Ethico-Aesthetic Repairs
Guest Edited by Theo Reeves-Evison and Mark Rainey

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The concept of ‘repair’ as it intersects with visual and material culture is the focus of this special issue. While ‘repair’ often suggests the restoration of a broken or damaged object, the majority of articles in this issue describe ways of modifying or mending that render objects and ideas operative in new ways. In this respect, repair is not a static ‘fix’ to a breakage or problem, but rather invokes the potential for modification, transformation and creative addition. This approach is born out across domains ranging from photography and informal economies to consumer electronics and breast reconstruction technologies. What emerges is not only a set of new understandings of the word ‘repair’ and the practices it designates, but a more fundamental ethico-aesthetic attitude that is weighted towards the future through movements of fracture and reweaving, breakage and re-assembly and the re-making and undoing of material and symbolic possibilities.

Kader Attia Gazing at Crooked Eyes: La Réparation In Africa and in the Occident
Siona O’Connell The Aftermath of Oppression: In Search of Resolution, Repair and Freedom through the Ordinary Photographs of the Forcibly Removed from District 6, South Africa
Nandita Badami Mapping Jugaad: Repair and Revolution in Contemporary India
Scott Mitchell Narratives of Resistance and Repair and Consumer Society
Nadine Ehlers The Prosthetic Promise: Breast Cancer and Technologies of Corporeal ‘Repair’
Susan Best Reparative aesthetics: Judy Watson and Vernon Ah Kee
Maeve Brennan The Dirt: Repair and Restoration in Contemporary Lebanon
Vikki Bell That the Story be Told: Relating Narratives of Detention and Survival in Pinochet’s Chile
Jorge Otero-Pailos In conversation with Simon Kenny
Mark Rainey Colonus and Lampedusa: The Tragedy of the Border and the Dialectics of Repair

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