

## Editorial Introduction

Not a lot to say for this issue – except of course that we here publish five very diverse and striking essays. Two hopes we evinced in our last issue have not (yet?) come to pass – but we are not giving up on them. The first was our hope that other Journals would respond to our challenge, to discuss the merits or otherwise of open refereeing. To date, not one has responded. Personal conversations with members of other Editorial Boards have produced what I would call ‘guarded’ responses – a few reasons tentatively advanced for sticking with the known, one promise to ‘think about it’ apparently still at the thinking stage. That’s it.

The other was our hope to begin to use *Participations* as a side where people could find research resources on audiences, for use in training and teaching, and of course for new exploration. This is taking longer and proving more complex than we had thought. Again, it’s not gone away, just deferred.

In the meantime, this issue offers five substantial pieces of work. Ranjana Das presents an exploration of children and young people’s uses and understandings of social media, using an unusual method of enquiry. Katya Johanson and Hilary Glow are also writing about children and young people, this time as museum visitors, and how Australian museums model young visitors’ experiences. Helena Popovic (continuing the Journal’s interests in comedy, begun in the last issue) deploys the concept of ‘interpretive communities’ to compare the reception of *Da Ali G Show* in Croatia and Britain. Kevin Smets examines the place of a religious film, *Ar Risalah*, in the lives of Moroccan migrants within the Netherlands. And Agnese Vellar investigates the ways in which the music industry has learnt to draw on fans themselves to promote new music, through marketing devices such as ‘flash-mobbing’.

Oh, and please note the Call for Papers on our front page from the newly-created Fan Studies Network, with whom we are mounting a forthcoming Special Issue.

All topped off with two reviews. Not bad for a small issue of the Journal!

**Martin Barker**