

## Special Issue

# Film and Visual Studies: The Digital Unconscious

### Message from the Guest Editor

Serving as for a Special Issue of *Film and Visual Studies*, I invite submissions of papers addressing the topic of *The Digital Unconscious*. A word of explanation: in 1915, Sigmund Freud published “The Unconscious”, now a point of reference in the legacy of psychoanalysis and the “return to Freud” that France witnessed in the years 1960–1990. Taken as what is *other*, in its wake, the Unconscious marked a panoply of disciplines: politics, aesthetics, literature, contemporary art, historiography, film theory, and philosophy. Today, with the impact of digital technology and artificial intelligence, visual studies, seemingly drifting away from psychoanalysis, are concentrated on cognition and cognitive mapping. However, like subjectivity, the Unconscious has neither disappeared nor simply “gone away.” The essays in this Special Issue of *Film and Visual Studies* aim to show how and why the Unconscious, timeworn as it may seem, has uncommon agency and force in visual arts in the digital age.

### Guest Editor

Prof. Dr. Tom Conley

Departments of Art, Film & Visual Studies and Romance Languages/Literatures, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 02138, USA

### Deadline for manuscript submissions

3 October 2025



## Arts

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Arts  
Editorial Office  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
[arts@mdpi.com](mailto:arts@mdpi.com)

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## About the Journal

### Message from the Editor-in-Chief

*Arts* welcomes scholarly contributions that address fundamental issues in the arts, broadly conceived, from any meaningful perspective—theoretical, historical, interdisciplinary, and global. Submissions are expeditiously and rigorously reviewed by peers, in order to insure the highest scholarly standards. Because *Arts* is an online journal, articles reach their desired audiences more quickly and reliably than its print media peers. The future is digital, and *Arts* combines the stringent scholarly standards of traditional journals with the easy accessibility afforded by digitalization.

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### Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Andrew M. Nedd

Department of Art History, Savannah College of Art and Design,  
Savannah, GA 31402, USA

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