

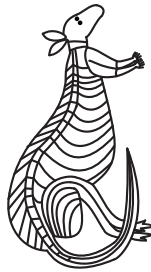


Università  
Ca' Foscari  
Venezia

Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici

## Laboratorio demo-etno-antropologico

Lab



Dea

**Lunedì, 29 aprile ore 14.30-19.00**

Ca' Dolfin, Aula Magna Silvio Trentin,

**PAUL HOCKINGS**

(University of Illinois),

terrà due conferenze su:

**Structuring an ethnographic film in relation to social theory**

e

**Lunedì, 29 aprile alle ore 17.00**

Ca' Dolfin, Aula Magna Silvio Trentin,

**Man of Aran: A new version of a classic documentary  
seguirà la proiezione del film Man of Aran**

### Abstract

The west coast of Ireland had formerly a maritime peasant culture. This was documented in several remarkable autobiographies by Gaelic-speaking peasants, as well as in two films: *Man of Aran*, made in 1934 by Robert Flaherty, and *The Village*, made in 1968 by Paul Hockings & Mark McCarty. Both films are thus about the same subculture, but the understanding they have given to their audiences has been remarkably divergent. Flaherty was working in a tradition of silent Explorer films popular in the 1920s and 1930s, while *The Village* was the first film to be completed in the style known as Observational Cinema, which has been very influential in Visual

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Anthropology. Prof. Hockings will be present to discuss these two approaches to what is essentially the same subject. Just after his film was completed this, the last peasant community in the British Isles, underwent a radical change and became more like the rest of rural Ireland.

### **Nota biografica**

Paul Hockings is Professor Emeritus of Anthropology at the University of Illinois, and also Editor-in-Chief of *Visual Anthropology* (Routledge). He has studied anthropology and archaeology at the Universities of Sydney, Toronto, Chicago, Stanford and California (Berkeley). He has published a dozen books on Indian topics, and over 200 articles, as well as editing *Principles of Visual Anthropology* and four anthropological encyclopaedias, and producing several documentary films. He has now been working with the Badaga people of the Nilgiri Hills in south India for over half a century. His latest book (2013) is *So Long a Saga: Four Centuries of Badaga Social History*. The 70-minute film called *The Village*, which he and Mark McCarty made in 1968, was arguably the first ethnographic film to be completed in the style that quickly became known as Observational Cinema. It is marked by a complete lack of commentary, and is bilingual, in English and Gaelic. The film, which presents a general ethnography of one coastal village in the maritime peasant society of western Ireland, forms a marked contrast with *Man of Aran*, which Robert Flaherty made in 1934 in the same subculture.

### **Lecture di approfondimento**

Henley, Paul, 2018, The Authoring of Observational Cinema: Conversations with Colin Young, *Visual Anthropology*, 31(3): 193-235.

Hockings, Paul, 1988, Gone with the Gael: Filming an Irish Village. In *Anthropological Filmmaking: Anthropological Perspectives on the Production of Film and Video for General Public Audiences* (Jack Rollwagen, ed.); 143-59. Chur, etc.: Harwood Academic Publishers GmbH.

Ó Crohan, Tomás, 1934, *The Islandman / The Islander* (many editions; title varies)