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OPEN HUMANITIES PRESS: MORE JOURNALS PARTICIPATING – Joining the pioneering open access publisher this month are journals specializing in postcolonial literary studies, visual narrative and contemporary media culture.

The major new humanities publishing initiative, Open Humanities Press (OHP) (<http://openhumanitiespress.org>), has expanded its offerings in peer-reviewed scholarly publishing on the Web. *Postcolonial Text*, *Image [&] Narrative*, and *Fast Capitalism* have been approved by OHP's editorial board and are joining the international open access humanities publishing collective. The new additions represent OHP's continued success at attracting high-quality publications to its list of academically-certified online journals. Like all the journals affiliated with OHP, the full text of each of the new additions is immediately available in open access form at no cost to the readers or authors.

John Willinsky, Professor of Education at Stanford University and Director of the Public Knowledge Project that designed and built the open source journal publishing software used by many of the OHP journals said, "I am extremely pleased that Open Humanities Press has recognized *Postcolonial Text* as a leading journal for its stable of prestigious open access publications." A founding co-editor of *Postcolonial Text* and advisory board member of OHP, Willinsky added that, "in its fourth year of publication, *Postcolonial Text* continues to break new ground in critical analysis and creative writing on a born digital, born open access basis. I'm delighted to see the two initiatives support each other in their shared aim of moving this world forward." *Postcolonial Text* was founded in 2004 by John Willinsky and Ranjini Mendis (Kwantlen Polytechnic University, Canada); in 2008 Heike Härting (University of Montreal, Canada) was appointed the journal's Editor-in-Chief.

"In an era of rampant privatization of 'intellectual property,' open access publishing aims to revive the idea of the intellectual commons," explained Nancy Fraser, Henry A. and Louise Loeb Professor of Political and Social Science at the New School for Social Research in New York, who serves on the editorial board of *Fast Capitalism*, alongside Fredric Jameson (Duke University), Mark Poster (UC Irvine), Edward Soja (UCLA), Todd Gitlin (Columbia University), and others. "How fitting, then, that *Fast Capitalism* should join Open Humanities Press." *Fast Capitalism* was founded in 2005 by Ben Agger (University of Texas at Arlington) and Tim Luke (Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University). It describes itself as "an academic journal with political intent."

To become affiliated with OHP, journals undergo a rigorous assessment by the press's editorial oversight group. Once a journal has been approved by the board, OHP works with editors to ensure the new additions meet a number of open technical standards. Jan Baetens, a founding co-editor of *Image [&] Narrative* explained, "Open Humanities Press represents the new paradigm of scholarly publishing our own journal has been defending since 2000. Becoming part of OHP gives us access to a collective technical knowledge that will help us bring our journal in line with the Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting (OAI-PMH), making our nearly ten years' worth of publication more easily indexed by libraries and search engines such as Google." Edited by Jan Baetens (KU Leuven) Anneleen Masschelein (KU Leuven) and Hilde Van Gelder (KU Leuven), *Image [&] Narrative* publishes writings on visual narratology in French and English.

OHP offers its new additions permanent archiving through a LOCKSS project based at Carnegie Mellon University. The collective also assists its partner journals who wish to migrate to Public Knowledge Project's Open Journal Systems, which features an electronic submission system with author tracking capabilities, peer review management, and publication of articles in both HTML and PDF formats.

OHP already publishes 7 journals in critical and cultural theory that are run by their own independent editorial boards and external peer-reviewers. The collective expects to add more journals in critical and cultural theory over the coming months. "We are seeing an increasing number of venues where

humanities scholars can publish in open access format without risk to traditional academic standards” said Sigi Jöttkandt, a researcher at the Jan van Eyck Academy, The Netherlands and co-founder (with Gary Hall, David Ottina and Paul Ashton) of OHP. She added, “Open access sustains a diversity of critical voices that could otherwise easily be lost in today’s increasingly fragile economic climate.”

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Open Humanities Press is an international Open Access publishing collective specializing in critical and cultural theory. OHP was formed by academics to overcome the current crisis in scholarly publishing that threatens intellectual freedom and academic rigor worldwide. OHP journals are academically certified by OHP’s independent board of international scholars. All OHP publications are peer-reviewed, published under open access licenses, and freely and immediately available online at [www.openhumanitiespress.org](http://www.openhumanitiespress.org).