Call for Papers

Special Issue:

Researching the Indigenous

Guest Editor: Michael Wessels

(To be published in December 2016 as Critical Arts 30:6)

In mid-2014 a double issue of Critical Arts appeared with articles by authors from across the disciplines who were responding to an invitation to write about San and Khoe representation, a deliberately ambiguous title that included not only artistic, academic and popular work on the San and San cultural production, such as folklore and art, but also questions of political and economic inclusion and exclusion. The resulting publication produced ground-breaking writing that challenged previous research within specific disciplines and also in the general area of what could be called, not without much qualification, Khoesan studies. The issue included a forum for debate and also, significantly, some responses by indigenous commentators. Many of the debates concerned ideas of authenticity, hybridity, indigeneity and of research methodology and ethics that have a purchase that goes far beyond southern Africa in a political and scholarly environment in which the lines between the researched and the researcher are increasingly challenged and blurred as people seek to become agents of their own histories and of the production of knowledge about themselves and the world. For this reason, we should like to extend this CFP to the wider sphere of indigenous studies, looking to continue the critique of anthropology, archaeology, folkloristics and linguistics and also explore new ways of reading cultural productions like literature, music and art. We would also like to stimulate discussion about the notion of indigeneity itself which has a more contested signification in Africa and India, for example, than it does in Canada or Australia and New Zealand.

Please submit abstracts to Michael Wessels by 15 May 2015.

Completed manuscripts to be submitted by 15 September 2015

Special Issue: San Representation Part 1, guest edited by Michael Wessels:
URL: http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rcrc20/28/3#.VBl_gJSSxCY
San Representation Part 2, guest edited by Michael Wessels:
URL: http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rcrc20/28/4#.VBl_u5SSxCY
1995 Special Issue ‘Recuperating the San’ edited by Keyan Tomaselli.
URL: http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rcrc20/9/2#.VBl__ZSSxCY

Guest editor Michael Wessels can be contacted at Wesselsm@ukzn.ac.za
Alternatively, contact the Critical Arts editorial office at criticalarts@ukzn.ac.za or the editor-in-chief, Keyan Tomaselli at tomasell@ukzn.ac.za

Critical Arts Issues published before 2005 can be open accessed at the following link:
http://digital.lib.msu.edu/projects/africanjournals/

The Critical Arts Homepage can be accessed at:
http://ccms.ukzn.ac.za/publications/critical-arts.aspx
Issued by
Keyan G. Tomaselli
Editor-in-Chief: Critical Arts
Professor Emeritus
Distinguished Visiting Professor, University of Johannesburg

Corresponding addresses:
The Centre for Communication, Media and Society
School of Applied Human Sciences
Room G006a
Memorial Tower Building
Howard College Campus
Mazisi Kunene Rd
University of KwaZulu-Natal
Durban 4041, South Africa
http://ccms.ukzn.ac.za
e-mail: tomasell@ukzn.ac.za
Tel: 031 260 2635

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