

Note from the Editors

In 1994, a group of PhD students from the Museum Studies course at the University of Leicester started an academic Journal. For the occasion of the publication of the first issue, Susan Pearce wrote an encouraging welcome to *Museological Review*. Since then several generations of committed students have continued the life of the journal. Last year, the elected editorial board agreed on not only following our successors' path but also fostering and encouraging new creative opportunities.

As part of the re-development plan of the journal, the team considered a re-design of *Museological Review*. This year, we intend to publish two issues: one issue which has seven peer-reviewed and edited articles taken from the highly successful 2012 PhD student-led conference '*Museum Utopias*' and the second issue which will be published towards the end of the year on museologically relevant papers more generally. The conference '*Museum Utopias*', held over 2 days at the School of Museum Studies at the University of Leicester, included sessions on *Lost Utopias*, *Personal Utopias*, *Designing Utopia*, *Problematic Utopias* and *Questioning the Profession: Unrealised Utopias*. The papers in this Journal were presented as part of those sessions, and have subsequently undergone a rigorous peer-review and editing process. They are reflective of the diversity and the wide-ranging subjects which PhD students from both the School at the University of Leicester and those from other academic fields and institutions research. The articles presented here range from freedom of small museums in Estonia to a lost museum ideal of the Rhineland Museum of 1925 and from artists as curators to professional practice in UK museums.

We are delighted to present the first issue of 2013 and look forward to hearing from our readers about their ideas for the re-development and re-design of the Journal. In particular, what features do you think work well and what could be improved? For the second issue of 2013, which will hopefully be published at the end of the year, we are encouraging all PhD students, both in Leicester and beyond, to submit articles on a museologically relevant subject.

We do hope you enjoy this edition of the Journal. We would like to wish all our readers a peaceful and prosperous year ahead!

Editorial Board: Cintia Velázquez (Editor-in-chief), Petrina Foti
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