

Call for Papers

Delhi Journal of Comparative Studies

for its issue entitled

“Intermediality in Indian Literary Cultures”

Concept Note:

The literary landscape of India is characterised by diversity of expressions that encompasses varied media of aesthetic representation. The dominant mode of reading intermediality so far has essentially been to subordinate it to textuality. The Indian literary public sphere, as a pluralistic social epistemology, demands a revision and expansion of the idea of the “literary” and the development of theoretical frameworks that take into account the multimedial character of representations constituting oral, musical, visual, and performative modes. Not only do literary expressions often display the presence of multiple media, but they also manifest themselves in more than one medium simultaneously. Accordingly, the readings of intermediality could be a comparison between textual and other media, both from textual to other media and vice versa. Attempts to understand interrelationships between media on the one hand and the directionality of movements on the other, in particular from oral and visual to textual, hold immense possibilities in understanding Indian intermediality. The complex relationships and sensibilities in operation in the interactions between intermediality and the pre-colonial public sphere also need to be explored.

This issue of the journal aims to map intermediality in the context of Indian literary cultures. The presence of a text in multiple media gives rise to not only dialogic relationships between various intermedialities, but also between intermedialities and audiences. Accordingly, the notion of central and peripheral modes of expressions also gets challenged and they could be perceived as being in continuous interaction with the other. This opens up possibilities of interaction among various public spheres resulting in a continually evolving system. The aim is not to trace monogenetic origins, rather map interactions and movements as pluralistic epistemologies.

We invite papers from scholars addressing the issues raised here and on the topics suggested relating to intermediality. Some of the themes that can be considered for exploration are listed below though the scope is not limited to these alone:

- Intermediality and social epistemology
- Movement of texts across media, space and time
- Intermediality in praxis
- Intermedial storytelling traditions
- Intermediality in theatre and performing traditions
- Intermediality and Indian aesthetics
- Intermediality and medieval Indian literary cultures
- Intermediality and the public sphere
- Digital ‘texts’ and Intermediality

Submission Details: Full papers with abstracts may be sent to the following email address by November 30, 2021. Please see submission guidelines for further details.

Send your submissions to: djcs.delhicomparatists@gmail.com.