

EDITOR'S REPORT

The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism

July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018

UPDATES ON JOURNAL STATUS

The Journal's co-editors were reappointed to a 2nd term of five years by the ASA Board of Trustees. The term of appointment runs until January 31, 2023.

Beginning February, 2018, the Journal's book review editor is Jonathan Neufeld, selected by the ASA Board of Trustees as the successor to James Harold.

The ASA Trustees must decide during the Trustees meeting of 2019 to either extend, renegotiate, or terminate our present publishing contract with Wiley (formerly Wiley-Blackwell). Inaction on our part in late 2019 will result in automatic renewal of the contract for five years (extending it to the end of calendar year 2025).

CURRENT OPERATIONS

We acknowledge and thank James Harold, until recently the JAAC Book Review Editor, and his editorial assistant, Pascale Argondizza, for their excellent work. Alexa Gerber and Olivia Carlson, editorial assistants, and Carrie Polega and Azharul Islam, administrative assistants, have provided invaluable service to JAAC this year. Special thanks are due to Central Michigan University and Minnesota State University Moorhead for their support of JAAC and its operations. We also thank Julie Van Camp, Secretary-Treasurer of the American Society for Aesthetics, and Kathleen Higgins, President of the Society, for their continuing advice and assistance. We also thank Julia Bond and Jieying Lee at Wiley Periodicals for their assistance in a great many matters.

PEER REVIEW

The quality of the Journal depends on the many scholars who volunteer their time to serve as peer evaluators of submissions. Members of the Society who are interested in serving as

referees should contact the editors. A list of recent referees is published in the first issue of the Journal every year.

CURRENT ACTIVITY

Production Schedule. Since last year's Editor's Report, we have published Vol. 75, no. 4 (Fall 2017, the 75th Anniversary Special Issue) and Vol. 76, nos. 1-3 (Winter, Spring, Summer). No. 4 will be shipped to ASA members in the first week of November.

In Volume 76 we published 33 articles (excluding introductory essays), and 5 discussion pieces (including invited responses). There were no symposia.

In comparison, the immediately prior Volume (75) saw publication of 30 articles, and 8 discussion essays (and no symposia). Volume (74) saw publication of 22 articles, and 3 discussion essays (and no symposia). Volume 73 held 25 articles, six discussion exchanges, and two symposia consisting of 9 short articles.

The tentative schedule for the appearance of Volume 76 (2018) is as follows.

Vol. 77, no. 1 (Winter): online 2 Feb 2019; print shipping early Feb 2019

Vol. 77, no. 2 (Spring): online 2 May 2019; print shipping early May 2019

Vol. 77, no. 3 (Summer): online 2 August 2019; print shipping early Aug 2019

Vol. 77, no. 4 (Fall): online 2 Nov 2019; print shipping early Nov 2019

New Manuscripts. We received 175 submissions between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018, of which 170 were submitted as articles and 5 as discussion. Of the total submitted, 23 articles and 2 discussions were accepted for publication, and the remainder rejected. This translate to an acceptance rate 14.8 % (or 14% for articles alone).

Additional data about submissions and acceptance rates is included as an appendix to this report.

Referees continue to provide constructive comments to authors. Our current working process is to assign a new manuscript to one editor, who identifies potential referees and then reviews their suitability with the second editor before issuing any invitations to referee. The comments of our referees are reviewed by both editors. These comments are often quite extensive and specific for both accepted and rejected papers, and we are gratified by the responses of authors who express their appreciation for the time and attention that referees spend on their

papers. The vast majority of referees return their reports within six weeks of accepting a manuscript assignment.

Book Reviews. We review books in a wide variety of fields related to aesthetics, criticism, and theories of the arts. In the first three issues of Volume 76 we published 27 book reviews. In comparison, the previous five years saw 26 reviews, 32 reviews, 26 reviews, 29 reviews, and 24 reviews, respectively.

Book reviews are by invitation. Those who would like to write reviews are encouraged to contact Prof. Jonathan Neufeld at College of Charleston and send their CV and an indication of the areas in which they would like to review.

JOHN FISHER MEMORIAL PRIZE COMPETITION

The next biennial Fisher Prize competition will be awarded again in April, 2019. The prize essay will be presented at the Society's 2019 annual meeting and will be published in a future issue of *JAAC*. The deadline for submission is January 15, 2019. For more details, see the most recent issue of *JAAC* or the ASA website.

SPECIAL ISSUES and SYMPOSIA

We invite proposals for special issues of the Journal and for specialized symposia on topics under-represented in the Journal.

The next special issue is Vol. 76, no. 4: *The Good, the Beautiful, the Green: Environmentalism and Aesthetics*, and is co-edited by guest editors Sandra Shapshay and Levi Tenen. The issue has twelve articles and will be shipped to ASA members in the first week of November, when it will also appear online.

The next two special issues are also scheduled, and their calls for papers appear as an appendix to this report. They are *Race and Aesthetics*, co-edited by A.W. Eaton and C.F. Peterson, and *Stand-Up Comedy and Philosophy*, edited by Sheila Lintott. The deadlines for submission are January 1, 2019 and November 15, 2019, respectively.

Symposia typically consist of three or more relatively brief papers that address a topic of current interest or that introduce a range of views on a new topic. Normally, a symposium dedicated to the discussion of a monograph or the published work of a particular author should make contributions to a topic that is not well represented in the Journal.

There is no backlog of unpublished symposia at this time.

Full guidelines for Special Issue and Symposia proposals are on the JAAC website under “Author Guidelines,” and on the ASA website under JAAC, “Calls and Submissions.”

OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING

ASA members sometimes ask about the possibility of open access for JAAC articles and other types of content. It might be of some interest, therefore, to understand the difference between “gold” and “green” access. Green access is already the default for all material published in JAAC, and gold access can be purchased by authors or their institutions.

Gold access is complete open access: anyone with internet access can go to the publisher’s website and access the published article. Open access begins on the date of publication. In other words, gold access gives everyone the same access that you currently receive with your ASA membership, but without any requirement of membership or payment of any access fees.

JAAC’s first gold access article appeared this year, in Volume 76, Issue 3. It is clearly labelled as open access in the table of contents for the online version of JAAC.

For JAAC, the default is green access, which is a form of self-archiving. Authors have the right to post copies of their work on the internet within certain parameters. Authors do not, however, have the right to post a PDF or scanned copy that was prepared by the publisher. (Authors may not, for example, download the PDF copy from the Journal website and then repost that copy.) But authors do have the right to post, and create open access to, the text that was submitted to JAAC and subsequently published there. However, if there is a difference between the submitted text and the version accepted following revisions made in response to peer review and/or editorial comment, then some constraints apply. The post-peer review text cannot be posted with open access until two years from the date of publication. For either of these versions of the text, posting must be accompanied with a short acknowledgement of its relationship to the copyrighted text in JAAC, and posting is limited to:

- the author's personal website
- the author's institutional repository or archive
- not for profit subject-based repositories such as PubMed Central

In addition, the author may send or transmit copies of the final published article to colleagues on a one-to-one basis (e.g., in response to a personal request for a copy).

Why doesn’t the ASA arrange for gold access to all JAAC material? Currently, library and other electronic access to JAAC are an annual revenue source to the ASA that reduces our

membership fees and subsidizes our other operating costs, including low fees for national and regional meetings. Shifting to gold access would require the ASA to pay the publisher for each article that JAAC publishes, and there would be little or no further revenue from the publication of the Journal. Instead of JAAC subsidizing the ASA, the ASA would have to subsidize the cost of publishing JAAC. The same issue would arise if the Society decided not to renew its publishing contract at some point in the future, taking the Journal “independent” of the major academic publishers. The Journal would become a significant cost to the ASA, rather than its primary source of revenue.

For more on access issues and JAAC, see our web page at [http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/\(ISSN\)1540-6245](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)1540-6245) and select “Open Access” from the “Contribute” menu.

OTHER ELECTRONIC MATTERS

Electronic Publication with Wiley-Blackwell

- Worldwide, over 5,200 institutions purchase electronic access to *JAAC*. This is a 20% increase from 2017.
- Wiley’s philanthropic initiatives extended low-cost or free access to more than 7,600 developing world institutions.
- Approximately 65% of electronic access to *JAAC* is initiated by individuals outside North America.
- Downloads of *JAAC* articles via Wiley Online Library increased by 14% in 2017.

ASA members have electronic access to the full text of current and recent issues of *JAAC* (beginning with Volume 59) through www.onlinelibrary.wiley.com, the website that Wiley-Blackwell maintains for journals they publish. For further information see their website, www.wiley.com. Authors of articles published in *JAAC* are required to sign up for Author Services when their article enters production and all authors receive a clear explanation of the benefits including the ability to retrieve the final PDF file of their article along the terms and conditions of use. Wiley-Blackwell continues to pursue its mission as one of the world’s foremost academic and professional publishers and as the premier publisher of journals of scholarly and professional societies. Its list contains more than 1,500 scholarly peer-reviewed journals. Wiley-Blackwell sponsors seminars in December in Washington, D.C., for editors and publishers in order to familiarize their clients with some of the opportunities and issues surrounding electronic matters.

Electronic Management through Scholar One.

All manuscripts continue to be submitted and edited through ScholarOne Manuscripts, Wiley-Blackwell's preferred web-based management system. ScholarOne provides journal management to more than 500 scholarly societies. Since 2013, the copyright transfer process has been handled as a web-based interface through Wiley Author Licensing System, an online checklist.

JSTOR Digital Archives.

All issues of the Journal are available via JSTOR, a scholarly journal archive service. Founded in 1994, JSTOR is a non-profit partnership of more than 7,000 libraries and research institutions in 150 countries worldwide that provides access to scholarly materials for participating institutions. They are an archive of the printed version of over 1,500 scholarly journals across 50 disciplines, not merely of individual articles and reviews, and over one million images, letters, and other primary sources. Full search, browse, citation, print and download capabilities are available for all material in *JAAC* after a "rolling wall" of three years. Since 2008, JSTOR has waived or offered reduced fees for more than 1, 500 academic and not-for-profit institutions in developing countries and all of Africa. JSTOR sponsors seminars annually for scholarly journal editors and publishers on electronic developments and other current issues in publishing, similar to those held by Wiley-Blackwell. For further information about JSTOR, see their website, www.jstor.org.

***JAAC* Website.**

There are two *JAAC* websites. An informational website is incorporated into the general website of the American Society for Aesthetics. The website is regularly updated. The second is the *JAAC* component of the Wiley Online Library website, which provides information about Wiley-Blackwell, permissions, and electronic access to issues of *JAAC* from Volume 59 to the current issue.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Stecker and Theodore Gracyk

Editors

JAAC Statistics for submissions from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018

Total number of articles and discussion pieces submitted: 175

Acceptances: 26 (24 articles and 2 discussions)

Rejections: 149 (146 articles and 3 discussions; 3 undecideds at time of report)

Acceptance rate for articles: 14%

Acceptance rate for articles plus discussion pieces: 14.8%

(In 2016-2017 the acceptance rate was 16% for articles and 17.6% overall)

(In 2015-2016 the acceptance rate was 13.4% for articles and 15.45% overall)

(In 2014-2015 the acceptance rate was 12.6% for articles and 16% overall.)

14 article submissions had multiple authors, so the total number of males/females in the following analysis is greater than the number of actual submissions.

Total article submissions from female authors: 57 (11 acceptances; 43 rejections; 3 undecideds)

Submission rate 30%, Acceptance rate 19% (adding discussions, no statistical change)

(2016-17 submission rate 23%, Acceptance rate 23%)

(2015-16 submission rate 30.1%, Acceptance rate 9.85%)

(2014-15 Submission rate 29%, acceptance rate 10%)

(2013-14 Submission rate 29%, acceptance rate 17.2%)

(2012-13 Submission rate 31%, acceptance rate 14%)

(2011-12 Submission rate 24%, acceptance rate 11.7%)

Total article submissions from male authors: 129 (16 acceptances; 113 rejections)

Submission rate 70%, Acceptance rate 12.4% (adding discussions, acceptance rate 13.3%)

(2016-17 submission rate 77%, Acceptance rate 15.5%)

(2015-16 submission rate 69.9%, Acceptance rate 16.36%)

(2014-15 Submission rate 71%, acceptance rate 23%)

(2013-14 Submission rate 71%, acceptance rate 19.2%)

(2012-13 Submission rate 69%, acceptance rate 17%)

(2011-12 Submission rate 76%, acceptance rate 11%)

Submissions & acceptances by country:

At the time of this report there are 6 articles awaiting decisions.

United States: 64 submissions (10 articles & 1 discussion piece accepted)

Other English-speaking countries: 40 submissions (39 articles & 1 discussion acceptance)
(Submitted from Canada 7, United Kingdom 18, Ireland 1, Australia 5, New Zealand 5, South Africa 4)

(Acceptances: Canada 3, United Kingdom 4 articles and 1 discussion piece, Australia 1, New Zealand 1)

Europe: 30 submissions (3 articles accepted)

(Submitted from Austria 2, Belgium 1, Cyprus 1, Denmark 1, Finland 5 (1 accepted), Germany 5 (2 accepted), Italy 3, Netherlands 2, Norway 1, Poland 2, Russian Federation 3, Spain 3, Sweden 1)

Central and South America: 5 submissions (0 acceptance)

(Mexico 1, Brazil 2, Chile 1, Paraguay 1)

Asia and Pacific: 28 submissions (1 acceptance, from United Arab Emirates)

(From Azerbaijan 1, China 9 [1 of these from Hong Kong], India 2, Indonesia 1, Iran 2, Israel 2, Japan 1, Korea 2, Singapore 2, Thailand 1, Turkey 2, Taiwan 1, United Arab Emirates 1, Yemen 1)

Africa other than South Africa: 2 submissions from Ghana, 0 accepted

Call for Papers: A Special Issue of



Race and Aesthetics: A Special Issue of *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* (publication date: November 2019)

Guest Editors: A.W. Eaton and C.F. Peterson

This issue addresses questions and issues in aesthetics through a broad lens that embraces a variety of racialized voices and a wide range of approaches and methodologies. Submissions on any philosophical treatment of race and aesthetics are welcome, but papers addressing the aesthetic and artistic traditions and perspectives of the following communities and traditions are especially encouraged:

- Latina/o/x
- East, South, Southeast and Central Asian
- Pacific Islander
- Indigenous peoples
- First Nations Peoples

Examples of questions that might be addressed include:

- What role does aesthetics play in articulating racial ideologies and projects?
- What relationship does art and aesthetic theory have with social and political engagement?
- How does aesthetic presentation articulate racial identity?
- How do innovations in technology affect traditional artistic representations of race?
- How can intersectional identities inform artistic and aesthetic presentation?

Submissions should not exceed 7,500 words and must comply with the general guidelines for submissions. (See “Submissions” on the [JAAC](http://www.aesthetics-online.org) page on the American Society for Aesthetics website: www.aesthetics-online.org) Upload submissions to the [JAAC](https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jaac) online submission website, <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jaac>, making sure they are identified as submissions for the special issue: at the prompt for manuscript type, select “special issue” rather than “original article.”

If you have questions, please contact: A.W. Eaton (eaton@uic.edu) or C. F. Peterson (cpeterso@oberlin.edu)

Deadline for Submissions: January 1, 2019

Call for Papers: A Special Issue of



Stand-Up Comedy and Philosophy

Guest Editor: Sheila Lintott Publication date will be November 2020.

Submissions on any philosophical topics or themes related to stand-up comedy are welcome, including, but not limited to:

- Stand-up comedy's relations to other arts (e.g., to other performing arts such as music and dance, to other comedic arts such as sketch comedy and improv, to other text-based arts such as poetry and storytelling)
- How stand-up comedy confronts cultural issues and anxieties
- Analyses of joke-structure and style
- Stand-up and emotion, including self-conscious emotions (e.g., shame, guilt, pride)
- Stand-up and audience reception theory
- Public persona and comic identity
- Stand-up and identity (e.g., race, gender, ability, age, class)
- Stand-up comedy, political correctness, offensiveness, and freedom of speech
- Truth and authenticity in stand-up comedy
- Stereotypes and tropes (questioned) in stand-up comedy
- The status of stand-up in philosophy of art and aesthetics
- Implications of new technologies for stand-up comedy as art and practice
- Stand-up comedy and/as popular art or avant-garde art
- Ethics of stand-up comedy
- Stand-up comedy and traditional theories of humor

Submissions should not exceed 7,500 words and must comply with the general guidelines for submissions (see "Submissions" on the JAAC page on the American Society for Aesthetics website: www.aesthetics-online.org). Upload submissions to the JAAC online submission website, <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jaac>, making sure they are identified as submissions for the special issue.

If you have questions please contact: Sheila Lintott: sheila.lintott@bucknell.edu

Deadline for Submissions: 15 November 2019