



Call for Papers

SPECIAL ISSUE ON "MUSIC AND ARTS IN CONFLICT TRANSFORMATION AND PEACE BUILDING"

Music and Arts in Action (MAiA), a peer-reviewed, multidisciplinary journal, invites submissions for a special issue examining the role of music and the arts in conflict transformation, peace building and peace movements, to appear in winter 2009/10. In recent years there has been increased interest, largely led by non-profit groups or non-governmental organisations, in music or drama-based interventions amidst situations of social and/or political conflict. Work in this area is diverse, and ranges from music and art therapy with traumatised groups (particularly children), applied drama in conflict resolution workshops, local uses of music by refugees and (internally) displaced persons, art and music use to spread a particular message in international peace building and development work, and music and theatrical exchanges to bridge group differences in multicultural societies. While activities and interventions in this arena have introduced new terrains for artistic practice and engagement, there has been less in the way of concerted reflection and dialogue from researchers about the import of this work for understanding the arts as cultural systems (cf. C. Geertz).

MAiA seeks to extend this discussion by publishing innovative research – by practitioners or third parties – that closely examines the role of music and arts themselves, as well as individual/group interactions with different art forms, in conflict transformation and peace-building activities. We are particularly interested in papers with strong empirical data that can provide new insights into problems and opportunities regarding emerging practices around music and the arts in these contexts. Papers that explore the situated, bottom-up issues of individual and community engagement with art forms, and demonstrate an understanding of power relations between organisers, artists and fragile social groups, are encouraged. Longitudinal, multidisciplinary and comparative approaches are also welcomed.

Papers should be 5,000 to 8,000 words in length, excluding references and supplementary materials (including visual images, audio and video). Submission details can be found at http://musicandartsinaction.net/info/authors_howto.pdf

Deadline for papers is 1st October 2009.

For more information, please contact the editors via <http://musicandartsinaction.net/index.php/maia/contact/index/principal>