

**CALL FOR PAPERS**  
**Special Issue**  
[www.fusion-journal.com](http://www.fusion-journal.com)

## **Manifesto Redux**

Publication: 2018

Guest Editors: Professor Gevork Hartoonian (University of Canberra) and Professor Craig Bremner (Charles Sturt University)

*The Manifesto is remarkable for its imaginative power...it is the first great modernist work of art.*  
Marshall Berman

Both in tone and orientation, the Manifesto looks towards the future through the transformation of given socio-political conditions and accepted norms. It calls for action and change with no guarantee of success. It is like a whisper in the air hoping to find a pair of listening ears.

Is there room for the Manifesto today when the imaginary of the present is preoccupied with the globalisation of the culture of commodities and an idea of democracy that is in full support of the neo-liberal political regime? If the Manifesto played a role in the search for alternatives and advancement during the early stages of the project of Modernity, what would be the purpose of it when there is no formulated alternative to global capitalism?

We are calling for papers to re-access the praxis of the historical avant-garde in light of the utopic and political content of the Manifesto. In addition to investigating the historical issues central to the formation of the Manifesto, we are also interested in understanding how the Manifesto initiated a particular regime of aesthetics in association with its manifested goals, be it political, or cultural, and how these attained visibility.

We see two reasons for the permeability of the Manifesto during the early decades of the historical avant-garde. First, the Manifesto was conditioned by the historicity of the project of Modernity: the esteem for and the possibility of a radical departure from the past; the emergence of industrial technologies; and the rise and growing contradictions between the early bourgeois aspiration for Modernity and the capitalist system of production and consumption. Second, the comradeship between various agents of creative expression opened a collaborative vista wherein groups and/or individuals could agree with the content of a particular manifesto regardless of the fragile nature of these agreements. Even though these collaborative declarations did not last long, their continuous impact on the intellectual and artistic environment of those decades and beyond cannot be denied.

If the above brief retrospective observation provides a convincing account of the promulgation of the Manifesto during the first part of the twentieth century, then its slow fade into obscurity after the 1970s is still to be accounted for.

In an atmosphere of economic and political uncertainties we are calling for papers that critically evaluate the historicity of the Manifesto, and the ways that its tropes might be relevant for the reconstruction of an alternative historico-political imaginary.

When considering your reaction to this call for papers, *fusion* encourages and accepts all forms of media. Please consult the journal website for more details on this special issue:

<http://www.fusion-journal.com>

## SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Please submit an expression of interest by 25 September 2017 to the editors

Gevork Hartoonian: [gevork.hartoonian@canberra.edu.au](mailto:gevork.hartoonian@canberra.edu.au)

Craig Bremner: [cbremner@csu.edu.au](mailto:cbremner@csu.edu.au)

Your one page expression of interest should indicate the working title of your submission, a 250 word abstract including an explanation of how the work relates to the proposed theme, the names and affiliations of the authors, and the form of the submission.

---

Co-founded by the Faculty of Arts, Charles Sturt University (Australia), and the College of Arts, University of Lincoln (United Kingdom), *fusion* publishes refereed articles, creative works and other practice-led forms of production.

Managing Editor: Professor Craig Bremner

Production Editor: Kim Woodland

Faculty of Arts and Education

Charles Sturt University

E [kwoodland@csu.edu.au](mailto:kwoodland@csu.edu.au)

W <http://www.fusion-journal.com>

---