

cléo volume 3, issue 2: *camp*

“Camp is a *tender* feeling.”

“One can be serious about the frivolous, frivolous about the serious.”

In 1964 Susan Sontag published her numbered “Notes on Camp” explaining the reasons why, up until that point, camp had not been a topic of conversation amongst her intellectual set. With her non-essay she tried to “snare a sensibility in words” and now we want you to do the same.

We’re interested in hearing about queerness, cult classics, vanguard directors, “bad” movies and even literal summer camps. Think about the antics of *Attack of the 50 Foot Woman* (1958), the ball culture of *Paris is Burning* (1990), or the trans beauty of *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert* (1994). Our *Camp* issue will launch in August, and so it’s the perfect opportunity to reflect on the fading days of summer camp and narratives of coming-of-age, be it comedies like *Wet Hot American Summer* (2001) or the killer camps in *Sleepaway Camp* and the *Friday the 13th* movies. And don’t forget about the trickster children’s movies that rarely get critical attention—give a cherubic Lindsay Lohan in the 1998 *The Parent-Trap* remake her just due! We’re also interested in *seeing* what you’re thinking about camp: pitch us a visual essay like Gina Telaroli did for our *Crave* issue.

Some points of departure may be, but are not limited to:

- Queer takes, homosexuality and camp, trans camp and LGBTQ directors (*Polyester*, *Pink Flamingos*, *The Birdcage*, *Rocky Horror Picture Show*, *To Wong Foo Thanks for Everything! Julie Newmar*)
- The camp aesthetic (*Barbarella*, *Valley of the Dolls*, *Burlesque*, *The First Wives Club*, *She Devil* [1957 or 1989])
- “bad” movies: the films of Tyler Perry, *Glen or Glenda*, *Showgirls*, *50 Shades of Grey*, *The Room*
- Killer camps: *Sleepaway Camp*, *Summer Camp Nightmare*, *The Burning*, *Friday the 13th*
- IRL camps: *Meatballs*, *Jesus Camp*, *Wet Hot American Summer*
- Coming-of-age tales (is being an adolescent its own form of camp?)
- Kids’ movies (*Freaky Friday*)

Send us your pitch of roughly 300 words. Please also include three writing samples.

The deadline for submissions is **May 21, 2015**.

We will be in touch regarding accepted pitches. Articles should be between 1500–2000 words.

Submissions, general inquiries, *tender feelings*:
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