

# Methodologies of Materiality, Re-storying and Collaborative Future Making

## Guest Editors

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We are pleased to invite submissions for a special issue “On Materiality, Re-storying and Collaborative Future Making”. This special issue aims to explore the intersection of methodologies between materiality and collaborative future making. Acknowledging the fruitfulness of crossdisciplinarity we invite a varied group of scholars from disciplines like design studies, leadership and organization studies, communication, art, architecture, education, urban planning, etc. to contribute.

The world calls for changes. “*Since the possibilities for what the world may become call out in the pause that precedes each breath before a moment comes into being and the world is remade again*” Barad, 2007: 185) the stories, engagements, and manners of partaking in this change *matters*. Re-storying refers to the process of critically examining hegemonic narratives, and reconstructing stories that have been marginalized, erased, or silenced. Materiality and storytelling then involve the understanding of narratives and stories as materialized practices and incline the use of tangible objects and /or physical materials to convey and reconfigure stories and narratives. Col-

laborative future making, on the other hand, involves working together to create - not only visions - but also actions toward possible better futures. It is a process of collective imagination and exploration of alternative futures on the backdrop of the existing. In line with that re-storying has been used to address various issues, such as social injustices, power dynamics, and historical inaccuracies. However, re-storying the future is a deeply ethical matter that calls for consideration. There is therefore a need for a deeper understanding of the practices and methodologies that enable and support Collaborative Future Making.

Approaches range from new, embodied, relational, and material understandings of storytelling, the problematic and complex relations between small stories and grand narratives, relations between places, spaces and stories, post-human, transhuman and Gaia storytelling, feminist, transgender, or queer storytelling.

The goal of this special issue is to examine how various forms of the between of materiality and storytelling can be used as a tool for collaborative future making and re-storying. We welcome papers that explore topics such as:

- The use of material-based forms of storytelling in participatory design processes for envisioning and shaping possible futures
- Climate change, nature connection, sustainability, terrestrial identities, and multispecies responsibility, as GAIA storytelling
- Speculative fabulation as tool for addressing power, hierarchy, and organizational and societal change and possible futures.
- Urban and organizational becoming informed by new materialism and/or posthumanism
- The role of design, art, and architecture in collaborative future making and sustainability
- True storytelling as methods of sustainable futures
- Design fiction, design thinking, fanfiction, and roleplaying
- Storytelling spaces, ethics, and aesthetics
- Learning, participation, and collaborative storytelling
- Re-storying well-being, future making, work-life structures (quiet quitting), and resonance 'væredygtighed'
- Virtual reality and immersion as emerging storytelling
- ChatGPT, AI, algorithms, and conspiracy theories as forms of becoming.

These topics are by no means exhaustive, but they provide a starting point for exploring the intersections of material storytelling, re-storying, and collaborative future making.

We invite original research papers, conceptual papers, and case studies that address these or related topics. We encourage contributions that research and write differently. Academic Quarter provides a wide range of possibilities of exploring different genres and formats. For example, video essays, embedded video or podcast, or personal accounts, and hybrid writing of mixes between these. See below for video essays.

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### Practical Information

Abstract: c. 150 words.

Full Article: c. 3,000 – 3,500 words

Video essay: Max 7–12 minutes. While shorter pieces are welcome, it may be appropriate to batch more than one as part of a specific submission.

Abstracts and articles should be sent to: Annemette Helligsø ([anhe@ikl.aau.dk](mailto:anhe@ikl.aau.dk))

Detailed author guidelines and further information can be found on the journal's website : <https://journals.aau.dk/index.php/ak>

### Video essays

You are welcome to use the possibility of producing a video essay following these guidelines:

To ensure blind peer review of video essays, contributors should – to the greatest extent possible – ensure that their identity is unidentifiable. The video files for review should not include information on authors, directors, producers, and performers. You do not need to mask the voices or images of people.

Video essays should be max. 7-12 minutes long and accompanied by an academic guiding text between 1,000-1,500 words that clearly reflects upon the publication's scholarly / academic contribution. Video essays should be original works of publishable quality in a rigorous scholarly context, and may take argumentative, expository, explanatory, documentary, performative, essayistic, poetic, symbolic (metaphorical) or artistic forms, or a combination of these. The guiding text should clearly explain the argument in the video essay and/or the insight that the viewer may gain from watching and listening to it.

This guiding text should follow the directions in the article style sheet of Academic Quarter. Video essays should be final and handed in as a separate mp4-video-file. Video files should be sent to [Annemette Helligsø](#) by a large-file transfer service. The accompanying guiding text can be mailed directly to Thessa Jensen. Academic Quarter hosts a video file server and archive at Aalborg University from which the finished and published video files will be streamed. Academic Quarter supports only publication and not the technical development of video essays.

Submission and Review of abstract  
**June 1<sup>st</sup> 2023**

Response to Authors of Abstracts  
**July 1<sup>st</sup> 2023**

Submission of Articles and Videos  
for Peer Review  
**August 1<sup>st</sup> 2023**

Peer Reviews sent to Authors  
**September 1<sup>st</sup> 2023**

Resubmission of Articles and Videos  
following Peer Review  
**October 1<sup>st</sup> 2023**

Layout Copyedit  
**November 1<sup>st</sup> 2023**

Publication  
**December 1<sup>st</sup> 2023**

Abstract  
Around 150 words

Full article  
Around 3,000 - 3,500 words

Video-essay  
7-12 minutes

Video essays and the guiding text will be reviewed together.  
Criteria for reviewing submissions are:

- the lucidity (cogency) of the argument,
- the technical and stylistic execution of the video material and
- the clarity of the guiding text.

**Deadlines**

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