

JRFM 2019, 5/2 CALL FOR PAPERS

Apocalypse and Authenticity

Ours is a time of crises: in political discourses, in the context of medicine and ecology, in newspaper coverage, and in what seems an obsession with catastrophic end-of-the world scenarios in popular culture, TV, and film.

At the same time, society seems to be concerned with and long for authenticity and a return to something lost, a return to a truer version of ourselves. But this longing is often disappointed by the uncovering that what seems authentic is often very carefully and artificially crafted.

Religion – broadly understood – is deeply intertwined in both these social discourses. Biblical imagery of the apocalypse continues to be repurposed in popular media today. But in its original biblical sense, the apocalyptic event was thought to uncover and reveal the truth. While in popular media, the term “apocalypse” is often used in an entirely different way, maybe the original biblical meaning can help us understand some of the contemporary phenomena.

The **JRFM** issue will feature select articles from the Apocalypse & Authenticity conference that took place at the University of Hull in July 2017 as part of the conference series of the Theology, Religion, and Popular Culture Network.

In addition to select conference papers, the **JRFM** journal would like to extend a Call for Papers on either the topic of the apocalypse, or the topic of authenticity, or on the apocalypse and authenticity.

The issue also has an open section for articles on other topics linked to the profile of **JRFM**. The deadline for submissions is 1 September 2018. Contributions of 25,000-30,000 characters (including spaces) should be submitted online for peer review through the journal homepage www.jrfm.eu. We kindly ask authors to register. Publication is scheduled for November 2019. For questions regarding the call for papers or the submission and publication process, please contact the **JRFM** office manager (natalie.fritz@kath.ch).