

Editorial Postscript

We hope you have enjoyed *JMM11*!

Since its inception in 2003, we have always striven to make *JMM* a publication that is in tune with the times and technology. This has mandated – and continues to mandate – the implementation of changes that we believe will serve to maintain and improve the way in which the journal provides a forum for dissemination of cross-disciplinary research on music and meaning.

So, here are some of the new publication policies and procedures you can expect to see as we move ahead.

Editorial now an Editorial Postscript

As has been evident, as of *JMM10* we initiated the publication policy of rolling submissions and publication, so that we can better utilize the freedom provided by internet-based publishing to make articles available as soon as they have been through our exacting process of double (two peer-reviewers) double-blind peer-review.

This new policy of rolling submissions results in some other modifications as well. For example, an editorial *introducing* the articles is now somewhat obsolete, since we are publishing the content of our journal on a running basis. The PDF file containing an entire completed issue will in the future end with the short biographies of the authors that we otherwise bring in the blog posts related to the published articles.

Recent Publications section replaced by forum notifications

We have also chosen – until further notice – to replace the list of Recent Publications with *reader-initiated notifications on <http://forum.musicandmeaning.net>*. This decision has been prompted by two chief considerations: Firstly, we have wondered for some time how best to offer incitements to our readership to participate more interactively with *JMM*. At the inception of *JMM* in 2003, such interactivity was perhaps still somewhat exotic to many of our readers, but given the explosive rise of social media during the intervening 10 year, this is certainly no longer the case. **We therefore heartily suggest that readers of *JMM* enlist in *JMM*'s forum at <http://forum.musicandmeaning.net> and use this platform to suggest or announce new publications related to the topic of music and meaning.** Secondly, we believe that – along with being a relevant adaptation consonant with the development of collective interactive internet behavior – this policy change is a more efficient use of editorial resources: it has been a time-consuming job for one person to carry out alone, and this has been done with bravura by our long time Recent Publications and Book Review Editor, Jens Hjortkjær. Jens will, at least for the time being, be withdrawing from *JMM*'s Editorial Staff due to time constraints imposed by his new main occupation as a postdoctoral researcher at the Oticon Centre of Excellence for Hearing and Speech Sciences in Copenhagen. We wish Jens the best of luck and thank him for the many, many hours he has put into the journal since its inception in 2003!

. . and changes in our procedures regarding Book Reviews

As of *JMM12*, we will, as a default, treat *all* submitted material we get as submissions for peer-review – including Book Reviews. Along with providing additional quality insurance, this decision has two distinct practical advantages. The work regarding book reviews can now be subsumed under that done by the rest of the Editorial Staff and subject to the same procedures, and – more importantly for our book reviewers – a book review published in *JMM* will be a double-blind peer reviewed publication. Since we will be subjecting book reviews through peer-review, we will from now on require that book reviews not simply provide ‘reviews’ in the sense of assessments of quality, *but that they also contribute substantive commentary on the subject matter covered by the book.*

We will, however, maintain the right to reject submissions already at the Editorial Staff level, if we think that they fall outside the scope of the journal, or if we can immediately see problems with a text that needs to be fixed before possible publication. It is, for example, crucial that all submissions utilize language at the level employed by native speakers writing cultivated academic prose.

Last, but not least, the issue of issue-labelling

Readers of *JMM* have witnessed our various attempts to figure out the optimal way to provide issue-labelling for the journal throughout the previous ten years. We believe that we now have found the stable solution: from *JMM13* and onwards only have one issue per year, but allow the issue to grow larger than usual, such that one issue covers roughly the amount of pages that two issues have done up until and including the upcoming *JMM12*. We do this because it is

more consonant with our policy of rolling submission and rolling publication. In general, we observed during the years that we as a default produced two issues a year that it was difficult to predict the time intervals that were required for the peer-review process to complete; the ever-increasing workload experienced by academics world-wide is also a factor for our very competent and conscientious corps of peer-reviewers. The production of one labelled issue per year provides a better way to accommodate the clustering of ready-to-publish material at various times during a 12-month period.

Before concluding – and while we are on the subject of peer-review – we are proud to point out to our readers and potential contributors that *JMM* maintains a very high standard for accepting material. We have recently concluded – on the basis of the incoming submissions for *JMM11* – that our acceptance rate has reached the exacting level of 16%.

Enjoy reading *JMM11*! As we go forward with continuing development, our

Best regards,

On behalf of the Editorial Staff,

Cynthia M. Grund, Editor-in-Chief

Søren R. Frimodt-Møller, Managing Editor