

# Call for Proposals: The Fat Performance Reader

Deadline: March 31st, 2022

Fat Performance is a field that stands out for its interdisciplinary nature and for its significance in the construction of critical responses to fatphobia. While there is a growing body of work in fat studies (e.g. Cooper 2020, Pausé and Taylor 2021), the fat body is still under-researched within performance studies. This research gap emerges despite a wealth of work on embodiment and bodily representation within theatre, performance, and live arts studies (e.g. Conroy 2009, Jones 1998). **This edited volume will mark the fat body as a critical site of meaning-making and a fruitful focus for discussion in performance studies and other related disciplines.** It will generate a deeper understanding of fat in performance and in the wider social context, and establish fat performance as a demarcated area of practice and inquiry with distinct contributions to both performance and fat cultures.

**Artists, activists, and researchers who investigate fatness in their practices are invited to submit proposals for this publication.** The volume will address the field of fat performance in its broadest sense, from and across individual performance disciplines. We are open to creative presentations and formal innovations as well as more traditional scholarly essays that explore fat performance and its potential to stage and disturb the fatphobic prerogatives that underlie our historical-social context. **We invite proposals for chapters of around 6,000 words, but are also interested to receive proposals for other formats, forms, and lengths of contribution. Shorter thought pieces, documentation of performance works, or visual proposals of up to 3000 words or equivalent are welcomed.** Contributions should address questions asked by and of fat performance, including but not limited to the following themes:

- autobiographical approaches
- fat choreographic strategies
- fat dramaturgies
- fat and non-fat collaboration
- fat activism
- gender identity, expression, and performance
- fat performance on screen
- disability-fatness relations and contradictions
- racialized fatness

- fat performance and materiality
- performance-led critiques of fatphobia
- fat and the spectacle
- amateur and non-professional fat performance
- implications of class and fatness
- histories of fat performance
- intersectional perspectives on fat performance
- political potential and limitation of fat performance
- fat performance and food
- fat, sex, and performance
- fat nudity and nakedness
- fat performance and transgression
- fat and non-human animals
- fat performance philosophy

**Proposals should include an abstract of approximately 300 words** outlining the form and content of your proposed chapter/contribution as well as any key sources, your name and affiliation (if relevant), **and a brief biography of not more than 150 words.**

**We want to encourage contributions from artists and writers who do not have salaried time for research available to them. In order to support this, we have fundraised a small amount of money that will be divided amongst all unaffiliated contributors whose work is featured in the final text. We expect this to be in the region of £150-200 per contributor.**

Proposals should be emailed to [gilliekleiman@gmail.com](mailto:gilliekleiman@gmail.com) by **11.59 pm (sender's time zone) on 31 March 2022**. For any queries please contact [gilliekleiman@gmail.com](mailto:gilliekleiman@gmail.com).

The editorial team is Jussara Belchior (Brazil), Magdalena Hutter (Germany/Canada), Gillie Kleiman (England) and Emily Underwood-Lee (Wales).

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