

VALA: The Journal of The Blake Society

Editor: Sibylle Erle (vala@blakesociety.org)

- To source and select content
- To support and work with contributors on thematic or topical ideas to ensure new, interesting and accessible work on Blake's art and poetry
- To develop and review the editorial vision of VALA

Art Director: John Riordan (vala@blakesociety.org)

- Sourcing and selecting illustrations and original art
- To support and work with artists, illustrators
- To develop and review the editorial vision of VALA

Managing Editor: Jason Whittaker

- To edit contributions to suit design and layout.
- To source and support illustrations for contributions, to use where possible copyright free images, such as supplied by Yale Centre of British Art
- To develop and review the editorial vision of VALA

Editorial Assistant: Romyana Hristova

- Copy Editing / Proofreading
- Checking and for mistakes and accuracy so that the articles stand scrutiny. Finding missing references in Erdman or Butlin for all quotations, which need checking as well.
- Work with editor towards clean copies of all contributions, before handing these over to Managing Editor.

Editorial Board (Trustees)

Sibylle Erle, Camila Oliveira, Stephen Pritchard, John Riordan, Annise Rogers, Tamsin Rosewell
Jason Whittaker

The Editorial Board reads and evaluates submissions (*VALA*, Newsletter, Emanations) and feeds back to the Editor by a given deadline.

VALA: The Journal of The Blake Society is a free, online and open access publication that is printed and sent to members. Paper copies can be ordered by non-members via the website. We request a donation to The Blake Society. *VALA* has no external or independent reviewers and might therefore count as "non-peer reviewed". *VALA* is a thoroughly edited publication, directed at the general reader. The journal's contents are academically informed articles with a degree of expertise as well as interviews and profiles as well as creative responses (art, illustration, poetry, creative writing) to Blake. Its declared goal is to celebrate Blake's legacy in new, interesting and accessible ways.

At present, we envisage that each issue of *VALA* will have 20 contributions of which three are lead articles, followed by a number of smaller pieces, excluding reviews, as well as original artwork.

The Editor invites as well as commissions lead articles (3000 words), smaller pieces (1000-2000 words) and opinion pieces or reviews (500-800 words). The Art Director invites as well as commissions original artwork. We normally advertise an overarching theme at the beginning of the year but are also willing to include other academic or creative pieces.

Potential topics include but are not limited to the following:

- Art and Artists (poets, painters, musicians) influenced by Blake
- Focus on one of Blake's works, art or poetry
- Politics, arts/literatures, religions, music, environment, or gender with a Blakean angle
- About creative responses (in art, life, teaching, etc.)
- Opinion piece: What Blake means to me
- Visual creative, poetry, creative writing inspired by Blake

Submissions

We request that you, to pitch an idea for a contribution, submit a title, an abstract (200-300 words) and a bio (100 words). We will ask you cut this bio down to 15-20 words for the publication. Please submit title, abstract and bio to the Editor and Art Director at the above email address for consideration by the deadline.

Written Submissions

Manuscripts should be sent as word documents as well as a pdf. While we are happy to accept contributions without footnotes, we would still like you to list books or websites that inspired your thinking so that interested readers can trace information and points to existing publications. More information on References and Further Reading is in our Stylesheet.

When submitting a proposal for written piece, we invite you to suggest Blake imagery (plates from the illuminated books, drawings or paintings) that may usefully illustrate your piece. Please do not insert these images into the document you submit. It will help, if you create a list and use links in order to 'show' us what you would like to suggest. You are not required to do this. If there is no relevant Blake artwork, we will provide contemporary illustration or choose images from Blake.

We welcome ideas for reviews of books, movies and music, exhibitions - related to all matters of Blake's academic, creative and popular afterlives.

Artwork Submissions

We also invite proposals for standalone art pieces, comic strips or similar. To express an interest in contributing illustrations or artwork, please describe your idea and/or include sketches and/or examples of previous work as appropriate.

Deadline

25 February 2024

Publication Date

28 November 2024

Publisher

The Blake Society at St. James's Church, London