

Studies in Costume and Performance invites submissions for issue 6.2 (due December 2021) on the theme of 'Costume Agency'.

Contemporary costume performs in complex ways. It is a carrier of stories and executor of political activism; it becomes an embodiment of conceptual thinking and critical questioning. Costume does not only perform via the body; it extends to space, landscape and to the audiences. It is an actor in itself that serves as a tool for research; it creates meanings, dances phenomenologically, and affects us kinaesthetically. In this setting, the costume designer becomes director, thinker, researcher and shaman – constructing, deconstructing and reconstructing realities, imagining different ways of being, and tapping into the 'unthinkable'.

Following *Critical Costume* 2020 international conference and exhibition, held online by the Oslo National Academy of the Arts (KHiO), Norway, in the frame of the artistic research project 'Costume Agency', this special issue focuses on the agency of costume in performance, costume as the main performer and the costume designer as the generator of performance.

We invite contributions that explore different ways in which costume performs, different genres and formats it initiates, but also specific dramaturgical strategies that are ingrained in costume and are probably yet to be used to their full potential.

Articles may address topics including but not limited to:

- **Rethinking agencies** – What do we see as passive, as 'in service', as merely present? How do we consider costume as active, in charge, strong, powerful? How do we understand human as not separate from nature, objects and events, neither 'in control'? How do agencies work for us and against us?
- **Costume displaying agency** – Does costume take the shape of the human body, or is the human body shaped by/with costume? Does costume mimic, express, protect, reveal or hide human behaviour and character? Does the agency of the body affect and expand costume? How is costume a bridge between the body and the world?
- **The complexity of agency** – In relation to identity, politics, sustainability, technology, materials and materiality, in relation to the senses, to emotions, to sensuality, to sexuality and gender. Where does agency emerge between human and non-human?

Please submit your article by 10 January 2021 through the following link:
<https://www.intellectbooks.com/submit/studies-in-costume-performance>



Editors

Donatella Barbieri
London College of Fashion
d.barbieri@fashion.arts.ac.uk

Sofia Pantouvaki
Aalto University
sofia.pantouvaki@aalto.fi

Suzanne Osmond
National Institute of Dramatic Art, Australia
suzanne.osmond@nida.edu.au



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The journal is double-blind peer-reviewed in order to maintain the highest standards of scholarly integrity. Articles must not exceed 4000–6000 words including notes and references.

In addition to articles, *Studies in Costume and Performance* welcomes other formats of submission: visual essays (1000–2500 words with emphasis on visual evidence), research reports (2500–4000 words), analyses of research documents or 'in-conversations' with artists, designers, or scholars (2000–4000 words), and reviews of events and of new publications.

For further information, please read the Notes for Contributors:
https://www.intellectbooks.com/asset/1610/1/NfC_SCP.pdf.

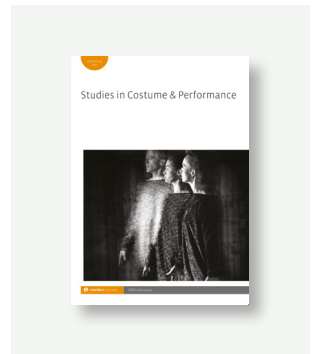
Authors are expected to consult the [information for Journal Contributors](#) and use the latest [Intellect Style Guide](#).

For questions and enquiries, please e-mail the editors of the issue:

Barbora Přihodová, e-mail: bprihodova@gmail.com, guest editor
Sofia Pantouvaki, e-mail: sofia.pantouvaki@aalto.fi, SCP

Studies in Costume and Performance brings together scholars and critically engaged practitioners and designers working in the fields of scenography, costume, performance, curation and fashion to facilitate critical discourse on costume and its relationship with performance.

For more details on the journal's scope and aims, as well as past and current editions, please visit:
<https://www.intellectbooks.com/studies-in-costume-performance>.




Editors

Donatella Barbieri
London College of Fashion
d.barbieri@fashion.arts.ac.uk

Sofia Pantouvaki
Aalto University
sofia.pantouvaki@aalto.fi

Suzanne Osmond
National Institute of Dramatic
Art, Australia
suzanne.osmond@nida.edu.au

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