

Reconstruction Special Issue: (IN)SECURITIES

Deadline: Nov 30, 2011

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RECONSTRUCTION 12.3 SPECIAL ISSUE: "(IN)SECURITIES"

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(IN)SECURITIES CALL FOR ABSTRACTS - 30TH NOVEMBER

In the past years, the world has been dealing with increasing anxieties about state and urban security, which were largely exacerbated after traumatic experiences such as the 9/11 terrorist attacks of New York and Washington D.C. in 2001, the 2004 train attacks in Madrid and the London bombings in 2005.

Although it has been widely acknowledged how these events generated political agendas deeply concerned with strong security policies and measures, other important consequences have nonetheless emerged. Amongst contemporary cultural landscapes, questions of security and urban space have been pertinently and diversely addressed by musicians, writers, graphic novelists, film-makers and visual artists. Such responses have been intriguing enough to engage scholars in a vibrant debate concerning whether or not a new artistic and literary genre was created – that of disaster in a post-9/11 world.

Keeping in mind such fascinating panorama of artistic repercussions, the theme issue "(In)Securities" aims to examine the way recent anxieties about security have shaped current representations of the city and urban spaces not only in the United States but also in Europe. Since the "war on terror" was launched, a rising number of novelists and visual artists has focused their work on urban settings, conveying generalized hesitations towards questions of security: on the one hand, many of these works depict a growing uneasiness regarding social and private security; on the other hand, they also disclose an increasing awareness concerning social and political construction of security discourses and practices.

The (In)Securities issue will constitute a critical and theoretical arena where these representations will be more thoroughly tackled, with a particular emphasis granted to the way terror and security narratives have been differently conveyed. Pursuing this goal, we will be welcoming contributions dealing provocatively and in an interdisciplinary fashion with literary and artistic case studies.

Since our aim is to tackle a broad panorama of cultural phenomena, we encourage contributions committed, but not limited, to a wide range of methodological frameworks, from cultural and visu-

al studies to literature and comparative studies, in the broadest sense of the terms.

Keywords: security/insecurity – culture of surveillance – terror – city representations – visibility in literature - arts in general – intermediality and intertextuality – transatlantic studies - art and politics

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Please send 500-600 word abstracts to:

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By NOVEMBER 30th 2011

RECONSTRUCTION: Studies in Contemporary Culture (ISSN: 1547-4348) is an innovative online cultural studies journal dedicated to fostering an intellectual community composed of scholars and their audience, granting them all the ability to share thoughts and opinions on the most important and influential work in contemporary interdisciplinary studies.

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Reference:

CFP: Reconstruction Special Issue: (IN)SECURITIES. In: ArtHist.net, Oct 6, 2011 (accessed Apr 7, 2026), <<https://arthist.net/archive/1989>>.