Special Issue

Reconsidering the State(s) of Criticism

Message from the Guest Editor

This Special Issue proposes that confusion over the role of criticism is a problem worthy of much more careful consideration, and that claims made for its demise can no longer be taken for granted. The appearance of Elkins' and Newman's anthology coincided with the 2007-08 Financial Crisis, Since then, the global cultural and political climate has changed significantly, requiring that we reconsider the place of criticism anew. Notions of judgment, voice, and critical discrimination may be more, not less pertinent in an age of 'big data', artificial intelligence, the widespread proliferation of culture, and the contentious notion of 'post-truth'. In what ways might criticism be re-considered in the current context? What kind of knowledge does it provide? The issue invites essays that include, but are not limited to, the issues sketched above. The issue welcomes contributions which proceed from particular moments, or acts of criticism which open out onto to the broader issues at stake.

Guest Editor

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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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