Letter from the Editors

Dear ASAGE readers,

We write this as we are preparing the final issue of the ninth volume of ASAGE, the American Society for Aesthetics Graduate E-journal. We thank you for your many years of support.

As we look ahead to the tenth volume, a proud milestone, we would like to say a few words about our vision for the future of the journal. From the start, one of the central missions of ASAGE has been to publish high quality work by a diversity of authors. We have concluded that, in order to continue in this mission, we must expand the scope of the kinds of documents we publish.

In this issue, we debut the first of several new types of submissions that we will invite. The one on offer here we call “Conference Reports.” Under this aegis, we invite graduate students to write about the aesthetics conferences they attend. Everyone in the aesthetics community can benefit from these reports, since we cannot all attend every conference. They will outline and reflect on the ideas under discussion and the themes that emerge at a conference, helping to expand and continue the conversations initiated there.

This issue consists of four excellent examples of the genre. Three of them are about the *Ethics and Aesthetics of Stand-up Comedy* (co-sponsored by the American Society for Aesthetics at Bucknell University). Jennifer Marra provides a helpful overview of the conference as a whole. Dieder Declercq went to the conference particularly interested in the relationship between the theory and practice of stand-up, and his report outlines the many ways in which that relationship was addressed by participants. Z. Neslihan Arol brought to the conference her own interest in the many problems faced by women in the arena of stand-up comedy, and she traces the treatment of these issues by various conference activities. Taken together, these three reports convey a rich sense of what the conference must have been like, and, even better, they allow those of us who were unable to attend the conference to nevertheless engage with the philosophical content under discussion there.

The fourth, by Melani Shahin, is about the *Southeastern Student Conference in Aesthetics* (co-sponsored by the ASA at the College of Charleston). She highlights the collaborative spirit of the gathering, and details some of the ways participants responded to one another.

This fall, we will issue a new call for submissions reflecting our new expanded program of submission types. Of course, we will continue to invite traditional journal articles, but we will also solicit conference reports and other less traditional forms of philosophical writing. Watch this space!

NICK CURRY, Managing Editor
University of Illinois as Chicago
EMAIL: editor@asage.org

ERIC MURPHY, Associate Editor
McGill University
EMAIL: reviews@asage.org

American Society for Aesthetics Graduate E-journal 9.2 Spring/Summer 2017