

Introduction

This issue of *The Polish Journal of Aesthetics* is focused on the associations between traveling and aesthetics, both understood broadly as an interdisciplinary dialogue between Aesthetics and different fields of research related to traveling. Aesthetics is the study of perceptions, experiences, and speculative developments. The practice of traveling extends from the importance of nomadism in forming human culture to the idea of *Bildung* (moral, intellectual, cultural, and artistic formation). Narratives on travel may come from Western written and oral tradition, such as Homer's *Odyssey*, and film genres such as Westerns, Sci-fi, or Road Movies. Various types of travel literature could include logbooks and texts that support learning about living in a way that necessarily encompasses alterity. Traveling invokes a type of self-knowledge that is dislodged from a homeland and is connected to ritualistic reunions sustained through an oral tradition, the extraordinary adventures of a people. Travel transmits knowledge about the world to future generations. Through the experience of distance and strangeness, traveling creates an authentic space for cosmological and philosophical investigations, exploration, nostalgia, and personal, collective, scientific, or territorial discoveries, above all. In the category of space, fictional and narrative aspects find imaginary projections and territorial explorations from which knowledge emerges, individuating itself through an investigative perspective and observation. A new personality—a new self and new selves—appears from unknown space and time. This issue's essential and precise subject matter deals with the representation of traveling and the imaginary, even if trips are objective and documented. This issue's articles are based on studies of the bond between the objective and the subjective, the individual and the collective, united with memory, time, and space.

The issue starts with different manifestations and aesthetic consequences in the relationship between travel and artwork in "Beyond the Artist's Voyage. The Aesthetic Necessity of Travel" by Zoltán Somhegyi. Works by Caspar David Friedrich, Johann Wolfgang Goethe, Chen Shaoxiong and Sinkovic EdE are taken into consideration.

Elisabete Sousa reflects on the idea of traveling in Kierkegaard's works, arguing that traveling, in her own words, "has a pivotal role within the aesthetic, the ethical, and the religious stages, which structure all of his writings." *Fear and Trembling* and *Repetition* are the works considered for bringing traveling to the "core of philosophical debate."

Alice Fátima Martins shifts our attention to Latin America in "No, I'm not from Athens. Or By the paths I have walked". She considers the changing of perception and routes in the territory named Latin America since the Portuguese and Spanish invasions.

In "The Ingression of Beauty," Robert Randolph explores the aesthetic experience of a traveler as a process of self's transformation and recognition of truth. He refers to the writings of Alfred North Whitehead and Carl Jung.

Agata Sitko, in "Madam Knight on the Road. A Journal from Colonial America", considers the Journal by Sarah Kemble Knight from a historical and a gender perspective.

Maurice Windleburn, in "Luc Ferrari's Far-West News as Travel Music: Listening for Exotic Sounds in the Southwestern United States," connects experimental music to French travel literature as a motive for understanding listening as an essential piece in the experience of traveling.

Thaís Perim Khouri, in her article "Inhabiting Art to Experience Presence: She as a Bird," presents self-referential narratives in interaction with public spaces to express the transition between the visible and the invisible. In this process, she seeks to reveal an embodied experience connected to ancestral paths and symbolic layers.

Finally, Carla M. Damião analyses the documentary "Rolling Thunder Revue" by Martin Scorsese concerning Bob Dylan's road tour in the 1970s. Allen Ginsberg and the spirit of Jack Kerouac's *On the Road* are combined with the question of authenticity, irony, and fiction due to Scorsese's final touch in this historical contra-cultural *pièce de résistance*.

We would like to thank Natalia Michna for hosting this particular issue at the PJA and the authors who submitted proposals and developed enthralling articles on the topic, relating aesthetics to travel. We would also like to thank the Brazilian artist Néle Azevedo for providing the image of her installation, *The Exercise of Inhabiting the Emptiness* (2006), for the cover. Above all, thanks to those who started the first adventure that took us to the proposal of this issue: the *International Colloquium of Aesthetics in the Center IV: Aesthetics of Travels* (www.esteticasnocentro.org), organized by Carla M. Damião, Miguel Gally, Rita Márcia Magalhães Furtado, Tiago Quiroga, and the

“Ambient 33 group: Spatialities, Communication, Aesthetics and Technologies” at the University of Brasília, Brazil, held in June 2021.

We wish you all an incredible reading journey!

Carla Milani Damião and Nastassja Pugliese

