

C A L L F O R P A P E R S

[kɔn] Nr. 7 - Skin

Boundary, contact surface, place of transit. We peel it off, throw it on, have it in the game, save and give it, pierce and tattoo, feel comfortable in and jump out of it. *Skin* is many things, but mostly one: *the* projection surface of what we call ›body‹.

The disparity between *skin* as boundary and the requirement for tactility is a recurring motif since antiquity. From the foreign *skin* of the Nemean lion, put on for protection, and to the use of Nessus's shirt, which, melted into Herakles' *skin*, leads the hero to his death—mythology makes the ambivalence of *skin* visible. An axiology of surfaces. As a thin line between Death and Life.

Opened through venesection, corroded by syphilis, treated with cupping glasses and leeches even in the 19th century, *skin*, in modern discourse undergoes a thorough transformation. Once a porous membrane through which the inside—if necessary, with the aid of medical devices—was supposed to find its way out, *skin* slowly turns into a surface, pure, consistent, and is therefore supposedly entirely at the disposal of its owners. *Snow White's* white *skin* becomes the emblem of her pure heart – »White is Purity« as Nivea still advertised in 2017. On this supposition, it is no surprise that any kind of modification to the *skin*, be it through make-up or plastic surgery, can only be seen as falsification—or as postmodern critique of so-called 'truth' itself. If the body is a projection, then the *skin* is its biggest screen, a space of countless en- and recordings, always busy erasing the traces left behind by this process.

Whether retina, navel, parchment, leather boots, milk skin, foreskin, flying skin – Skins, scalps, skinheads or hymen—we're curious about all kinds of skin!

**[kɔn]. Magazin für Literatur und Kultur** is published once to twice a year, each issue on a new keyword. All the contributions we get from our unconventional and free thinkers are grouped into three resorts, while categories can be fluid and formats open. We are looking for

**Word art:** lyrical texts, short prose, picture-text-combinations and dramatic short forms

**Feuilleton:** classical newspaper article format, reviews and critiques, (political) commentary, interviews, columns etc.

**Essay:** a light version of academic writing, accessible, stylistically free

Write for us! Send your ready-to-print poetic writing and abstracts of up to 300 words for feuilleton and essayistic projects on skin and its many connotations, connections and discursive nexuses until the 20.02.2020 to [wortkunst@kon-paper.com](mailto:wortkunst@kon-paper.com), [feuilleton@kon-paper.com](mailto:feuilleton@kon-paper.com) and [essay@kon-paper.com](mailto:essay@kon-paper.com).

We are looking forward to your thoughts and contributions!

**xoxo – your [kɔn]-Team**