Portuguese hospital. The article is based on research about holistic mothering in contemporary Portugal. Holistic mothering is an umbrella term, used here to describe different mothering choices based on the assumption that pregnancy, birthing and early mothering are important spiritual experiences for the mother and the child, but also for the father. In Portugal, many holistic mothers choose homebirth and avoid what.
2	Fedele, A. & White, Joanna (2018). Birthing matters in Portugal: introduction. In this introduction to the collection ¿Birthing matters in Portugal,¿ the contributions of anthropology to the understanding of childbirth as social practice are outlined. Portugal is a country with one of the highest rates of medical intervention in childbirth in Europe, and widespread and diverse opposition to current medicalised approaches to birthing care in Portugal are becoming increasingly. - Times Cited Scopus: 2
3	Fedele, A. (2013). 2012: The environmental prophecy that could not fail. Religion and Society. 4 (1), 167-195 - Times Cited Web of Science®: 1
4	Fedele, A. (2013). The Metamorphoses of Neopaganism in Traditionally Catholic Countries in Southern Europe. Sites and Politics of Religious Diversity in Southern Europe.

Research Projects

Project Title	Role in Project	Partners	Period
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The heritagization of religion and the sacralization of heritage in contemporary Europe	Researcher	CRIA-Iscte	2016 - 2020
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Organization/Coordination of Events

Type of Organization/Coordination	Event Title	Organizer	Year
Member of non-scientific event's organizing committee	"Enchanted places, heritage spaces (Lugares encantados, espaços de património)"		Since 2020
Member of non-scientific event's organizing committee	"Enchanted places, heritage spaces (Lugares encantados, espaços de património)"		Since 2020
Member of non-scientific event's organizing committee	"Enchanted places, heritage spaces (Lugares encantados, espaços de património)"		Since 2020