



Gramma: Journal of Theory and Criticism

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Representation and Spectatorship in an Age of Excessive Visuality

This forthcoming issue recognizes as a point of departure the inevitable evolution and constant development of modes of representation and spectatorial practices through time, as evidenced particularly—yet, not exclusively—in drama, theatre and the performing arts. Over the past two decades, the excessive emphasis on visuality which characterizes contemporary Western societies has been further exacerbated due to the overwhelming intervention of social media across the entire spectrum of human activity and experience. As a result, various pressures are currently exerted on almost all modes of representation and conceptions of “seeing.” In general terms, twenty-first century visual culture is mostly noted for a widespread and consequential effacement of critical distinctions between the private and the public, the tangible and the imaginary, the ephemeral and the eternal. At the same moment, within this climate older and long-established means of expression often reinvent their dynamics, since they do not offer themselves as an antidote to the omnipotence of the visual but rather lie openly in synergy with it. Contributors to this issue are invited to consider the impact of excessive visuality as it relates primarily to contemporary English-speaking drama, theatre, and the performing arts but also well beyond these areas.

Papers are welcomed on the following or related topics:

- representations of the tension and/or the fusion between the physical and the virtual
- the significance of imagery for online identities
- opportunities and dead-ends for the marginalized in the age of excessive visuality
- questions of authenticity and proprietorship in contemporary art and culture
- novel types of audience participation and engagement in a predominantly visual culture
- democratic rights and the role of social media
- populism and the power of the sensational

Papers should not exceed the length of 7,000 words (including footnotes and bibliography) and should be double-spaced. They should adhere to the latest MLA style of documentation and should be submitted electronically in the form of a Word document to the editors of the issue, **Konstantinos Blatanis** and **Tomáš Kačer**, at the following e-mail addresses:

kblatanis@enl.uoa.gr and kacer@phil.muni.cz

Deadline for abstract submission: **March 1, 2021**

website: <https://ejournals.lib.auth.gr/gramma/index>