

INVISIBLE CULTURE

“Pursuit” - Issue 21

For its twenty-first issue, *InVisible Culture: An Electronic Journal for Visual Culture* invites scholarly articles and creative works that address the topic of *pursuit*. We encourage authors and artists to reflect on the meaning and mechanics of *pursuit* across broad ranging phenomena. This term is meant to address two larger and related concerns. First, it prompts a discussion about matters of narrative, aesthetics, and medium, including topics as specific as the ‘chase film’ and crime narratives, to those as seemingly abstract as failure, paranoia, and process.

Second, the word *pursuit* is meant to direct thinking toward a number of more clearly socio-political concerns, including, but not limited to, the topics of work and profession. In his new book, *24/7: Late Capitalism and the End of Sleep*, Jonathan Crary worriedly observes that in the current global paradigm “the highest premium is placed on activity for its own sake,” and that it is the pursuit of sleep that stands as the most meaningful form of resistance in this context. We offer the term *pursuit* as a thematic framework for considering the manifold forms our embeddedness in a fully-networked, around-the-clock habitus can take, and how these forms bear not only on our positions as workers, professionals, and laborers, but also as active subjects.

We welcome papers and artworks that address, complicate, and expand these models of *pursuit*. Some possible topics of exploration are (but not limited to):

- Purpose and purposelessness, means without ends
- The “pursuit” of media: transmediality; new media; medium specificity; the myth of total cinema; pursuit of perfect software (FOSS, cloud storage, smartphone apps, etc.)
- Paranoia, surveillance, cyberstalking
- Detective fiction
- Gaming culture
- Futurity and speculation
- Surpassing subject/object conditions

- Praxis
- Realism, mimesis
- Labor, work, vocation, craft, profession
- Modernism/contemporaneity
- Failure
- Nostalgia
- Utopias and heterotopias
- Pursuit and politics: feminism, Occupy, Arab Spring; political investments in academia or other professional contexts
- Agonism

Please send completed papers (with references following the guidelines from the Chicago Manual of Style) of between 4,000 and 10,000 words to [ivc\[dot\]rochester\[at\]gmail\[dot\]com](mailto:ivc[dot]rochester[at]gmail[dot]com) by January 1st, 2014 at 11:59pm EST. Inquiries should be sent to the same address.

Creative/Artistic Works

In addition to written materials, *Invisible Culture* is accepting work in other media (video, photography, drawing, code) that reflect upon the theme as it is outlined above. For questions or more details concerning acceptable formats, go to <http://ivc.lib.rochester.edu/contribute> or contact [ivc\[dot\]rochester\[at\]gmail\[dot\]com](mailto:ivc[dot]rochester[at]gmail[dot]com).

Reviews

InVisible Culture is also currently seeking submissions for book, exhibition, and film reviews (600-1,000 words). To submit a review proposal, go to <http://ivc.lib.rochester.edu/contribute> or contact [ivc\[dot\]rochester\[at\]gmail\[dot\]com](mailto:ivc[dot]rochester[at]gmail[dot]com).

Blog

The journal also invites submissions to its blog feature, which will accommodate more immediate responses to the topic of the current issue. For further details, please contact us at [ivc\[dot\]rochester\[at\]gmail\[dot\]com](mailto:ivc[dot]rochester[at]gmail[dot]com) with the subject heading "blog submission".

* *InVisible Culture* (An Electronic Journal for Visual Culture) is a peer-reviewed journal dedicated to explorations of the material and political dimensions of cultural practices: the means by which cultural objects and communities are produced, the historical contexts in which they emerge, and the regimes of knowledge or modes of social interaction to which they contribute.