

EDITORIAL

The latest issue of Music and Arts in Action: an open access peer-reviewed journal published by the SocArts Research Group of the University of Exeter, UK.

The first article of this issue is ‘Learning to Listen: Types of Musical Knowledge and Genre Preferences’, by Anna Michelson and Kat Albrecht, focuses on the relationship between musical knowledge and genre preferences. Drawing on survey data, the authors present the concept of legibility, which they describe as, one’s ability to evaluate intra/extra musical elements (presented as sonic/social legibility). Through descriptions of supplementary interview data, the authors then detail how legibility, as a result of one’s musical knowledge, can influence their resulting genre preferences.

‘Songs in the Canadian Women’s Movements: Messages Among Three Strands’, is co-authored by, William Danaher, Kelsey Kretschmer, Jason Eastman and Rachel Whaley. This article is a historical-comparative analysis of the importance of songs in three different strands of the women’s movement in Canada. Using content analysis to examine archival data, the authors examine the role of songs in shaping collective identity in three different strands of the movement. Songs were found to represent similarities across strands but also exemplified the different foci of the strands. The authors suggest that the example of songs in the Canadian women’s movement illustrates the dynamic processes of collective identity formation within social movements.

‘Obstacles to Justice: Examining the Relationships Between Arts Organizations and Probation Offices in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties’, by Jacob Cassman. Cassman shares a detailed account of correctional institutions and parole and probation offices in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties in Southern California. By providing this context, he is able to describe how various arts organizations are able to operate within such institutions. Cassman explores methods of best practice and offers insight into how such institutions can better support art programs and endeavors moving forward.

We are delighted to introduce a new format to MAiA in which authors can reflect on previous publications in this journal. The final article of this issue is an opinion piece by Geoff Baker, entitled, ‘The Third Way is Not The Only Way: Interrogating a Centrist Agenda for El Sistema’. In this opinion piece, Baker writes in response to our most recent special issue, ‘Youth Orchestras and Sistema-inspired programs as socio-artistic intervention: exploring ambivalence, contradiction, and complexity’.

The Editorial Team: Sergio Sorcia Reyes, Jo Parsons, Mariko Hara, Erinn Epp, Eva Schurig, Craig Robertson.