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BELLA FARRUGGIA

DR REBECCA SMITH

Editorial, LSACI Journal, Issue 1

We'd like to welcome you to our first issue of the LSACI Journal, which was an open call and does not have a specific theme. This issue aims to act as a celebration of diverse voices and practices. The journal launch contributes to celebrations for 200 years of the Liverpool School of Art and to mark its upcoming merger with the Liverpool Screen School to become the Liverpool School of Art and Creative Industries in September 2025.

This edition features guest contributions from across the university including Christopher Olive, from the LJMU Archives & Special Collections and Dr Isabel Robinson, from the Department of History with articles on the history of the Liverpool School of Art. Celebrated poet Amina Atiq has shared ways to write for the future and Liverpool Biennial 2025 (LB2025) curator Marie-Anne McQuay has shared her curatorial statement for *BEDROCK* LB2025, which is taking place 7 June – 14 September.

Students from across the two schools have contributed to the journal, resulting in articles, artworks and reviews submitted. These range from the iconography of Hieronymus Bosch, Immanuel Kant's aesthetics, the politicism of African American cinema, craft as contemporary art, the iconic architecture of Liverpool, painting *Scouse Birds?* all the way to Pepsi.

Coinciding with the opening of *THIS IS WHAT WE DO**, the Liverpool School of Art and Design 2025 Degree Show, and the Atrium exhibition celebrating 200 years of the Liverpool School of Art, we hope to see you at the launch of the journal on the 22 May 2025 and for you to continue to be a part of the future of the school. General submissions will be accepted for the journal on a rolling basis and calls for themed issues will be shared in the future.

We hope you enjoy reading and celebrating the quality of work produced for the journal as much as Bella and I have had editing. Thank you to all our contributors, Cath Dishman for her invaluable knowledge and help to set up the open access online journal and for the continued support of the journal across LJMU and the city.

Bella and Rebecca