

LIQUOR
STORE
THEATRE
MAYA
STOVALL

WITH A FOREWORD BY CHRISTOPHER Y. LEW

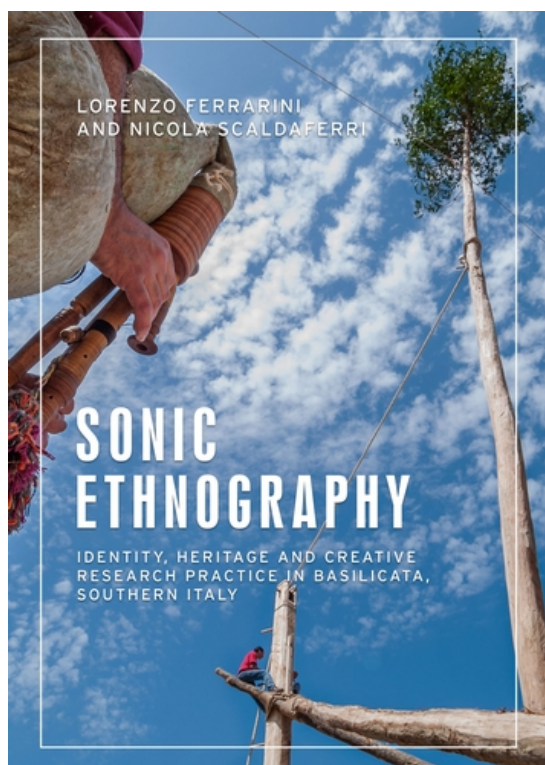
Maya Stovall

Liquor Store Theatre. Durham: Duke University Press.

<https://www.dukeupress.edu/liquor-store-theatre>

For six years Maya Stovall staged Liquor Store Theatre, a conceptual art and anthropology video project –included in the Whitney Biennial in 2017– in which she danced near the liquor stores in her Detroit neighborhood as a way to start conversations with her neighbors. In this book of the same name, Stovall uses the project as a point of departure for understanding everyday life in Detroit and the possibilities for ethnographic research, art, and knowledge creation. Her conversations with her neighbors –which touch on everything from economics, aesthetics, and sex to the political and economic racism that undergirds Detroit's history– bring to light rarely acknowledged experiences of longtime Detroiters. In these exchanges, Stovall enacts an innovative form of ethnographic engagement that offers new modes of integrating the social sciences with the arts in ways that exceed what either approach can achieve alone.

Maya Stovall is an American conceptual artist and anthropologist. She is an assistant professor at California State Polytechnic University.



Lorenzo Ferrarini, Nicola Scaldaferrì (eds)
Sonic ethnography. Identity, heritage and creative research practice in Basilicata, southern Italy. Manchester: Manchester University Press.

<https://www.dukeupress.edu/liquor-store-theatre>

Sonic ethnography makes a compelling argument for taking sound seriously as a crucial component of social life and as an ethnographic form of representation. This volume explores the role of sound-making and listening practices in the formation of local identities in the southern Italian region of Basilicata. With an approach that cuts across sensory anthropology, sound studies and ethnomusicology, Sonic ethnography demonstrates how acoustic tradition is made and disrupted and acoustic communities are brought together in shared temporality and space. Based extensive research, this volume provides an innovative take on soundful cultural performances such as tree rituals, carnivals, pilgrimages and more informal musical performances, with particular attention to the interactions between classic ethnographic scholarship from the past century and the local politics of heritage.

Featuring stunning colour photographs and more than an hour of sound recordings, Sonic ethnography uses a unique combination of media to investigate distinctive ways of knowing, beyond more traditional ethnographic forms of representation. Two methodological chapters, respectively on music-making as creative research practice and on photo-ethnography, make the book an essential contribution for those interested in the production of sounds and still images as relational and interactive approaches to fieldwork. The pioneering anthropologist of sound, Steven Feld, collaborated to some of the research and contributed to the book an afterword and a soundscape composition.

Lorenzo Ferrarini is a Lecturer in Visual Anthropology at the University of Manchester.

Nicola Scaldaferrì is Associate Professor of Ethnomusicology at the University of Milan.