

ART, TECHNOLOGY, AND SOCIETY: EMERGING INTERSECTIONS IN VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS RESEARCH

Dr. Murali Basa ¹  , Dr. Bayram ÇAĞLAR ²  , Dr. Nirpat Prasad Prajapati ³ , Dr. Vijay Suresh Karwande ⁴ , Dr. Noveena Chakravorty ⁵  

¹ Assistant Professor, Department of Performing Arts, Assam University, Silchar, India

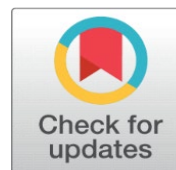
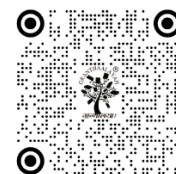
² Lecturer, Kocaeli University Ömer İsmet Uzunyol Vocational School, Department of Auditory Techniques and Media Production, Turkey

³ Head, Department of Hindi & Research Director, Institute for Excellence in Higher Education (IEHE), Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, India

⁴ Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Engineering, Sandip Institute of Technology and Research Centre, Nashik, India

⁵ Associate Professor, Department of Media and Studies, School of Media and Communication, Adamas University, Kolkata, West Bengal, India

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Dear Readers and Contributors,

The visual and performing arts have historically served as dynamic mediums through which societies interpret cultural identity, emotional expression, and technological transformation. In the twenty-first century, these fields are undergoing profound changes driven by digital technologies, artificial intelligence, immersive media, interdisciplinary research, and increasing recognition of the arts as instruments of social change and human well-being. This special issue of ShodhKosh: Journal of Visual and Performing Arts brings together a diverse set of scholarly contributions that explore these emerging intersections between art, technology, culture, policy, and wellness.

A significant theme in this issue is the expanding role of artificial intelligence and computational technologies in artistic production and cultural analysis. Articles such as Artificial Intelligence as a Creative Collaborator in Contemporary Visual and Performing Arts, Artificial Intelligence-Generated Art and the Question of Authorship, and Artificial Intelligence in Visual Design: Opportunities and Ethical Concerns investigate how machine intelligence is reshaping creative processes while raising important ethical and philosophical questions regarding authorship, authenticity, and cultural ownership. These discussions are complemented by research on cultural analytics, data visualization, and computational creativity, which demonstrate how data science can reveal aesthetic trends, audience behaviors, and evolving patterns of cultural engagement.

Another prominent focus of the special issue is the digital transformation of artistic environments and cultural institutions. Studies on virtual performance spaces, augmented reality in museums, immersive stage design, and digital archiving of performing arts heritage illustrate how emerging technologies are redefining the experience of artistic production and consumption. These contributions highlight how digital platforms, social media ecosystems, and OTT media services are reshaping the global dissemination of art, enabling new forms of audience participation and cross-cultural communication.

The integration of health, wellness, and artistic practice represents another central theme of this issue. Contributions exploring music therapy, dance and movement therapy, expressive arts therapy, and mindfulness-based creative practices reveal the therapeutic potential of the arts in promoting mental health, emotional resilience, and neurocognitive well-being. Studies examining yoga, meditation, breathwork, and performance training provide insight into how embodied practices enhance artistic creativity, presence, and holistic wellness for performers and audiences alike.

The issue also explores how visual and performing arts intersect with social transformation and policy discourse. Articles addressing environmental narratives in documentary cinema, social media as a platform for contemporary performance, cultural sustainability, and public health communication demonstrate how artistic practices can serve as powerful tools for advocacy, awareness, and community engagement. These contributions reflect the growing recognition of the arts as a vital component of social innovation and public dialogue.

In addition, several papers investigate the emerging convergence of art with advanced technological infrastructures such as Internet of Things (IoT) systems, digital twin environments, multimodal generative systems, and machine learning frameworks. These studies highlight new forms of cyber-physical artistic environments where technology functions not only as a tool but also as an active collaborator in creative expression. From intelligent stage environments to interactive art installations and algorithmic storytelling, these innovations point toward a future where artistic practice increasingly operates within technologically augmented ecosystems.

The issue also presents important perspectives on cinema studies, media culture, and visual narratives, examining themes such as gender representation, historical aesthetics, national identity in design, and the evolving dynamics of digital media platforms. These studies illustrate how film and visual culture continue to shape public imagination and socio-political discourse in the contemporary era.

Taken together, the articles in this special issue highlight the importance of multidisciplinary research approaches that integrate perspectives from visual arts, performing arts, technology studies, psychology, social sciences, and digital humanities. The diversity of contributions demonstrates how contemporary artistic practice is no longer confined to traditional disciplinary boundaries but instead thrives within networks of collaboration between artists, technologists, researchers, and cultural institutions.

This special issue aims to foster dialogue between scholars and practitioners working across these interconnected domains. By exploring the intersections of creativity, technology, culture, and well-being, the issue contributes to a deeper understanding of how visual and performing arts can respond to the challenges and opportunities of an increasingly digital and interconnected world.

The editors hope that the research presented here will inspire further interdisciplinary collaborations and support innovative approaches to artistic practice, cultural analysis, and creative scholarship. As technology continues to transform cultural landscapes, the visual and performing arts will remain essential spaces for experimentation, critical reflection, and the articulation of human experience.

Sincerely,



Dr. Murali Basa is a Department of Performing Arts at Assam University, Silchar, established in 2017 under the Abanindranath Tagore School of Creative Arts and Communication Studies, is dedicated to nurturing India's rich cultural heritage with a special emphasis on the artistic traditions of Northeast India. The department offers undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral programmes in disciplines such as Hindustani Classical Music (Vocal), Drama and Theatre, Manipuri Dance, and Instrumental Music (Tabla). It aims to blend traditional knowledge with contemporary artistic practices, enabling students to develop both creative and professional skills. Within a short span, the department has gained recognition beyond Assam, attracting students from across the country. With strong academic guidance and institutional support, it aspires to produce skilled performers, researchers, and cultural ambassadors who contribute meaningfully to the preservation and evolution of performing arts.



Dr. Bayram ÇAĞLAR is an academic affiliated with Kocaeli University, contributing to the field of social and human sciences through teaching and research. His academic profile, available on the university's AVESİS system, highlights his involvement in scholarly publications, projects, and interdisciplinary studies. His research interests primarily lie within social sciences, reflecting a commitment to addressing contemporary societal issues through academic inquiry. Over the course of his career, he has contributed to various academic outputs, including publications and citations that demonstrate his engagement with the research community. In addition to his teaching responsibilities, he has been associated with institutional academic activities and research initiatives. Through his work, Dr. Çağlar plays a role in fostering knowledge production and supporting academic development within his institution, contributing to the broader advancement of social science research.



Dr. Nirpat Prasad Prajapati is a distinguished academician and scholar in the field of Hindi literature, currently serving as Head of the Department of Hindi and Research Director at the Institute of Excellence in Higher Education, Bhopal. With a strong academic background, including a Ph.D. focused on the poetry of Gajanan Madhav Muktibodh, he has made significant contributions to literary research, particularly in areas such as Dalit literature, social consciousness, and contemporary Hindi criticism. He has qualified national eligibility tests like NET and SLET, reflecting his academic excellence. Dr. Prajapati has authored several books and numerous research papers published in reputed UGC Care and peer-reviewed journals. His active involvement in seminars, academic projects, and content development under NEP 2020 highlights his commitment to education and research. Through teaching, research guidance, and scholarly publications, he continues to contribute meaningfully to the advancement of Hindi literary studies.



Dr. Vijay Suresh Karwande is an accomplished academician and researcher in the field of Computer Science and Engineering with over 13 years of professional experience, including nearly 2 years in industry and more than 11 years in teaching. He is currently serving as Head of the Department (HOD) and Assistant Professor at Everest College of Engineering, Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar. He holds a Ph.D. in Computer Science & Engineering along with an M.E. in the same discipline, and has a strong academic foundation in Information Technology.

Dr. Karwande has contributed extensively to research with numerous publications in reputed journals and IEEE conferences, focusing on areas such as deep learning, machine learning, IoT, cloud computing, cybersecurity, and healthcare analytics. His Ph.D. work on sarcasm detection in tweets integrates deep learning with contextual handcrafted features. He has also actively participated in faculty development programs related to emerging technologies like AI, quantum computing, and cybersecurity.



Dr. Noveena Chakravorty is an accomplished academican and media professional, currently serving as an Associate Professor in the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication at the School of Media and Communication, Adamas University, Kolkata. With over 18 years of experience in media academics and industry, she has built a strong foundation in communication, film studies, and digital media. She holds a Ph.D. in Journalism and Mass Communication with a specialization in Film Studies and has completed her Master's degree from Banaras Hindu University, along with professional training from the Film and Television Institute of India. Her research interests include cinema studies, social media, advertising, and communication theories. Dr. Chakravorty has contributed extensively through research publications, book chapters, and edited volumes with reputed publishers. Beyond academia, she is also a filmmaker, voice artist, and travel vlogger, with her works recognized in international film festivals.