

Editor's introduction: Dreaming of Another Place

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This special issue brings together contributions from presenters at the MeCCSA PGN's 2021 Conference, *Dreaming of Another Place*, which took place at University of Brighton in September of that year. The articles here are reflective of an academic world in transition; in the second year of changes researchers faced as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, the authors here reflect on how their practices had changed. However, the articles in this special issue step beyond the pandemic, as well. While some authors changed their creative and research practices, others reflect on changes to places beyond the scope of the pandemic. As such, the theme of 'Another Place' takes on a variety of significant meanings.

This issue also brings together creative practice, theoretical approaches, and different conceptions of 'place'. As a whole, this issue reflects a time of changing environments, changing approaches to our work, and a changed sense of connection. While the 2021 Conference took place remotely, the papers presented and those included here remind us of both our physicality and distance. Place is an inspiration for and collaborator in creative practice for Joe Jukes and Epha Roe, Sarah Keirle, and Simon Olmetti. For Maria Abdel Karim, place is a key component of Nadine Labaki's film *Capernaum* (2018), and Dominic Budhi-Thornton looks at the meaning of place through the lens of the sacred/secular use of Manchester Cathedral. Bethan Prosser documents how her research practice changed as a result of Covid restriction, and how to conduct place-based research in a remote way. Petra Seitz and Joskaudé Pakalkaité present design as a determiner of place and one's experience within it.

Together, this issue's authors present a series of timely interactions with place and how we, as researchers, can interpret, connect, and shape it.

Cover image: Epha J. Roe, Queen Elizabeth I Oak, Cowdray Park, Easebourne, from the sub-project *Arboreal Encounters*, 2021; courtesy of the artist.