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Rac(e)ing Questions II: Gender and Postcolonial/Intercultural Issues

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abstracts (October 1),

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completed papers (April 1)

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abstracts (April 1),

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Early Career Researchers Special Issue:

abstracts (May 1),

completed papers (August 1)

Winter Issue:

abstracts (July 1),

completed papers (October 1)

About

Gender forum is an online, peer reviewed academic journal dedicated to the discussion of gender issues. As an electronic journal, *gender forum* offers a free-of-charge platform for the discussion of gender-related topics in the fields of literary and cultural production, media and the arts as well as politics, the natural sciences, medicine, the law, religion and philosophy. Inaugurated by Prof. Dr. Beate Neumeier in 2002, the quarterly issues of the journal have focused on a multitude of questions from different theoretical perspectives of feminist criticism, queer theory, and masculinity studies. *gender forum* also includes reviews and occasionally interviews, fictional pieces and poetry with a gender studies angle.

Opinions expressed in articles published in *gender forum* are those of individual authors and not necessarily endorsed by the editors of *gender forum*.

Submissions

Target articles should conform to current MLA Style (8th edition) and should be between 5,000 and 8,000 words in length. Please make sure to number your paragraphs and include a bio-blurb and an abstract of roughly 300 words. Files should be sent as email attachments in Word format. Please send your manuscripts to gender-forum@uni-koeln.de.

We always welcome reviews on recent releases in Gender Studies! Submitted reviews should conform to current MLA Style (8th edition), have numbered paragraphs, and should be between 750 and 1,000 words in length. Please note that the reviewed releases ought to be no older than 24 months. In most cases, we are able to secure a review copy for contributors.

Article Publishing

The journal aims to provide rapid publication of research through a continuous publication model. All submissions are subject to peer review. Articles should not be under review by any other journal when submitted to *Gender forum*.

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There are no submission or page charges, and no colour charges.

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Editorial

1 With target essays focusing on a wide range of issues from eighteenth- and nineteenth-century colonial historical documents to the discourse of masochism in Austrian nineteenth-century novellas as well as to recent postcolonial American historiographic metafiction, **Rac(e)ing Questions II** investigates interactions of gender and race in the (post)colonial from interdisciplinary perspectives. It thus continues the examination of gender- and race-biased power relations of **Rac(e)ing Questions I** in an endeavour to provide a broadened insight into contemporary theoretical approaches to questions of gender and racial difference.

2 Drawing on Foucauldian notions of power and discourse, Norbert Finzsch's article "Discourses of Genocide in Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century America and Australia" explores the representation of the colonized other in documents by British travelers and colonizers of the period. Starting from a comparison of the British expansion in North America and Australia, Finzsch scrutinizes the strategic discursive dehumanization of Aboriginals, in which gender played a contradictory role. Finzsch illustrates how the explorers on the one hand cast the discovery and subjugation of the unknown territory as the conquest of a female body, while on the other hand the native's allegedly cruel treatment of women served as a justification of the colonial project.

3 In "Trials of Rituals: Female Bonding and the Colonial 'Other' in Marianne Wiggins's *John Dollar*," Ralph Poole argues that Wiggin's postmodern historiographic metafiction not only offers an alternative account of gender, sexuality, and race in colonial Burma in the early twentieth century, but also a queer reevaluation of the history of the colonial cannibal tale as such. Poole utilizes the textual politics of resignification as conceptualized by Judith Butler to explore the strategies through which the 1989 novel reassesses the roots of present homophobic and xenophobic attitudes in the past.

4 Sabine Wilke's article "Wanda's Endings: Transforming the Discourse of Masochism" investigates Leopold von Sacher-Masoch's *Venus in Furs*, set in a nineteenth century colonial context. In a cross-reading of masochistic and colonial discourses, Wilke shows how the colonial images in Sacher-Masoch's novella simultaneously refer back to the iconography of the cruel woman and serve as indicators of the European male's anxiety about white woman's increased independence and role as master in the colonies. Arguing that male masochist pleasure in the novella rests upon the suspension of the woman's desire, Wilke explores how Aurora Rümelin, von Sacher-Masoch's companion and later wife, re-writes the masochist scenario from a feminist and queer perspective in her own novellas, published under the

pseudonym Wanda von Sacher-Masoch.

5 The fiction section of **Rac(e)ing Questions II** presents the short story "Opening" by US fiction writer KR Randen. Reviews deal with recent monographs by Peter Boag and Roger N. Lancaster, as well as an essay collection edited by Diane Richardson and Steven Seidman.