



THE OFFERING – Community Hall, Pre-demolition 1900s Baptist Church, Dandenong (2011). Robbie Rowlands. (www.robbierowlands.com)

Call for Papers: *Idea Journal* 2025 — Unplanned Interiors

Planning is a cornerstone of designing interior spaces, yet the complexity of planning to predict and accommodate the future actions, behaviours, and needs of would-be occupants is rarely resolved. In 1978, Robin Evans showed us that the ‘moral geography’ of the plan had a mercurial relationship with the composition of interior spaces and that the ordinary, unassuming, and unexamined elements of domestic interiors change in time to reflect our emergent social values. At the same time, Manfredo Tafuri’s analysis of the endless interiors in Piranesi’s *Il Campo Marzio dell’antica Roma* ichnographia engraving showed us that the unprescribed interpretation of the plan was the only way to surpass the well-intentioned mistakes of functional and utopian idealism.

The 2025 issue of *Idea Journal* seeks contributions that explore the history, theory, practice, and futures of unplanned interiors. In opposition to the aesthetic idealisation of interior compositions in the commercial contexts of department stores, lifestyle magazines, and presentation drawings, it asks authors to consider the un-ideal interior. How do interior spaces work in ways that are unplanned, unforeseen, and unintended? What do instances of human action exceeding the prescriptive ideas of the plan tell us about who we are, our emergent social and moral values, and where these values are going?

Authors may wish to explore the possibilities and opportunities of spatial design that occur outside the conventions and limitations of the drawn plan itself. Since refuting functional planning, there has been an explosion in artistic, spatial design drawing methods. How have such new approaches to drawing, image production, and visualisation impacted concepts and practices of spatial design? What are the new aesthetics for conceptualising and constructing interior space beyond illustrated idealism, and how do these drawing methods exceed the strategic foresight of the designer?

Other authors may consider unplanned interiors by examining examples of haphazard, makeshift, temporal, or non-static built environments — from interiors of exhibitions, installations, or performances that respond to emergent needs of social expression, to interiors of necessity that alter and adapt domestic spaces as people migrate, customs change, and families grow. In the face of housing crises and indefinite temporary accommodation, how does the unplanned occupancy of shared houses, shelters, and crisis accommodation speak to the new moral geographies of our times? With rising climate and political uncertainty, what is the significance of agility, temporality, or openness to change needed for new approaches to interior planning?

This issue seeks **text-based research essays** that offer new knowledge on unplanned interior projects and their images. It asks authors to examine how such projects reflect new social and cultural conditions of their time. It also invites **image-based research essays** that respond to, comment on, and reflect ideas of unplanned spatial practices. Using the space of the page as the site for creative exploration, image-based research essays should be conceived as original works that respond to the themes of this issue and not as visual documentation of projects produced elsewhere.

Full guidelines for text-based and image-based research essays can be found [HERE](#).

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) — DUE 14 March 2025

Authors are invited to register their interest with an EOI submitted via the *Idea Journal* [submission portal](#) by 14 March 2025.

Please use the following file name for EOIs: *Idea Journal 2025 EOI_FAMILY NAME*

An EOI is a one-page PDF document that includes the author(s) name, affiliation, email address, working title, the form the contribution will take (text-based or image-based research essay), one key image, five keywords, and a brief 300-word abstract outlining the specific topic that will be examined or explored in the full manuscript.

The EOI is reviewed by the editorial team only; it is not refereed. The EOI signals the author's intent to submit a full manuscript (text-based or image-based research essay), which is double-blind peer reviewed. The EOI provides the editorial team with the topics being addressed and the scope of the review process. **Authors' contributions are only accepted or declined for publication after the peer-review process.**

Guidelines for submitting an EOI can be found [HERE](#).

IMPORTANT DATES

20 January 2025 — Distribution of the Call for Papers

14 March 2025 — Submission of Expression of Interest (EOI)

19 March 2025 — Distribution of editorial team comments on EOIs

30 June 2025 — Submission of the full manuscript for double-blind peer review

31 July 2025 — Distribution of peer review feedback

30 September 2025 — Submission of revised manuscripts

31 October 2025 — Confirmation to authors of accepting/declining manuscript for publication

15 December 2025 — Publication of journal issue