

AmeriQuests' Quests, Ten Issues Later

I originally conceived of this journal as a venue for the on-line destruction of borders between disciplines, genres, subjects and approaches, within both the Americas, and the utopian ideal of 'america'. Over the years, the emphasis has shifted in different directions, to favor hybrid work, creative angles, interdisciplinary contributions and, moreover, wildly creative approaches. I've found that by offering some relief from expectations, scholarly or otherwise, we have been able to generate a tremendously original corpus of articles that are timely, exciting and unshackled by normal apparatuses that sometimes trump creative thought processes. In response to what I consider to be a dearth of book reviews, I've also placed a heavy emphasis upon reviews and review articles of late, drawing from a broad array of publications in fields related to the many missions of the journal.

The on-line format offers tremendous flexibility and almost endless storage capacity, and now that we've moved onto an updated platform, I encourage our authors to make use of videos, chats, and interactive software appropriate to the subjects they are treating. The original idea of making *AmeriQuests* an on-line venue was to be in accord with the borderless format and approach, such that people anywhere in the world, provided that they have access to a computer and the internet (no small feat, but one that's increasingly available to people even in remote places or with limited means), can read ALL the articles of this open access journal. I am thrilled to read statistics from Google Analytics that show a truly international readership, drawing from 120 countries, in significant numbers.

In scanning the table of contents readers might also note that we have produced a few monographs in addition to regular issues. When Seymour Melman passed away, he left to me a completed manuscript entitled *War Inc.*, and given that it's a very major contribution to our understanding of how the military industrial complex consumes our scant resources for the sake of murder, imperialism and consumerist waste, I've been honored to be able to offer it to our readers without impediments of any kind as Volume 5, number 2. I also worked with Saleem Ali on a magnificent compendium of work that has been published for Volume 3, Number 2, as "*Quests Beyond the Ivory Tower: Public Intellectuals, Academia and the Media*". And finally, we recently published a wonderful collection of work "On Manliness: Black American Masculinities" that has garnered significant attention within and beyond the ivory tower. I will continue to encourage such enterprising efforts, and remind our readers that although we hope to have first publication rights, authors nonetheless keep copyright and are encouraged to publish again in other venues if they wish.

Our next issue will focus upon the continued (?) pertinence of Marxism and Marxist-inspired thought, and we remain open to all kinds of new proposals relating the missions of the journal in formats, approaches, genres and types that are as vast as the subject matters they cover.

Robert F. Barsky, Founding Editor