

Call for Abstracts

Edited Volume: *Curating Access: Global Exhibitions & Creative Accommodation* Proposals due July 1, 2020

Contributions are sought for an interdisciplinary collection of essays which critically examine global exhibitions and artistic practices that focus on conceptual and creative aspects of access for an edited volume for the Museum & Heritage Studies series at Routledge, who have expressed interest in reviewing a formal proposal. Oftentimes exhibitions tack on access once the artwork has already been executed and ready to be installed in the museum or gallery. But what if the artists were to ponder access as an integral and critical part of their artwork? Can access be creative and experimental? And furthermore, can the curator also fold access into their practice, while working collaboratively with artists, considering it as a theoretical and practical generative force that seeks to make an exhibition more engaging for a wider diversity of audiences? This volume aims to include essays by artists, curators, and scholars who ponder these ideas through ad-hoc, experimental and underground approaches within their exhibition-making and artistic practices. The goal is to consider how, through these nascent exhibition models and art practices, enhanced experiences of access in the museum can be a shared responsibility amongst museum workers, curators, and artists, in tandem with the public, so that access becomes a zone of intellectual and creative “accommodation,” rather than strictly a discourse on policy.

Papers may address issues such as the following:

- Solo or group exhibitions that include work by disabled and chronically ill artists, those with autoimmune diseases or respiratory issues, and non-disabled artists who focus on access as their primary material and subject matter
- Exhibitions or art practices that represent and explore a fluidity of minority identity categories in conversation with experimental modalities of access
- Virtual or physical exhibitions in the age of coronavirus that experiment with and critique access modalities as an art form and practice
- Creative approaches towards adaptive or assistive technologies for the benefit of the disabled user deployed in exhibitions or individual art practices
- Extant and new art works that suggest alternative and generative discourse for framing disability aesthetics that centers access as a key concept
- Examples of radical curatorial and educational practices that utilize access as a methodology that have altered the infrastructures of museums and other arts organizations
- Socially engaged and/or collaborative art practices that engage critically with disability discourse and access
- Urgent issues around access that are being addressed through hybrid and multi-disciplinary artistic practices
- Untraditional approaches to access within traditional museum infrastructures by way of programming and curating exhibitions of historical and contemporary art

All submissions must represent previously unpublished work. Please send an abstract of no more than 300 words, a 50-word bio, and a CV to Amanda Cachia, acachia@csusm.edu by July 1, 2020. Selected authors will be notified by August 1, 2020.