

HAS

The Magazine of Humanities, Arts and Society

CALL FOR PAPERS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

HAS: The Magazine of Humanities, Arts and Society is launching its first issue in spring 2020. The goal of this new online publication is to discuss pressing world issues through the analysis of a wide range of topics in the humanities, the social sciences, and the arts. Conceived as a magazine for the widest possible range of readers, HAS offers a space for staging the most creative, enlightening, imaginative, and socially relevant interactions of the humanities and the arts.

Our aim is not simply to report on existing ideas or to reproduce art that examines issues of importance, but to contribute to the achieving of actual progress in cultural exchange and multi-disciplinary collaboration. Information, education, creativity, communication, and thought provocation will be merged, in order to provide a platform for positive change in society—local and worldwide—with the help of the humanities and the arts. We plan to connect curious readers with enthusiastic writers and practitioners willing to work to improve upon current global challenges, through demonstrations of how the humanities and the arts can have an impact on society.

We welcome contributions from scholars, researchers, critics, practicing artists, and any interested parties who find the above aims important and would like to be part of the project. HAS is not a commercial venture, and in order to reach the broadest possible audience, it will be available online for free for anyone interested. Due to the non-profit nature of the publication, contributions will be on a voluntary basis.

The HAS project team is fully committed to its circulation to the widest possible audience, through press and public relations. A major public event will be dedicated to the release of the first issue at UNESCO's headquarters in Paris in June 2020.

The published texts will include scholarly papers, experimental essays, reviews, critiques, interviews, video and photo reportage, and news. The editorial committee is constituted by members of UNESCO-MOST, the International Council of Philosophy and Human Sciences and Mémoire de l'Avenir.

The theme of the first issue is *Big Data & Singularities: Creativity as a Basis for Re-thinking the Human Condition*. We aim to investigate this topic from a multi- and cross-disciplinary perspective—including but not limited to philosophy, history, anthropology, archaeology, literature, sociology, economics, political science, linguistics, aesthetics and ethics.

The understanding of the need to foster a close collaboration between the Humanities and the Arts led to the establishment of the Arts and Society project by The International Council for Philosophy and Human Sciences (CIPSH) in partnership with UNESCO-MOST and Mémoire de l'Avenir, first presented at the World Humanities Conference and now experiencing a consolidation and expansion, also in partnership with the Global Chinese Arts and Culture Society (GCACS).

REQUIREMENTS

Applicants can send articles in French or English, in one of the following formats:

News – up to 1500 words and 1 image

Short notes – up to 3000 words and 1-2 images

Articles – up to 5000 words and 3-8 images

Photos and illustrations should be minimum 300dpi

It is the author's responsibility to collect all the relevant permissions for the submitted material.

Submissions accompanied by a CV or biography (100 words) and abstract (100 words), should be sent to hasmagazine@arts-and-society.org

For questions and more information, contact contact@arts-and-society.org

The deadline for submissions is January 31, 2020 at midnight, Central European Time

MORE INFORMATION ON THE TOPIC

Big Data & Singularities:

Creativity as a Basis for Re-thinking the Human Condition

big da·ta

noun / COMPUTING

Extremely large data sets that may be analyzed computationally to reveal patterns, trends, and associations, especially relating to human behaviour and interactions

Big Data offers tools and opportunities to improve actions and decision-making, serving all fields of development, including government, healthcare, education, employment, economic productivity, communication, crime prevention, security, ecology, environment, and natural disasters. Big Data provides possibilities for giving consideration to the "overlooked or unremarked" in populations or regions that have inadequate technology, economic resources, or human resources.

Yet Big Data poses privacy concerns, as it accumulates daily information from everywhere—from the personal messages we send to each other, from images we publish, from online research, and from transactional records of purchases—all of which becomes global information accessible to big-data facilities.

Big Data brings benefits, but can also create difficulties in maintaining personal independence and the freedom of identities—when, for instance, it is used by speculators in the financial markets or by insurance companies. Used across domains and disciplines, they influence our freedom of choice and action. Each and every one of us is affected by it, individually and collectively.

On the other hand, each of the world's elements is unique, and these singularities reflect distinct personal perceptions while attributing wisdom and understanding to our faculties and our senses. Singularities produce hypotheses, sciences, cultures, and arts.

This is exactly how major technological advances emerge, launched from processes of creativity and insight, leading to new inventions and producing global media tools that create endless figures, notes, and elements that make up big data.

Arts and cultures mirror the journey of humanity and the entirety of its creation—a reflection of ongoing research into the world's wonders and of human nature, inventing languages to create and transmit culture. The arts are conduits to inquiry and discovery, a search for new ways to express, resist, act, and do. Culture is inseparable from development; it reflects the living memories and productions of humanity, and gives importance to differences, pluralism, as well as the common and universal virtues of people.

The first issue of HAS magazine aims to represent scientific reflections and theoretical concerns as well as analyses and reviews of artworks and creative practices investigating the above ideas.

Contributions may include—but are not limited to—investigations of the following questions:

How should we consider “Big Data”? How can we find a balanced and objective survey of this phenomenon? What are the advantages that it brings to everyday life? Who can take advantage of it, and how? What are the implicit dangers connected to its wide application? What can artists and intellectuals do to disseminate further knowledge on the importance of its proper, ethical use?

How are singularities and serendipity connected to Big Data? What is the importance of singularities in today's world, where one of the most dangerous challenges seems to be the homogenisation of individuals, where personality diminishes and becomes only an algorithmic data element? How can we maintain and promote creative individuality?

On the other hand, is Big Data necessarily in opposition to singularity? Can the two find areas of positive and mutual benefit? How can the information gained from the analyses of Big Data contribute to the unfolding of creative singularity?

The arts do not replace science and are not reducible to the concerns of the sciences, but they participate in the process of developing the creativity, the imagination of new futures, of diversity and of critical thinking.

Luiz Oosterbeek – Director of HAS Magazine

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HAS: The Magazine for Humanities, Arts and Society was born from the original idea of Professor Xiang Xiong Lin.

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