

## Aims and Scopes

*Critical Studies in Fashion & Beauty* (CSFB) engages analytically, critically and creatively with fashion and/or beauty. At times lumped together conceptually into 'the fashion-beauty complex', this journal acknowledges the problems associated with collapsing these terms, such as: (a) the conflation of fashion and beauty, concepts which encompass varying degrees and types of agency, change and dynamism; (b) the implicit reinforcement of white hegemonic femininity (and hence, the exclusion of masculinities, people of colour, older adults, differentially abled individuals, and queer and transgender subjectivities); and (c) the blurring of distinct industries. At the same time, the body is the centrepiece of fashion and beauty alike – in cultural representation as well as in everyday life. CSFB seeks to foster more diverse and inclusive ways of understanding the embodiment of aesthetics and politics. It does so by dismantling hegemonic assumptions and propelling fresh theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of fashion and/or beauty.

## Call for Papers

### The Field

Critical studies of fashion and beauty employ a range of disciplinary and interdisciplinary theories and methods to understand: (a) what and why people appear as they do in everyday life and communicate with others in the process of doing so, (b) the materials and products used to fashion appearances, and (c) the labour, conditions, and environmental impacts associated with the creation and distribution of the materials and products used to style, dress, and fashion diverse bodies in everyday life. A range (and mix) of theories and methods from the humanities, social sciences, and arts shed light on such understandings: interviews, ethnographies, conceptual essays, content analyses, discourse analyses, material analyses, speculative design, surveys, and so on, using critical and analytical lenses.

### The Journal

The journal invites critical and creative, disciplinary and interdisciplinary, and international perspectives on studies of fashion and/or beauty – locating these within their larger cultural and theoretical contexts, and interrogating their ideological underpinnings (for example, deconstructing limiting [e.g., binary gendered, oppositional; racialized assumptive; aged associative] ways of knowing). We are especially interested in papers that offer fresh perspectives on age-old questions regarding structure and agency, for example:

- how the body interfaces with aesthetic, cultural, economic, and social politics that become inextricably intertwined with issues of appearance, class, dis/ability, ethnicity, gender, generation/age, race, religion, sexuality, and other subject positions;
- how individuals resist structurally institutionalized constraints and express their own subjectivities despite such constraints;
- how individuals articulate agency through expressions of appearance style, using the materials (e.g., textiles, clothes, accessories, beauty products) at hand;
- how local communities negotiate identities through style in the global economy.

Papers should be submitted online at [www.intellectbooks.com/critical-studies-in-fashion-beauty](http://www.intellectbooks.com/critical-studies-in-fashion-beauty). Prospective authors are welcome to contact the Editor in advance of submission ([sbkaiser@ucdavis.edu](mailto:sbkaiser@ucdavis.edu)).



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