



Co- INTENTIONS

What is Collaborative Publishing?

We are interested in a model of publishing that breeds communication, connection and cooperation. We are interested in co-editing, co-writing, co-reading, co-speaking and want to encourage as many voices to the fore as possible. We believe that we are stronger when we collectively build each other up.

Co-'s Intentions / Questions:

- We want to allow contributors freedom to be in control of their textual, stylistic and emotional choices.
- We will always pay contributors.
- We will constantly consider the 'voices' that we are publishing. We will celebrate diverse voices.
- We will hold critical reflection sessions after releasing all issues to question where we can improve.
- We will question how we situate our own positionality without becoming solipsistic. We are here to support the contributors and hope to use the skills we have for the benefit of others. We believe in the cyclical nature of skill-sharing and skill-building.
- We want to consider how we move from intimacy to openness? How do we write in a critical mode without relinquishing our intimate attachments? How can we view our intimate attachments critically in the writing that we do? We want to prioritize intimacy by creating a safe space for contributors and readers.
- What are we entitled to say (and what should we *not* say)? Why does what we write need to be written? For whom is it written? How do we write about another without writing *for* them? How do we critique texts without reproducing the logics of possession or domination? This applies to us editors as well as to our Contributors. We need to continue to question this.
- What do we offer when we write? Who is invited into the text; what ideas are invited into the space of thought and critique? What do we offer when we publish each edition? Who can access it?
- How do we take responsibility for the material we use and the effect its usage has through the text? Why do we choose certain materials to work with and not others? How do we find things to write on and alongside? Who do we reanimate in our arguments, and how deeply do we invite them into our writing?

- How can we write from a place of a deep reading? How can our writing be a practice of listening?
- We want to be environmentally critical – focusing on sustainable practice.
- Where does the body and the text meet? We will encourage forms of embodied writing (when appropriate).
- Where does position, place and action meet? We will encourage forms of critical writing (when appropriate).
- We want to ask how we can learn from frustration, paradox, disagreement, and contradiction? What happens when we face an impasse in our writing? What do we do when what we write confuses or surprises us? Our responsibility as editors is to offer and encourage ongoing conversation and advice throughout the writing process (when required). We want to extend an open invitation to contributors to ask us for help, opinion or advice at any time.
- We want to challenge ourselves with other's views. We want to embrace challenge and meet it with humility. How do we open ourselves up to that which we do not know / understand? How do we honour the gaps in knowledge, the incompleteness of thought, leave open space for the unknown? How do we honour the limits of knowledge? We need to recognise holes in knowledge as actual space for alternative knowings. We want to respect other forms of knowledge.
- **We want to constantly ask for critique.**
- We want to understand our limits. We want to understand what we are not entitled to know. We want to understand that we won't know everything.

This is an active, generative, growing document. Please feel free to contact us if you feel we need to change or add to this list of intentions / questions. We welcome all ideas: co.collaborative.publishing@gmail.com