

Call for Papers

Reading HBO's *Euphoria* - Edited Collection

In recent years, there has been no more controversial TV series than HBO's *Euphoria*. Adapted from an Israeli production by the same name, by Sam Levinson, its explicit portrayal of Gen Z addiction, sexual violence, and identity crisis has attracted cult devotion and open-mouthed condemnation. The furore around *Euphoria's* portrayals of heroin, nudity and mental health have obscured just how complex a take on our culture this high school drama really is. Peek behind the social-media-mirroring of its tone, and you find a work of deep sophistication.

This collection seeks readings of the show's innovative artistry, its experimentation with form, and its multi-layered approach to a world many artists have given up hope of trying to understand. Glad to lack the safety of hindsight, we are looking for essays that explore the feelings *Euphoria* induces here and now – for the parent-age viewer as much as the people whose realities it mocks up. And we encourage instinctive responses to where such a strange, shocking, beautiful and illuminating work might fit in the history of 20th and 21st century art. We are interested in papers from a range of disciplines which engage with aspects of these themes, and those which consider any of the following:

- Space and location - the role of suburbia and malaise
- Identity
- Bodies
- Technology and social media
- American histories
- Unrest - both social/cultural, and personal
- Theory (such as the use of Lacan, Deleuze, Guitarri, Haraway, Hayles etc)
- Gender, sexuality and queer theory
- Intertextuality - both screen and literature
- Surveillance and power
- Music
- Authenticity
- Hookup Culture
- Mental Illness
- Drug culture
- Greif

All subjects are welcome, with the proviso that the collection will be structured around key themes including: gender, culture, and history.

Researchers at all stages are welcomed. Abstracts of 300 words and a short biography should be submitted to Antonia Mackay (antoniamackay@brookes.ac.uk) and Guy Stevenson (gnastevenson@gmail.com) by January 27th 2023.