A Guide to *SHARP News* Exhibit Reviews

Thank you for reviewing for *SHARP News*, the digital newsletter for the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing! Here are some details about the book review process, as well as possibilities with our social media platforms.

**The Basics**

- *SHARP News* is an entirely online publication and can be found here: [https://www.sharpweb.org/sharpnews/](https://www.sharpweb.org/sharpnews/).
- Reviews make up a large amount of our content and currently include books, exhibitions, and e-resources. Reviews are posted on a quarterly basis: June, August, November, and February.
- We welcome a very wide range of chronological, geographic, thematic, and material approaches to book history and publishing studies. These reviews can be requested (i.e. we reach out to potential reviewers of all career stages and approaches) or recommended to the *SHARP News* team. *SHARP News* especially encourages submissions from graduate students, early career researchers, book trade professionals, and independent scholars, as well as those who identify as BIPOC, LGBTQ, women, and other minorities. If you are interested in a particular review, or have a specific exhibit you’d like to bring to our attention, please see our contact information.
- *SHARP News* encourages reviewers to be fair and nuanced in their reviews and expects all reviewers to be respectful to the creators of the work they review. All reviews will be carefully read and edited by review editors, and discussed with the reviewer. Because *SHARP News* seeks to facilitate a diverse, inclusive, equitable, and accessible online space, its editors reserve the right to withhold from publication any review with discriminatory content in regards to sex, gender, age, race, origin, or religion, or that the editors deem offensive or uncollegial.

**Scope**

“Exhibits” Includes web-hosted, open-access, multimedia items of cultural heritage or expression arranged for the purpose of appreciation. Cultural heritage websites whose primary aim is applied research, teaching, and learning through the use and reuse of its content (including project websites demonstrating the ongoing research of an individual, group, or organization) should refer to the *Guide to SHARP News E-Resources Reviews* document.

**Exhibit Reviews Should Consider**

**Narrative**

- What is the exhibit’s thesis or main narrative?
- What makes this particular exhibit unique? Does the exhibit draw from a particular collection at the institution?
- What is the motivation for exhibiting these particular items?
- Are the items selected for the exhibit support the stated goals or narrative of the exhibit?
- What is the unique contribution of this exhibit?

**Audience**

- What is the intended audience for this exhibit?
- To whom will this exhibit be of interest?

**Organization**

- Is the exhibit clearly marked and easily navigable?

**Attribution**

- Are the items’ descriptions detailed and correct?
- How does the exhibit credit the labor of its creators, including those involved with its design, research, writing, digitization, and ongoing maintenance?

**Accessibility**

- Is there alternative text to describe images? Does it sufficiently describe the image being depicted? If there are videos, do they include captions?
● Is the exhibition ADA Compliant? (you can generate a compliance report using [https://wave.webaim.org](https://wave.webaim.org))

**Imprimatur**
- What organizations or institutions are responsible for this exhibit?
- Who funded the labor that went into this exhibit?

**Potential**
- How could this exhibit be improved with additional funding/resources?

**The Process**
- **For Exhibits:** If there is a fee involved, *SHARP News* can request a gratis admission or access. If that is not possible, the *SHARP News* team will confer with the individual reviewer.
- **Format:** We ask that reviews are between 500 and 1,000 words for exhibits; they may be submitted as .docx, .doc, .rtf, .txt, or .odt files.
- The review should contain the full title/citation in Chicago format at the top of the page, followed by the author’s name. An image of relevant content from the exhibit will accompany the review. Please note that *SHARP News* does not publish anonymous reviews. Please also note that all *SHARP News* content is published under a creative commons license (CC BY-NC-SA).
- **Keywords:** When submitting your review, we’d appreciate it if you could provide two to three keywords or terms that we can tag your review with on the *SHARP News* website. Please see the list of tags we currently use. If there are terms not listed there that you think best describe the review, please let us know!
- **Timeline:** We fully understand how many demands are on everyone’s time, and are extremely grateful to reviewers for their tremendous contributions to *SHARP News*, SHARP, and the wider book history and publishing studies communities. We appreciate that this is a service, and that these things take time. Our requested turnaround is three months so that we keep up with our publishing schedule, but should you require more time, please keep in touch!
- **Social media:** A big part of the new direction of *SHARP News* involves social media outreach and engagement. When you accept or suggest a review, please let us know your comfort level with social and digital media promotion, i.e., if you would like us to mention your twitter handle or not, and/or any other accommodations. You can follow us @sharpgornews alongside the other SHARP channels, and also look for updates via the SHARP-L list-serv. Please feel free to also reach out to Leah Hendrickson at communication@sharpweb.org for social media related queries.
- **Submission:** Please submit your review, along with contact information, to reviews@sharpweb.org

**Contact**
- **Editor in Chief:** Andie Silva, news@sharpweb.org, @andiesilva.
- **Head Reviews Editor:** Nora Slonimsky, reviews@sharpweb.org, @noraslonimsky.
- **Associate Editor, Book Reviews:** Stevie Marsden, bookreviews@sharpweb.org, @StevieLMarsden.
- **Associate Editor, Exhibits and E-Resources Reviews:** Emily Spunaugle, ereviews@sharpweb.org, @the_embrarian.
- **Associate Editor At Large:** Mariam El Ashmawy, editoratlarge@sharpweb.org, @marelashmawy.
- **Associate Editor for Social Media and Promotion:** Leah Hendrickson at communication@sharpweb.org, @leahhenrickson.

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