



Call for Papers THEME ISSUE ON “MUSICAL AND ARTISTIC MEDIATIONS”

Music and Arts in Action (MAiA), a refereed, multidisciplinary journal, invites submissions for a thematic issue examining mediation in music and other performance, visual and literary arts, to appear in volume 5(1), 2012. By mediation, we mean the various forces that shape or structure how art products are produced, transmitted and experienced by their consumers. As demonstrated by scholars of actor-network theory, objects themselves play active roles in their own mediation by affording unanticipated opportunities for engagement. Artistic mediation may take place through technologies (e.g., of musical production/consumption), in situations (e.g., dance classes) and during processes (e.g., of artistic creation, editing or critique). Artistic mediation also operates on individual and collective levels, ranging from personal performance styles, to discourses (e.g., of art history), to organizational aesthetics (e.g., of performing spaces). Taken together, mediation comprises personal, social and material processes that implicate objects, emotions, bodies, gestures, spaces, institutions, languages, social networks and other actors.

In this special issue, MAiA seeks to publish papers that open the ‘black boxes’ of mediation by examining empirically how various forces and entities impact upon our production of and experience with musical and artistic forms. Rather than referring to “the power of cinema to bring people together”, for example, opening the black box of mediation would entail exploring in rich detail the use of particular cinematic and audiencing devices (as well as individuals’ perceptions and backgrounds) to understand what happens when people view cinema in a particular way. Put simply, what mediates artistic experience in different situations, and what are the consequences of this mediation for artistic forms and their producers and consumers? We are particularly interested in papers with strong empirical data that provide new insights into the ways in which music and art play dynamic roles in social life and cultural experience, whether positive or negative. Also of interest are papers exploring how researchers and practitioners themselves mediate creative forms and practice in their own work and scholarship.

Papers should be 5,000 to 8,000 words in length, excluding references and supplementary materials (e.g., visual images, audio and video). Submission details can be found at: http://musicandartsinaction.net/info/authors_howto.pdf

Deadline for papers is 1st JUNE 2012. For more information, please contact the editors via <http://musicandartsinaction.net/index.php/maia/contact/index/principal>