

Third Stone Journal General Call for Papers

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Type:

Call for Publications

Subject Fields:

African History / Studies, Black History / Studies, Ethnic History / Studies, Literature, Popular Culture Studies

CALL FOR PAPERS: THIRD STONE JOURNAL

Across the African diaspora, art has been a form of expression and liberation at times of widespread cultural oppression, enabling artists of color to resist the tradition of silencing while preserving their histories, traditions, and more in ways that could be passed down intergenerationally. While much art worked to fulfill a political purpose by pushing for equality and liberty in oppressive cultures, other works aimed at achieving liberation by celebrating Black cultural forms, from the cutting-edge music of Erykah Badu to that of Janelle Monae. Eager to explore art as liberation among other topics, Third Stone accepts submissions year round of art, music, creative writing, short films, scholarship, digital content, and more on Afrofuturism, African-futurism, and the Black fantastic as explored both inside and outside of the borders of the United States.

Scholarly Articles

In order to encourage different modes of scholarly engagement for those interested in submitting to the journal, the editors of Third Stone have developed a number of options for the types of scholarly articles that we will publish, all tied around themes of the Black fantastic:

- 1. Galactic Pieces are full-length journal articles of approximately 7000 to 10000 words in length, excluding footnotes and the Works Cited page. Articles submitted in this category are more akin to traditional articles. Expanding the debate regarding the theoretical, literary, and sociocultural contexts of Afrofuturist or African-futurist works, such articles will provide insight into both the microcosm (the “text” itself) and the macrocosm (the field) of the Black fantastic.**
- 2. Planetary Pieces are shorter articles of approximately 5000 to 6000 words in length, excluding any footnotes and the Works Cited page. While galactic pieces tend to offer comparative review of multiple literary or popular cultural “texts,” articles submitted in this category will often offer (but are not limited to) intensive review of a single work or artist, again applying theoretical frameworks to the examination of the**

primary works.

3. **Lunar Pieces** are the shortest articles to be published in *Third Stone* at approximately 3000 to 4000 words in length, not including footnotes and the Works Cited page. Articles submitted in this category are akin to notes often with an emphasis on providing an extension, update, and/or response to previous research. They can also examine substantive yet provocative issues in the field. These works will thus populate the “Continuing the Conversation” portion of the journal.
4. **Cometary Pieces**, or reprints, have a 5000-word maximum, not including an introduction article of approximately 2500 words in length, excluding any footnotes and the Works Cited page. Work submitted in this category should be pieces that embody the themes/goals of Afrofuturism and the Black fantastic and that need renewed attention in the modern world. If these works are not in the public domain, authors are responsible for securing permissions themselves.

Note that *Third Stone Journal* does not have one set citation style; contributors are encouraged to use the style with which they are most comfortable as long as they do so consistently throughout the piece. Articles must be accompanied by an abstract approximately 250 words in length that will be published as part of the article should it be accepted.

In addition to accepting traditional articles, *Third Stone* is particularly interested in multimodal as well as multimedia submissions that will enable us to serve as a hub for Black digital humanities as we explore how art can potentially liberate peoples of color from oppressive climates and cultures across time and space. Contributors might consider addressing their topic through sonic pieces, videos, and more.

Creative Work

In addition to the critical examination of literature and popular culture, *Third Stone* highly values creative pieces that participate in the work of Afrofuturism, African-futurism, and the Black fantastic. This may include visual art, music, creative writing, and more--innovative submissions that break boundaries and constraints, as is consistent with our mission:

1. **Long Films: One piece of no more than 45 minutes maximum**
2. **Short Films: One to two pieces of no more than 15 minutes maximum**
3. **Music: One to three pieces**

4. **Poetry: Three to six pieces accompanied by a video or audio file recording of each work**
5. **Long Prose (Non-Fiction or Fiction): One piece of no more than 6000 words**
6. **Short Prose (Non-Fiction or Fiction): Two to three pieces of no more than 1500 words each**
7. **Visual Art: One to three pieces with 300 dpi resolution saved with no compression**

For creative submissions, please provide an accompanying artist statement in one of the following forms: a written narrative (approximately 500 to 1000 words, not including footnotes and a Works Cited page) or a video or audio narrative (no longer than eight to ten minutes in length). The artist statement will be published as a supporting document. Authors must provide a transcript of that document.

Bibliographic Annotations

Third Stone is also excited to build a comprehensive annotated bibliography of source material on the Black fantastic, including traditional print sources (books, magazines, journal articles, newspapers, and reviews) and digital media (audio, video, film, and websites). Entries should be approximately 750 to 1000 words in length, featuring a brief summary of the source, an analysis of its significant concepts and themes, and a brief reflection where appropriate on intersections with other source material with which the author is familiar.

Other Submission Specifications

Multimedia pieces, whether scholarly or creative in nature, should be submitted in one of the following formats:

- **Flash/HTML5 Audio MP4a, mp3,**
- **Flash/HTML Video (flv, mp4, RTMP)**
- **QuickTime Audio (aac, aif, mid, midi, mov,wav)**
- **QuickTime Video (3g2, 3gp, mov, mpg, mpeg)**

- **RealAudio (ra, ram)**
- **RealVideo (ram, smi, smil)**
- **SWF format (swf)**
- **Windows Media Audio (wma)**
- **Windows Media Video (avi, wmv)**
- **WMV, AVI, MOV, MPEG, GIF**
- **Vimeo**
- **YouTube**
- **Other rich media**

All submissions, including bibliographic annotations, will undergo a peer-review process. Submission of a manuscript implies that it contains original, unpublished materials and that it is not under consideration elsewhere. The editors of Third Stone expect authors who submit to the journal to please refrain from submitting the work to other venues until we have had an opportunity to complete our review process.

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For inquiries, please contact the editorial staff of Third Stone Journal at 3rdstonejournal@gmail.com.

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