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Letter from the Editors

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## Letter from the Editors

Welcome to this the second issue of *The Journal of Performance Magic*. The journal comes out of *The Magic Research Group* here at The University of Huddersfield. This edition is centred the theme of women in magic; we begin with Lynne Kelly's personal reflections on being a feminine magician and her work teaching magic across genders. This is followed by Laura C. Bruns and Joseph P. Zompetti's deep analysis of the rhetoric of female magicians in a field dominated by the masculine. Finally, Grace Alexandra Williams examines the notion of the theatrical vanishing of the female body and how this has informed her practice-led research.

One of our key aims in producing *The Journal of Performance Magic* is to cast our nets wide to explore themes and issues in the research and performance of magic. We hope that with this issue we continue to encourage reflection on areas of performance magic not already covered in publication and serve to develop new perspectives on areas already researched. In this vein for our next issue we are seeking material centred on the theme of Technology and Magic. Full details can be found in the Call of Papers section, but feel free to email the editors if you have any queries or proposals for material.

Once again the editors would like to thank the team behind The University of Huddersfield Press for making this journal happen, and the support of the Drama Department for making this and the Magic Research Group a reality. We would also like to thank our editorial board for their advice and support as we developed this publication.

In addition we would like to welcome, at the recommendation of Larry Hass, Joseph P. Zompetti to the Editorial Board. Joseph is Professor in the School of Communication at Illinois State University and his research interests include rhetoric and communication in performance magic.

We welcome any comments on the work of the journal; please email them to;  
jpmeditors@hud.ac.uk

You can find more information about our research group's events on our website at;  
<http://www.hud.ac.uk/research/researchcentres/magic/>

Nik Taylor & Stuart Nolan  
Editors  
The Journal of Performance Magic

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## *Call for Papers*

### **The Journal of Performance Magic: Technology and Magic Issue**

“Kurzweil holds that all technologies increase in performance exponentially – as computers have in the past 50 years. If so, then we will soon see technology and magic become more or less indistinguishable, and the future become so strange it is impossible to write about from this side of the event horizon.” Mark Stevenson - *An Optimist’s Tour of the Future*:

Performance Magic has a long and complex relationship with technology - using, resisting, denying, interpreting, challenging, enchanting, and demystifying technological advances. Magicians have often been inventors and innovators, most notably of film and media technologies, and have used emerging technologies both as a tool and as a source of stories and frameworks for performance. The relationship is often fraught, technology has exposed magic, and magic has debunked pseudo-science.

The next issue of *The Journal of Performance Magic* seeks papers that tackle the dance between technology and performance magic.

Topics include but are not limited to:

- Playing with technology in a theatrical space
- Playing with the theatrical in a technological space
- Sufficiently advanced magic
- Sufficient advanced technology
- Magic and futurology
- Luddite magic
- The technomagical

All contributions will be peer-reviewed subject to their acceptance. Full details can be found at <http://eprints.hud.ac.uk/journal/jpm/>

Please e-mail your contributions and/or queries to the editors Nik Taylor & Stuart Nolan (by 31st March 2015) [jpmeditors@hud.ac.uk](mailto:jpmeditors@hud.ac.uk)