

Call for Papers

Celebrity Studies

Sex and the Celebrity

This special issue of *Celebrity Studies* will explore the relationship between sex, sexuality and celebrity. It has become commonplace to argue that we live in an increasingly sexualized culture. However, the notion of celebrity has always been invested with, and connected to, wider debates around sex. Celebrities as a focus of aspirations, ideals and fears often trade upon their sexuality or are the subject of sexual desire, speculation and rumour and in some cases, opprobrium. The figure of the celebrity thus can expose the complicated and contradictory attitudes to sex and sexuality that exist within and across cultures. This special edition engages with these issues and aims to critically address a subject that is frequently at the forefront of popular debate whilst relatively overlooked in an academic context.

Submissions may be contemporary or historical; and may explore celebrities in national or international contexts, and may be interdisciplinary in approach.

Papers might consider, but are not limited to, the following topics:

- Affairs and sex scandals
- Celebrity sex tapes
- 'Candid' paparazzi photography
- Attitudes to sex and celebrity in differing national contexts
- Celebrity and the sex industry
- Porn stars as celebrities
- Sexuality (Gay, lesbian, bisexual) and celebrity
- Alternative forms of celebrity (e.g. internet sex sites)
- Gossip columns and sexual rumour/innuendo
- The sexualized celebrity
- The sex symbol

This edition of *Celebrity Studies* will be edited by Dr. John Mercer.

Please send abstracts of 250 words and a short bio to John Mercer

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