

Arts, Special Issue: Acculturations

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Samanta La Russa

For thirty years, research studies on different forms of transfers, exchanges, and cultural dislocations have been a driving force in the upswing of historical, anthropological and sociological sciences by contributing, in particular, to the definition of intercultural psychology and cultural studies. But what conclusions have art historians drawn from these recent developments? Do they integrate them into their own work? And how do they manage to conciliate them with the basically static methods of artistic geography, which in most cases favor anachronistic explanatory models ("influence" and "migration streams") or disputable ones ("centers" and "peripheries")?

This Special Issue aims at responding to these questions by applying a concept that has often played a major role in the development of research on cultural exchanges and that will serve as a leitmotiv: acculturation. In cultural anthropology, acculturation describes the process by which several cultural groups enter in contact with each other. It generally describes four types of phenomena that are often connected with each other: assimilation, integration, isolation, and marginalization. However, from the point of view of the history of cultural exchanges, the mechanisms of successful acculturation (assimilation and integration) are the most frequently studied.

Articles submitted to this Special Issue, besides elaborating on an analysis of the challenges of acculturation in the domain of art in the modern epoch (XVth-XVIIIth centuries), should address methodological problems by describing clearly and precisely their approach to the core of current bibliography on intercultural and transcultural studies (http://img.mdpi.org/files/si/acculturations/Bibliography_GE_Jan_Blanc.pdf), as well as by attempting to redefine current methods and the means to question the categorization of traditional and positivistic art history.

We would be pleased to receive your contribution. Feel free to contact the Editorial Office at arts@mdpi.com if you have any questions.

On behalf of
Prof. Dr. Jan Blanc
Guest Editor

Reference:

CFP: Arts, Special Issue: Acculturations. In: ArtHist.net, Sep 16, 2014 (accessed May 21, 2026),

<<https://arthist.net/archive/8281>>.