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Editorial

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Editorial

SARAH WEAVER¹

JONMA volume 4, issue 1 offers papers and scholarly documents on the theme “Network Arts: Transformation of Distance.” This theme includes topics of geographic distance and broader concepts such as physical, emotional, societal, environmental, and dimensional distance. It asks questions on the nature of distance and of the field. What is distance? How is distance transformed in the field? How can the field address distance through diversity, equity, access, and inclusion? How can the geographic nature of network arts transform environmental relationships? Is there distance in loss on individual and collective scales that can be transformed? How can we develop artistic and technological components of these transformations in our field?

The issue explores these topics through papers on diversifying network arts technology, building international community, sonic spaces of migration, environmental practices, and artistic projects during the Covid-19 pandemic. The work in the issue is multidisciplinary and innovative; it includes music, sound, video, dance, and a variety of technologies such as new apps, platforms, augmented reality, biometrics, and 3D video. Developments in the field continue to focus on virtual projects, especially with an eye towards the reintegration of hybrid formats, as the conditions of the pandemic persist.

Thank you to the authors and the editorial team for persevering to publish amidst the ongoing challenging times. While JONMA was founded as a journal dedicated to the history, present, and future of the field, as we started publishing in 2019, the works highlighted in the issues have become shaped most notably by the emergence of the pandemic and topics of social purpose, the latter also being a historical part of the field. These dimensions are embedded into the work as we navigate ahead.

Sincerely,

Sarah Weaver
JONMA Editor

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