

Introduction: 'Self and Other'

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The 10th issue of *New Readings* brings together five papers on aspects of identity, with a strong emphasis on visual representations. Early versions of these papers were presented at Cardiff University during the academic sessions 2007-08 and 2008-09.

Nasheli Jiménez del Val's article looks at Mexican caste paintings as a tool for surveillance of the colonial Other. Guy Austin's essay makes use of trauma theory to approach the depiction of the Algerian War in cinema. Sofia Ahlberg's article scrutinises Simone de Beauvoir's portrayal of America, highlighting the relation her work establishes between gender constructions and notions of liberty. Lucy Mazdon focusses in her article on the car and the crisis of masculinity in the films of French director Cédric Kahn. Heather Norris Nicholson's contribution explores aspects of British amateur film-making in the Soviet Union.