the
metamorphosis
project

Atrophy & AI

Call FOR
Submissions

The Metamorphosis Project

Art as Research, Research as Art

The Metamorphosis Project is a social enterprise that seeks to explore ideas and experiment at the intersection of art and research. It was born to disrupt the monodisciplinary research model and instead, promote cross-sectoral and cross-disciplinary conversations and collaboration between academia, Industry and the arts.

We ask bold questions about humanity, society and our collective futures. We challenge the status quo through critically engaging debate, academic rigour, and authentic interdisciplinary and convergent thinking.

We seek to break down barriers and siloes between disciplines and embrace the Renaissance form of humanistic practice and transdisciplinary creativity. We build community around conversation. We create moments for people to come together and converse, ideate, create and transform. We do this through our podcast, journal, events and exhibitions.

about

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The Journal

We are proud to launch The Metamorphosis Project Journal, an annual curated series of literary explorations navigating the intersection of Art and Research. Each volume of the Journal will be curated around a thought-provoking theme that invites submissions from a diverse range of practitioners and researchers working between and beyond disciplines and artistic forms. Submissions can be text based or visual, but visual entries should be accompanied by an exegesis. Entry requirements are further outlined on P6.

The Metamorphosis Project Journal 2024 Edition presents a call for submissions that respond to the theme of 'Atrophy and AI'.

journal

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Atrophy & AI

Atrophy: n. Gradual decline in effectiveness or vigour due to underuse or neglect.

The acceleration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in our postmodern and hyperdigital world brings with it a slew of connotations, possibilities, and associated emotions. Many of these will be positive and offer fertile territory for creative explorations and experiments. But our engagement with AI must also consider the possibility of loss. As with any metamorphosis, there will be a shedding of the old skin, and a birth of new forms. Generative AI, in order to birth new possibilities, will inevitably shed something that is no longer needed, or which can be replaced. One of these redundancies is – ironically – language processing. Human language processing, that is. Generative AI will rapidly reduce our in-built language processors and ability to use the written and spoken word creatively. Language, therefore, is at grave risk of atrophy over the rest of this decade, and the next.

This issue of The Metamorphosis Project Journal invites applications from individuals and teams working at the intersection of art and research with a focus on multidisciplinary practice (in physical or metaphysical forms). It encourages philosophical critique that takes as its central question the concept of 'Atrophy' (including and beyond neurological applications of the word). Your approach to the concept of atrophy and AI can be positive (generative) or negative (degenerative) as you see its relation to the evolving human condition, and in relation to the exponential and pervasive influence of AI and new technologies in the postmodern world.

theme

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Thematic Questions

What do we risk losing, as humans, if our ability to communicate creatively is atrophied?

What do we stand to gain by embracing new forms of creative communication, as seen in and led by Generative AI?

What other facets and forms of atrophy will we see as we move toward a future mediated by, and co-created with technology?

Can AI, creative technologies, art and research, work together, collaboratively, to prevent atrophy of human language processing? Do we want to prevent it? Or is this a natural phase in our post-human evolution?

theme

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Submission Details

Submissions open:
Tuesday 28 May 2024

Submissions close:
Wednesday 17 July 2024, 5pm

Submission Format:
Submissions are welcome from sole authors and collaborators. Co-authorship is equally encouraged. Submit a PDF or Word document with submission title and a 400 word abstract of the proposed work. The abstract should be accompanied by a short biography (250 words) + contact information for each author. Please include a description of your practice in your biography including the disciplines and/or art forms you work within/between.

Email submissions to:
info@themetamorphosisproject.org

Use the following text as your email headline:
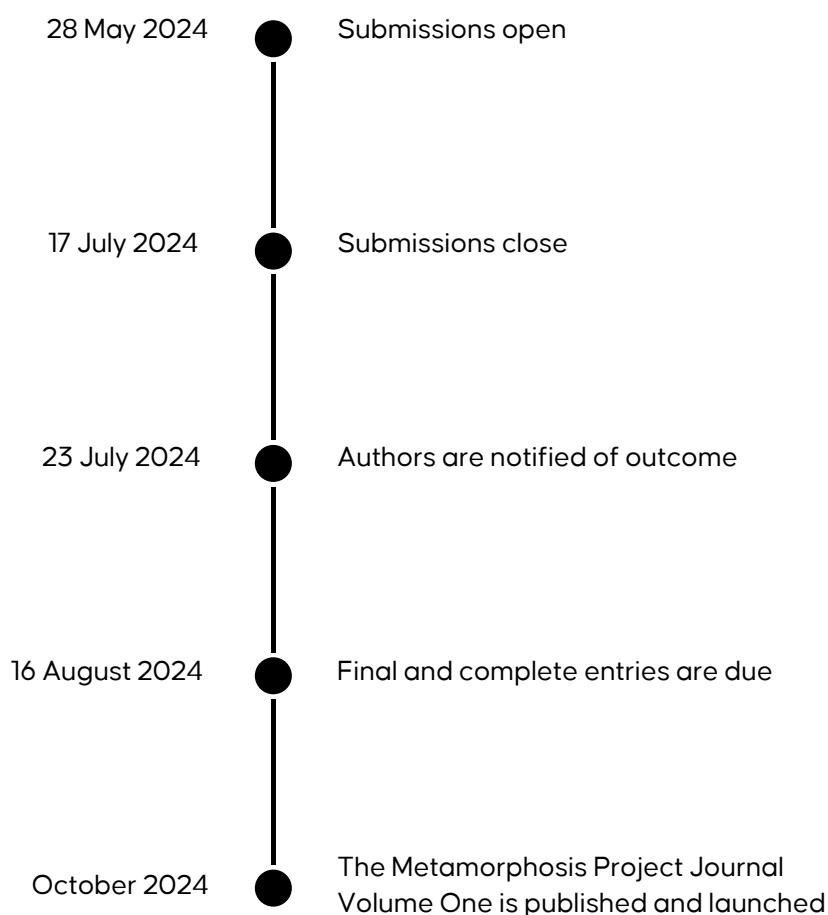Submission: TMPJ_Vol 1 _Atropy & AI

Images
If your submission will be based on visual work, please include low res image(s) with your abstract to demonstrate the subject matter of your work to the Editorial Panel.

Sound/Music
As the Journal will be published in digital and print formats, we cannot include recordings within the publication, As such, sound-based artists are encouraged to use visual media or visual scores for readers who are not literate in score reading. We encourage creative and musicological approaches to discussions about sound and music relating to the Journal's theme.

deadline

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Publication Timeline

28 May 2024	●	Submissions open
17 July 2024	●	Submissions close
23 July 2024	●	Authors are notified of outcome
16 August 2024	●	Final and complete entries are due
October 2024	●	The Metamorphosis Project Journal Volume One is published and launched

timeline

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FAQs

I am not sure if I qualify as a researcher or artist, can I still submit an abstract?
Most certainly, yes. We welcome submissions from poets, writers, artists, researchers, philosophers, architects, designers, entrepreneurs, computer programmers, scientists, mathematicians and all other disciplines/professions not listed above. The Metamorphosis Project is designed to elicit and encourage transdisciplinary conversation and invites participation from industries that don't traditionally align with the arts and humanities. If your work relates or responds to the theme of Atrophy & AI, we would love to hear from you.

Is The Metamorphosis Project Journal an academic journal?
The Metamorphosis Project upholds the values and principles of academic rigour in its content, design and editorial functions, but we do not follow the traditional format of an academic journal. We ask bold questions about humanity, society and our collective futures. We challenge the status quo through critically engaging debate, academic rigour, and authentic interdisciplinary and convergent thinking.

What kind of language should I use? Should I use footnotes?
We seek to break down siloes between disciplines and promote accessible debate and philosophical conversation. We apply a fluid format that welcomes diverse, creative approaches to literature. The linguistic style that best suits your work and personal expression is the style you should adopt. We do not use footnotes. References to the work of other authors and creators can be done using parenthetical citation.

Can I submit multiple entries?
Yes. However, only one submission will be published per author. The Editorial Panel will select the submission they deem the best in response to the theme of the Journal.

If my work is selected by the Editorial Panel, when must I send the complete version?
Friday 16 August 2024.

Is there a house style I should follow?
There is no house style. See the answer to question 3 above.

When will I know the outcome of my submission?
Tuesday 23 July 2024.

Will I receive a copy of the Journal?
Yes. All published authors will receive a copy of the Journal.

I have a question relating to the process. Can I contact you for further information?
Absolutely. Email questions to info@themetamorphosisproject.org.

faqs

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