

Editorial

Dear readers,

Welcome to our current issue of *Art Style, Art & Culture International Magazine*! We are celebrating our second year of editions. Since our special edition celebrating the first year of publications in March 2020, we have been following the cultural and artistic transformations in their challenges as they face this pandemic, which our most recent generations never imagined they would experience. The challenges that humanity is confronting, which undoubtedly also impact the arts and culture, reflect moments of great uncertainty, insecurity, and especially fear and despair. However, how does one overcome all this if not by learning through the history of humanity and the arts? Indeed, without the references of our past through mythologies, tragedies, epics, and narratives of the Greek, Roman, and Christian worlds, from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance and Modernity to our times, nothing could provide as much meaning to life as all the ways in which we imagine and configure it based on arts, culture, and knowledge.

The history of art and literature has shown how humanity, in its cultural diversity, is influenced by images and narratives that impose the perception of their meanings, understandings, and cultural identities. However, the arts' importance is even more significant when they provide us with the means to overcome many of the problems we face in our society, beginning in our oldest civilizations. Thus, what matters most is their reception by the public. In this sense, the arts and their audience represent an essential singularity. In this mutual relationship, great works take time to transform, overcome, and illustrate new horizons, hope, imaginings, and dreams. In its relationship with the public, with the people and their idiosyncrasies, art shows its power to change through the creativity and talent of visionary artists attuned to the spirit of the times. No matter how often the human and social sciences have dedicated themselves to understanding and analyzing the universe of the arts and human capacity in its sensitive faculties, even through theories and methodologies, what remains is to understand human nature. Beyond the limitations of this understanding, it is worth remembering that the real pleasure is still in the experience that each person finds in a painting, book, photograph, film, music, theater, dance, fashion, design, and, in short, a favorite art form. The freedom to create is equal to choosing one's appreciation, above any aesthetic references, because taste can be both subjective and universal; what matters is the possibility of communication between those who share the same interest (Kant). However, in this current scenario, we cannot stop acknowledging that the material aspects – in other words, the economic factors – are essential for art and culture to remain alive and thriving through sensitivity and creativity. Furthermore, when we think of our academic goal, *Art Style Magazine* has operated with the support and collaboration of academics and non-profits who are willing to contribute to the editorial work, dissemination, and promotion of the knowledge on art and culture.

Therefore, this support brings the essential notions that underlie visual culture to the interested public. In this sense, the journal has received academic colleagues' proposals to participate in issues as guest editors to develop themes that meet the journal's profile and are relevant to an international publication. Thus, from this second year of publications on, guest editors have demonstrated a collaboration and willingness to work with our Editorial Team as co-editors on special themes. With the growing demand from academic colleagues to participate in the editions and enable those interested, *Art Style Magazine* will publish on its website the guidelines for guest editors, following the Wiley and COPE recommendations for publishing best practices and guidelines. The goal is teamwork, considering the collaboration of the respective colleagues in their knowledge and skills.

Another significant issue is that to achieve *Art Style Magazine's* goal of being part of the best indexers, besides considering a cycle of at least two years, it is necessary to meet other requirements. Among the required actions is to protect the magazine and link to the best repositories. Thus, to safeguard and promote *Art Style Magazine's* publications, we have already secured all issues using the Zenodo and Core repositories. With [Zenodo](#), "researchers can receive credit by making the research results citable, through OpenAIRE integrating them into existing reporting lines to funding agencies like the European Commission. Citation information is also passed to DataCite and onto scholarly aggregators." The origin of the name Zenodo is in "Zenodotus, the first librarian of the Ancient Library of Alexandria and father of the first recorded use of metadata, a landmark in library history." *Art Style Magazine* is also deposited in CORE — Open Access for the Humanities and Commons Open Repository Exchange, which is stored in the Columbia University Libraries' long-term digital preservation storage system. Finally, *Art Style Magazine* aims to improve how research production quality is evaluated through publications, being a signatory to the main agreements that pursue practices related to research articles published in peer-reviewed journals, which can and should be extended to other products, such as datasets, because they are relevant research results. However, if your interest is in furthering your reading and publishing skills because you are a lover of the arts and literature, all these requirements seem meaningless. The meaning extends the life cycle of published works beyond traditional publishing methods. In the digital age, everything must be digitally safeguarded for the future. In general, all of humanity's achievements are turned into data, information, and memories for the better and its continuity! That is what we want. We are working to better preserve the arts! Anyway, I wish you, a reader interested in art, culture, and academic research, a good read!

Christiane Wagner
Editor-in-Chief and Creative Director