

ASAO STUDIES IN PACIFIC ANTHROPOLOGY

General Editor: Rupert Stasch, Department of Social Anthropology,
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ASAO Studies in Pacific Anthropology

The Association for Social Anthropology in Oceania (ASAO) is an international organization dedicated to studies of Pacific cultures, societies, and histories. This series publishes monographs and thematic collections on topics of global and comparative significance, grounded in anthropological fieldwork in Pacific locations.

Authenticity & Authorship in Pacific Island Encounters

New Lives of Old Imaginaries

Edited by **Jeannette Mageo & Bruce Knauft**

Afterword by Margaret Jolly

A novel, eclectic, often times dazzling travelogue of two central concepts in modern social theory—authenticity and authorship—grounded in fieldwork across the contemporary Pacific. All scholars in and across the region will learn from this important, creative volume. **Eric Silverman**, author of *Masculinity, Motherhood, and Mockery*

By exploring the shifting dynamics of authenticity and authorship across diverse Pacific settings, this volume addresses issues of great urgency to anthropology, and more importantly to Pacific communities themselves.

Joshua A. Bell, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution

The insular Pacific is a region saturated with great cultural diversity and poignant memories of colonial and Christian intrusion. Considering authenticity and authorship in the area, this book looks at how these ideas have manifested themselves in Pacific peoples and cultures. Through six rich complementary case studies, a theoretical introduction, and a critical afterword, this volume explores authenticity and authorship as "traveling concepts." The book reveals diverse and surprising outcomes which shed light on how Pacific identity has changed from the past to the present.

Jeannette Mageo is Professor of Anthropology at Washington State University. She has authored ten books and edited collections. Her recent research examines the collision of Samoan and Euro-American cultures in the colonial encounter.

Bruce Knauft is Samuel C. Dobbs Professor of Anthropology at Emory University. He is the author of nine books and edited collections, and has, in addition to Papua New Guinea, worked in East and West Africa, Mongolia, Myanmar, India, and Tibet.

Cover image: Soliabo Hiomay, senior man of Kusabi, with Bruce Knauft at Yibihilu village in 1980. Photo by Eileen Cantrell.

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