

# Visual Narratives: Approaches to Graphic Novels in the Americas

Call for Submissions (Nov 30, 2023)



## Visual Narratives: Approaches to Graphic Novels in the Americas

We invite proposals for a thematic issue of the journal focused on studying graphic novels in the Americas. This issue aims to explore the forms of autonomy and narrative and visual heteronomy of graphic novels in the Americas.

Our interest arises from the possibility of generating an intervention in cultural criticism based on the formal and enunciative complexities and production systems characteristic of contemporary graphic novels that generate a certain autonomy of this medium published in different languages and translations. We seek to create an overview of critical and theoretical studies on the graphic novel that allows us to establish links and temporal and spatial connections from the perspectives of production, distribution, and reception that also indicate the heteronomous character of graphic novels.

This dossier then seeks to establish a critical framework to support the tension between the narrative autonomy and heteronomy of the graphic novel, highlighting its singularity and plural character as an element of representation and, at the same time, its inevitable relationship with other media, such as literary, artistic or cinematographic.

Topics of interest include, among others:

- The graphic novel within the cultural history of modernity and the paradigm of the visual in modern narrative.
- The relationship between graphic novels and other media such as literature, film, the arts, photography, design, etc.
- The globalization of graphic novels and the circulation of comics in the Americas.
- Representations of race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, and class in graphic novels in the Americas.
- The role of graphic novels, narratives of the self, and autobiographical in shaping and reflecting personal, national, regional, and global identities.
- The impact of the graphic novel on literary and cultural movements in the Americas.
- The use of the graphic novel in education and as a means of communication linked to memory and social and cultural commitment.

Proposals are welcome from various disciplines, including literary studies, cultural studies, history, sociology, and media studies. Papers with an interdisciplinary approach to studying graphic novels in the Americas are also welcome.

Papers must be original, scholarly, and not previously published or under consideration for publication elsewhere.

**Guidelines:** Authors who wish to contribute to the special issue are invited to send an article (maximum 7500-10.000 words, authors must follow *fiar*'s MLA style sheet) including the title, authors, institutional affiliation and an abstract to [fiar@interamerica.de](mailto:fiar@interamerica.de) by the deadline: **November 30th, 2023**. By January 2024, you will receive information on the acceptance of your abstract. Submissions can be made in Spanish, English and Portuguese and French. This special issue of the FIAR is expected to be published in **the spring/summer of 2024**.

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