SUBMISSION AND STYLE GUIDELINES FOR FILM QUARTERLY QUORUM

What is Quorum?

Quorum, Film Quarterly’s public-facing online column, features short pieces (1000-1500 words) that are intended to help spark conversations on topical issues and debates in film, media, and screen culture.

Quorum pieces should be accessible, lucid, and concise. The primary purpose of the column is to stimulate thought and discussion by circulating online—well beyond an academic readership—thus opening Film Quarterly up to a broader public.

Above all, we want to emphasize: Quorum is topical, and speaks meaningfully to urgent issues of the moment.

What Quorum is Not

Quorum is not a venue for film and media reviews, nor for traditional essays, whether journalistic or academic. Instead, it is focused on taking up ideas, raising issues, and engaging with debates in film, media, and screen culture.

Sample Quorum Writings

Here are a few representative Quorum pieces that illustrate, in their variety, its aims, focus and approach:

-- Laurie Ouellette on the cancellation of the TV shop COPS
-- Jason Fox on how documentary makes space
-- Erika Balsom on the shifting landscape of women’s film criticism
-- Maggie Hennefeld’s analysis of the Oscars’ new diversity criteria
-- Chris Cagle on Kanopy, and the unevenness of the streaming landscape
-- Girish Shambu on rethinking film evaluation

Quorum Writing Style

Do not use first person plural (e.g. “we,” “us,” “our”). Instead, “I,” “you” or “one” are all acceptable.

Minimize endnotes. Instead use hyperlinks, even when referring to non-open-access articles and books.

Double space the manuscript.

Images

Include, with your submission, a header image of good resolution that will go on top of the piece. For images within the piece, please indicate approximate placement.

Do not embed images within your submission text; instead, send images separately.

Please select images that are more horizontal than vertical; they suit the design of the Quorum page better.

For inquiries, contact Quorum editor Girish Shambu at girishshambu@yahoo.com.