

## CFP: COVID-19 Conversations

The editors of *Flow*—in collaboration with *Film Criticism* and *Film International*—invite scholars to participate in conversations that are generated here and discussed across platforms in a consortium of COVID-19 Conversations. As the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects on societies continue over the next several weeks and months, this conversation portal will remain open, accepting and publishing submissions on COVID-19 on a rolling basis. Note that while *Flow* is not a peer-reviewed journal, submissions may be subject to review by the organizers and editors for curatorial purposes.

We invite submissions of two types to generate conversations on *Flow*:

- Primary analysis submissions will function as "conversation starters" and are welcome by submitting a 350-to-500-word analysis on a particular media text (YouTube, image, meme, tweet, IG video, TikTok, cable news segment, etc.). These analyses should begin conversations with provocative questions and should attempt to highlight critical issues pertaining to film studies, media studies, and other disciplines within cultural studies.
- Secondary analysis submissions will function as "formal responses" and are welcome by submitting a 250-to-500-word response on an already published analysis. These responses should engage with the primary contributor's questions and issues and should refrain from being combative with the primary contributor's submission. Our hope is that these responses will promote a space for collaborative scholarship and discussion while COVID-19 continues to affect us over the coming months.

Contributors to *Film Criticism* and *Film International* may cite conversations as a part of their ongoing work, and we invite *Flow*'s contributors to do the same. Some contributors and respondents may be approached at a later date for republication of their contributions in *Cybermedia: Scientists and Humanists Face the Machines*, edited by Carol Vernallis, Selmin Kara, and Holly Rogers (under contract with Bloomsbury Press), and possibly a second collection devoted solely to media and the virus.

As COVID-19 has affected so many facets of life and society, we invite conversations on a wide variety of media texts and issues, including:

- The migration of hands-on production courses to online teaching
- Teaching media studies on Zoon and other digital conferencing platforms
- Teaching COVID-19 as media history in the making
- The closure of movie theaters
- The precarity of independent cinema
- The delays/cancellations of upfronts and season/series finales in television
- Non-fiction productions without live audiences
- The increase in streaming demand
- Added pressures on platforms and digital infrastructures
- Shifts in news programming production
- Trending social media memes and videos on Instagram, TikTok, Facebook, and Twitter
- PSAs about hand washing, staying home, or other pandemic-related education

- Celebrity responses
- Crowdsourcing and fundraising as pandemic activism
- Politically-motivated media and contexts
- Mediations of community-oriented volunteer labor

As with all *Flow* articles, we seek contributions that take advantage of the online format, strategically using hyperlinks, visuals, videos, and GIFs. Authors should appeal to both scholarly and popular audiences. All COVID-19 conversations will be archived in the *Flow* website and may be further organized within the current *Flow* volume to ensure accessibility and searchability. Likewise, social media promotion of all articles will emphasize their timelines.

To be considered for COVID-19 Conversations, please submit article pitches\* or completed conversation starters or formal responses, along with at least two images (.png), video, and/or new media files (GIFs, etc.), and a short bio, to Rusty Hatchell, co-managing editor, at [flowjournaleditors@gmail.com](mailto:flowjournaleditors@gmail.com). Submissions will be accepted on a rolling basis. Failure to meet requirements are subject to desk rejection.

\*Pitches should be submitted with the understanding that if accepted, authors will be asked for a final draft of their article within a week's time.