



A Cardboard Miracle

A Cardboard Miracle? Transformation and the Anthropology of Images

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[A Cardboard Miracle? Transformation and the Anthropology of Images, dr Aimee Joyce \[1\]](#)

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This paper concerns a contested miraculous object located in the Mariological landscape of north-eastern Poland. The object in question is a mass reproduced cardboard icon that began to cry oily tears in 2010, and now resides in an Eastern Orthodox Temple in the town of Terespol. This paper begins with an ethnographic account of a celebration for this miraculous icon. The paper then moves to argue for a new approach to miracles in anthropology, one that foregrounds material affordances and questions of presence, setting aside a focus on belief. In this paper I present a method of analysis that incorporates ideas from the anthropology of art and material cultures. I trace the life of the miraculous icon, through a series of transformations, demonstrating a way of analysing miracles that takes seriously what they do within larger social and political spheres, and how people engage with miracles beyond the question of religious truth.

Dr Aimée Joyce is a lecturer in Social Anthropology in the University of St Andrews. Her work focuses on the anthropology of borders, art, and material cultures. She has conducted fieldwork in Poland since 2011 and previously taught at Goldsmiths, University of London. Her forthcoming book "Spectral Borders: History and Belonging on the Polish Belarusian Frontier" is due to be released in early 2020.

SEMINARIA NAUKOWE IEiAK - w trakcie seminariów badania prezentuj? pracownicy instytutu, a tak?e antropolodzy i przedstawiciele pokrewnych dyscyplin z kraju i ze ?wiata. To okazja do zapoznania si? z najnowszymi badaniami i swobodnej dyskusji w kameralnej atmosferze. Spotkania s? otwarte dla publiczno?ci. Serdecznie zapraszamy wszystkich zainteresowanych: zarówno badaczy, jak i studentów, absolwentów oraz wszelkie osoby, którym bliska jest tematyka seminariów. Wi?cej o seminariach

Antropologia dzi? - otwarte seminaria naukowe – zadanie finansowane w ramach umowy 973/P-DUN/2018 ze ?rodków Ministra Nauki i Szkolnictwa Wy?szego przeznaczonych na dzia?alno?? upowszechniaj?c? nauk?. Projekt jest realizowany przez Stowarzyszenie Pracownia Etnograficzna im. Witolda Dynowskiego we wspó?pracy z Instytutem Etnologii i Antropologii Kulturowej UW.



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