Editor’s Note

Welcome to the inaugural issue of Red Feather Journal, an International Journal of Children’s Visual Culture! Our mission is to provide a space for the intellectual interrogation and examination of the many appropriations of the child image in modern visual culture. Our goal is to present quality, scholarly works that advance the growing body of scholarship surrounding the child image and images of childhood. The “Child” has come to represent a variety of ideological, social, racial, economic, and political conditions and experiences throughout the world that have perhaps contributed to the way people—both adults and the children themselves—conceive of the Child and childhood itself. We believe Red Feather Journal will be a valuable portal for such new and innovative scholarship.

In our first issue, Iris Shepard explores Pixar’s representation of anthropomorphized adults-as-child, and Vibiana Bowman Cvetkovic takes a historical look at the filmic evolution of the character of Sarah, from Francis Hodgson Burnett's A Little Princess. Amy Clayton interrogates Joss Whedon’s Fray and Andrew Scahill delves into queering the revolting child in The Exorcist. Stephen Gennaro critiques the use of sexy kids in popular advertisement and Sarah Nilsen argues that Disney’s 1950s “Davy Crockett” series was instrumental in promoting youth gun culture. Charlene Elliot explores the importance of the child image in debates about food, and finally, Kathleen Miller offers a fascinating review of Jaume Collet-Serra’s 2009 film Orphan.

Last, I would like to extend sincere thanks to all the distinguished Editorial Board members of Red Feather Journal. They have all given generously of their time and expertise to ensure a high standard of quality and on-time publication for our first issue. It is truly a collaborative venture. This first issue is dedicated to you.

Best wishes and we hope you enjoy Red Feather Journal!

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