

**Media-N, Journal of the New Media Caucus, is pleased to announce a Call for Proposals for the spring 2015 edition: Vol. 11 - 01**

**TITLE OF THE EDITION**

*The Aesthetics of Erasure*

**GUEST EDITORS**

Paul Benzon, Temple University  
Sarah Sweeney, Skidmore College

**Media-N EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**

Pat Badani

.....  
**DESCRIPTION**

In an era in which state surveillance is capable of capturing, storing, and analyzing all personal communications, and in which even the much-heralded ephemerality of photographic sharing applications such as Snapchat is revealed to be just another instance of deferred, secreted permanence, erasure seems all but impossible. Yet this is precisely what makes erasure a vitally necessary artistic, technological, and social practice. Erasure provides a point of departure from network culture, from the constraints of big data, the archive, and the cloud; through erasure, forgetting and disappearance become radical, profoundly productive acts.

This special issue of Media-N seeks to describe the aesthetics of erasure across various media, platforms, and contexts in the digital era. What does it mean to consider erasure as an artist's mark, and how does it reshape the relations between making and unmaking? How do acts of erasure allow artists to harness and resist the possibilities and problems of the archive, of (self-) surveillance, of public and private, and of datafication? What are the aesthetic and political relations between erasure and analogous processes such as anonymization and redaction? What antecedents of digital erasure might we see in earlier moments of media history, and how might they help us to see digital erasure in new ways? What do practices of digital erasure, and the absences they produce, tell us about the materiality of digital activity? What relations do they reveal among artistry, audience, memory, temporality, and the market? How might erasure help us to see questions of reproduction, remix, appropriation, and intellectual property in new ways?

The editors invite submissions in all formats and media, and from all disciplines, including but not limited to artwork, artist's statements, manifestos, interviews, and historical, critical, and theoretical essays.

## **SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

Please send your proposal adhering to the following:

### Written Materials:

- Abstracts should be 300-500 words, submitted as Microsoft Word documents (.doc or .docx).
- Include a proposal title, your email address, and your title/affiliation (the institution/organization you work with if applicable, or independent scholar/practitioner).
- On a separate document, send a Resume or CV (no longer than 3 pages).

### Artwork:

- Send 3-5 jpeg images (1200pixels maximum width). Each image should be labeled following the convention Name\_Title.jpeg
- On a Microsoft Word document (.doc or .docx) include a project title, your email address, and your title/affiliation (the institution/organization you work with if applicable, or independent scholar/practitioner) and a project description.
- On a separate document, send a Resume or CV (no longer than 3 pages).

## **SEND THE SUBMISSION TO:**

email to: [aestheticsoferasure@gmail.com](mailto:aestheticsoferasure@gmail.com)

Subject line: 'Media-N Submission" and your name(s).

## **TIMELINE**

November 15, 2014: Deadline for submission of abstracts/proposals.

December 15, 2014: Notification of acceptance.

February 15, 2015: Deadline for submission of final papers/artworks.

.....  
If you have questions about *Media-N*, please feel free to contact:  
Pat Badani, Editor-in-Chief *Media-N*, Journal of the New Media Caucus  
[Medianjournal.badani@gmail.com](mailto:Medianjournal.badani@gmail.com)

*Media-N* was established in 2005 to provide a forum for New Media Caucus members and non-members alike, featuring their scholarly research, artworks and projects. The New Media Caucus is a nonprofit, international membership organization that advances the conceptual and artistic use of digital media. Additionally, the NMC is a College Art Association Affiliate Society.  
<http://median.newmediacaucus.org/>