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A multidisciplinary journal for the study of more-than-human culture

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Special issue: The Human Condition for the Anthropocene: Being more-than-human

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A hallmark of human civilisation has been to perceive 'culture' as a distinctly human trait, often epitomised by the anthropocentric approach of 'the humanities'. The open-access journal ***Cultural Science: A multidisciplinary journal for the study of more-than-human culture*** diverges from this traditional view by expanding the scope of cultural studies.

This special issue of ***Cultural Science*** will look at culture as a systemic attribute of socio-ecological aggregates that, at the planetary scale, correspond to the Earth System. Cultures are mediating interactions between human social domains and natural systems. For example, rational-affective sensemaking ties human practices and ecological/geophysical realities. The interplay between engineered and cultural artefacts has symbolic and material dimensions. Cultures guide the design and deployment of technology. In sum, culture as geo-philosophical integration is about the mutual embedding of Culture and Nature and systemic interconnections of the human world and the Planet.

Situating contemporary geo-philosophical integration: Emerging in the mid-20th century, widespread bureaucratic and systematic organisation of societies coincided with shaping a global technosphere and a hegemonic culture of affluence. Earth System Science describes planetary dynamics as complex-adaptive and socio-ecological intertwined, illustrating the profound entanglement of natural, artificial, physical, social and cultural elements within the human-nature nexus. We encourage investigation of core aspects of human conditions in various world(s) of planetary-scale anthropogenic change, i.e., the Anthropocene(s), including distinguishing between cumulative and disruptive change scenarios. Notions of cumulative change capture phenomena such as shifting baselines in ecological and societal systems and the socio-historical progression that led to the 'Great Acceleration'—a surge in resource consumption initiated by affluent societies in the mid-20th century. Meanwhile, notions of disruptive change portray the idea of rupture, tipping points, planetary boundaries, or phase shifts, concepts often applied within critical theory and physical discourses on the Anthropocene, where it is understood as an intertwined socio-cultural and physical-geological concept.

This special issue of ***Cultural Science*** will examine culture while considering cumulative and disruptive planetary-scale change and human conditions, keeping the journal's focus on more-than-human cultures, including perspectives on living and well-being. Contributors are encouraged to draw on expertise from any discipline, whether in the arts, humanities, socio-economics, or natural sciences, connected to studying the systemic embedding of agency.

The journal follows an open peer review process in which submissions are published as pre-prints on the journal pre-print website <https://culturalscience.org/>, following an initial editorial review and approval. The editors decide whether the article fits the journal's scope and is a suitable fit for the special edition's peer discussion stage. After the public pre-print stage of debating with peers, the editorial board decides whether to accept a submission for publication in the online version of the journal <https://sciendo.com/journal/CSJ>.

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