

**Attention all 35th Annual SAVAH conference participants:
Call for papers for a themed issue of *de arte* entitled *Untold Stories***

We are pleased to announce this call for papers for a themed issue of *de arte*, titled *Untold Stories*, that draws on the issues explored at the 35th Annual SAVAH CONFERENCE, hosted by the research entity Visual Narratives and Creative Outputs in the Faculty of Humanities, North-West University, Potchefstroom Campus, 29 September – 2 October 2021. The themed issue will be guest edited by Dr Louise-marié Combrink, Dr Annemi Conradie and Dr Alison Kearney.

Untold stories

Stories give flesh to the bare bones. Out of stories, we make culture, not from the bones of the dead, though the bones are the rationale for stories being told. Whereas in art, this impulse is clearer, science too is about telling certain stories. It is out of stories that we make society. Out of stories an individual constructs a self.

Kopano Ratele, *Life of Bone* (2011)

All of which makes up a story I do not choose to tell. I choose not to tell it because to no one, not even to you, do I owe proof that I am a substantial being with a substantial history in the world.

J.M. Coetzee, *Foe* (1986)

Stories capture the elusiveness of creating and imagining by linking the act of telling with being. Stories make us, and we make ourselves through the stories we hear and don't hear; tell, and don't tell. Over millennia and across cultures, stories about places, persons, materials, objects, or ideas have been told and retold in different ways and from different perspectives. In the process, some narratives have gone unheard, unseen or have even actively been silenced. The year 2020 marked the beginning of a new decade. How might we re-imagine our collective past and imagine the future through the creation of new stories or the un-telling of old stories? How do we go about uncovering, sharing, or recording previously untold or silenced stories – our own and those of others?

We propose that engagement with the work of artists, artworks, visual culture, and design, as practices of storytelling or narrative, may offer constructive ways of understanding, unravelling, and contributing to current discourse on the visual field. We invite papers that explore, inquire, and reflect on visual expression and ways of storytelling that work towards acknowledging, understanding, and (re-)visualizing narratives. This is an invitation to scholars to evaluate and re-evaluate positions taken in the field (conceptual and metaphorical frameworks and locations), or in relation to material objects and their existences or locations.

We invite papers of 5000- 8000 words that engage with the theme to be submitted for consideration for publication in *de arte*.

Possible topics can explore:

- Tensions between visibility, materiality, orality, and textuality in and through narrative
- Visual storytelling (such as artist's books, graphic novels, cartoons, illustration,

- animation, branding, and campaigns)
- Relating experiences of place and space or situatedness through stories
 - Collaborative storytelling and ways of collectively engaging with or sharing stories
 - Notions of truth and fiction, history, and myth in visual storytelling
 - Memory, remembrance, visual narrative and *re-story-ation*
 - Palimpsests, intertextuality, bricolage and (visual) layers of narrative
 - Liminality and boundary crossing
 - Surfacing the hidden through storytelling,
 - Archives, archival material, and subaltern voices

PLEASE CONSULT THE INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS (BELOW) AND ENSURE THAT YOUR DOCUMENT ADHERES TO ALL THE REQUIREMENTS AND CONTAINS ALL NECESSARY INFORMATION.

SUBMIT ARTICLES, WITH ABSTRACTS OF 300 WORDS to the guest editors at untoldstories2022@gmail.com

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: 25 February 2022.

All submissions will be subject to double-blind peer review.

Any questions related to this call for papers can be sent to the guest editors of the themed issue: Annemi Conradie (annemi.conradie@nwu.ac.za), Louisemarié Combrink (louisemarieccc@gmail.com) and Alison Kearney (alison.kearney@wits.ac.za).

de arte

Aims and scope

de arte is an international peer-reviewed journal offering a distinctive, integrated forum for original research in the visual arts, art history, art criticism, visual culture, and related disciplines. The primary focus is on South Africa, Africa, and the Global South, where arts and culture have had an instrumental role in forging identities and post-colonial realities. The journal aims to be representative of a variety of viewpoints and emphasises an interdisciplinary approach, cognisant of the value of a dynamic interface between the visual arts and other fields including philosophy, politics, history, religion, and literature. It further seeks to provide a platform for under-represented African visual arts and art criticism on the global stage.

In addition to original scholarly research, *de arte* invites critical reviews of books focused on the above-mentioned scope. We welcome contributions from established and emerging scholars, and we are open to proposals for Themed Issues guest edited by leading scholars in relevant fields.

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Journal information

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Instructions for authors

Please read the complete *guidelines for authors* (attached) before making a submission.

Authors should confirm that their article is **original** work, does not violate any contractual agreement and is not under consideration for publication elsewhere.

The document should contain:

- A structured **abstract** of 250 words in length, covering the main factual points and statement of objective or problem, method, results, and conclusions
- A list of between six and ten **keywords** for abstracting and indexing services.
- A **title page** with short biographical details of each author as well as the name, affiliation, and country of each corresponding author at the time of the work.
- Articles for the themed edition should be between 5000 and 8000 words.

Style Guide: *de arte* uses the *Chicago Manual of Style, 17th ed., author-date* (<http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/>). The journal encourages the use of reference managers such as RefWorks, EndNote, Zotero and Mendeley.

Authors whose research does not engage with the above-mentioned theme are welcome to submit articles for consideration for publication in *de arte*, by following this link <https://journals.co.za/journal/dearte/submit>, or contacting the editor (mcdowe@unisa.ac.za)