General Issue

Queer Resistance

Special Topic

Trans Violence in Contemporary Latin American Culture

Mester opens the call for submissions for its 53rd issue. We are the graduate student academic journal of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at UCLA. Our scholarly magazine publishes academic articles, interviews, and book reviews on Iberian, Latin American, Brazilian, Luso-African, Latinx, and Chicanx literature, culture, and linguistics.

Mester is seeking submissions that shape and inform queer resistance and the challenges it encounters in contemporary literary representation and cultural production. As a critical praxis of resistance, what do writing, filming, performing, and reading queerly (re)present?

Some questions to be explored, but not limited to, are: How do cultural productions (re)articulate queer resistance? How do queer aesthetics (re)imagine queer communities? Furthermore, definitions of the term queer, its theoretical foundations, and connections to feminist approaches are essential in arguing queer resistance. Similarly, how queerness intersects with class, race, nationality, age, disability, queer displacement, LGBTQI+ (bio) (necro) politics, human rights, migrations, queer affects, and non-binary maternity are pivotal topics to be considered in this issue. Finally, this issue seeks articles on language inclusion, queer language creation, and other linguistically focused themes.

In addition, our 53rd issue welcomes submissions for the Special Supplement dedicated to the portrayal of Trans violence in contemporary Latin American culture. We are interested in exploring literary, audiovisual, and performative representations of violence against transgender, transexual, and travesti communities. The importance of rethinking racial, discursive, political, state, and sexual violence targeted at gender nonconforming minorities opens the door to a discussion about the limits and reach of cultural representations in constructing trans futures.

Articles may be written in English, Spanish, or Portuguese. All manuscripts will undergo a blind peer review, and publication decisions will be based on the quality of the articles. Your submission must adhere to the conventions set forth in the current edition of the Modern Language Association (MLA) Handbook and should have no fewer than fifteen (15) and no more than twenty-five (25) double-spaced pages (3750-8000 words), including endnotes and references/works cited, as well as be in 12-point Times New Roman font. CLICK HERE for submission guidelines.

Articles should be submitted electronically via eScholarship and will be indexed in the MLA International Bibliography. To begin your submission process and to read previous issues of Mester, visit our Online Portal.

Please email any questions to José F. Galindo-Benitez, Editor-in-Chief at josefgal18@g.ucla.edu