



Albert Piette

## Existence in the Details

Theory and Methodology in Existential Anthropology

Translated by Matthew Cunningham

Anthropology, Existence and Individuals, Volume 1

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This book is an anthropology book, not a social and cultural anthropology book, but an existential anthropology book. It presents a critique of the theories and methods of the social sciences, which Albert Piette reproaches for side-stepping human beings, their modes of being and more generally the fact of existing. The book also offers an original combination of methods for exploring the details of existence: the particularities of each person in a group, the succession of situations in a day, and the subtlety of moments of presence. It gives rise to new theoretical propositions on what constitutes the specificity of human existence and social life.

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#### Information on the Series

Anthropology describes and analyses society in a way that circumnavigates the study of individuals. Individuals mainly feature as cases that exemplify social structures or cultural schemes or as carriers of a life-history. Individuals, however, have an existence of their own that deserves to be studied. This book collection wants to establish the study of individuals as a theme in anthropology and it wants to fathom the discoveries to be made in this field. How does and how should anthropology conceive of individuals? How are we to describe their existence? What are the relations between society and individual? How do we approach the theme methodologically? Which historical or social factors shape our notions of individuals and our enquiries? The book series offers a forum for theoretical reflections, methodological discussions and empirical case studies.

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