

Call for EOI for submissions for an open-access publication:

Cultivating Sanctuaries of Surrealism

Editorial Collaborative: Ivan Levant, KA Laity, Dr. Gerhard Hoffstaedter

We heartily welcome expressions of interest for an entirely open-access online pressbook on Cultivating Sanctuaries of Surrealism: Evoking The Domain of The Marvellous.

We are seeking contributions from surrealists on methods, tools, practices, rituals, examples, histories, poeties, spells, games, incantations, and dreams in a variety of contexts and geographies on how to evoke, bring forth, create conditions for, notice, unfurl, unravel, discover, create, propagate, let run rampant the domain of the marvellous. We are not interested in holding Surrealism behind glass in art galleries, rather we're interested in the insurgent potential of letting the movement overgrow shopping malls of collective imagery, seed ecosystems in the concrete cracks of urban dead-zones, and birth worlds yet unknown. We are interested in the contributions to living and breathing surreality.

Overview

The notion of cultivating Sanctuaries draws inspiration and reference from Gramsci's notion that hegemony is never complete, Hage's notion of Major and Minor realities, and Akomolafe's notion of creating sanctuaries as a possible solution to existential cul-de-sac. The volume seeks contributions to why, what, where and how can we foster sanctuaries of surrealism on planet Earth. In the climate of ongoing socio-environmental cataclysms – consequences of Capitalist-Colonialist-Imperial impositions – surrealism offers possibilities to build worlds differently. Surrealism offers ways for our visions, dreams, and imaginations to expand into the infinitude, once and for all overcoming Capitalist Realism's constricting grip on existence. An alternative? We can all poetically dwell in the resplendent kaleidoscopic surreality of collective dreamscapes – Surrealist Realism if you will. As Surrealist Historian Robin DG Kelley put it: 'Without new visions we don't know what to build, only what to knock down. We not only end up confused, rudderless, and cynical, but we forget that making a revolution is not a series of clever maneuvers and tactics but a process that can and must transform us.'

Surrealism can help us to create conditions and find edges and contours of limits of being. Surrealism's engagement with dreams is one such example. It can give us the courage to go to places where otherwise we may not venture. Think about the time when you dreamed and nonchalantly participated in the most incredible of acts, or, alternatively, you were very much concerned only to wake up and think 'Oh, this was just a dream'. Both can be useful in summoning the courage to break free from cultural patterns...if this is so, why not consider the importance of creating, braiding and holding dreams as a way to encourage adventure in collective kaleidoscopic realms of the beyond? If this is a dream... how beautiful, weird and wonderful can you make it? Braiding dreams with 'reality' to arrive in the fields of marvellous, beyond our thought horizons, is an adventure of a lifetime that beckons. Of course, there are other ways to journey into the otherwise. Let us share those ways with a humanity that's struggling to find new ways, new myths, new dreams and visions.

This publication is intended as a resource for those interested in practical and theoretical aspects of cultivating a surrealist approach to being-in-the-world, to

creating conditions that allow for us to evoke, create and dwell in the domain of the marvellous; a world where everyone is a poet, living a life of unrestrained splendour.

Questions we want to ask

How can we catalyse the surrealist movement? How can we create and foster places and conditions where surrealism can dwell and bloom? How can we alchemise the present? How can we turn nightmares into dreams? How can we cause a runaway chain reaction that unveils the otherwise beyond capitalist realism? What are the tactics, practices and methods of the past, present and possible future that may take us to the sublime point where contradictions between our dream and waking worlds melt away?

We want you to respond to these questions or submit your ideas on how to cultivate Surrealist Sanctuaries that help the domain of the marvellous bloom all over the world. All accepted submissions will be open access with full author attribution.

Your submission can be in the form of an essay, a personal narrative, a visual essay, video, poem, an academic chapter, or other multi-modal expression (that we can host on the pressbook platform). We are also interested in anthropological, philosophical and historical perspectives that can enable surrealists to sharpen their poetic weaponry.

The publication will address foundational questions of seeding surrealities, the impetus, ethics, ways, and the role of surrealism in the world. We also want to hear about surrealist tool kits and skills surrealists can learn and deploy in a range of settings. We are particularly interested in interventions from practitioners (e.g., 500-2000 words) about the role of surrealist training, tools, skills, and identities.

If you identify as a surrealist and have stories to share about what that means and what surrealist methods you draw on your way of being in the world or potential more deliberate deployments, we want to hear from you.

Please send your EOI for ideas to: dream@sanctuaryofsurrealism.org