



Artifact

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS Special Issue: Canonical writings on design

Artifact, an international peer-reviewed academic journal dealing with design, plans a special issue for mid-2009 dedicated to canonical writings on design. Any search of the literature on design reveals a burgeoning field of writing that recurrently reformulates itself according to processes of economic, social and technological change.

Within this flux of ideas, however, there are certain books that warrant acknowledgment as anchor points for any investigation into their respective area of design. The Artifact special issue on canonical writings in design welcomes articles on single books or groups of books that you consider have a significant and enduring place in the literature of design.

Where some view canon formation as an expression of ideological control, the special issue seeks to stimulate debate concerning design's essential readings by exploring the authority of highly valued texts. Artifact encourages cross-fertilization, interconnections, and crossbreeding among different scientific disciplines, the design industry, and the arts. We seek reviews that reflect the broad field of design and show how a canonical design literature is open and expanding, as new issues and influences impact on the activity of design.

The goal of the issue is to add to the design field's intellectual robustness, to establish principles for the ongoing critical evaluation of key texts and to ensure that important works are not neglected as a result of the ongoing cycle of publication. Alternatively, we recognize that the scope of a single journal issue means any attempt at canon-identification will be neither all-embracing nor definitive. The proposed books will thus shed light on the interplay of current and enduring concerns in design.

Review essays should be no more than 3,500 words in length and are due 1 February 2009.