PUBLICATION: AUGUST 2012 ISBN: 978-1-906496-86-9 (B/W) / 978-1-906496-03-6 (COLOUR) AVAILABLE IN: COLOUR OR BLACK AND WHITE





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MUTE VOL. 3, NO. 3 - BECOMING IMPERSONAL

The ways in which the personal can be grasped as political is an exponentially productive legacy of second wave feminism. This idea connects the arguments made by many of the writers in this issue: Clinical Wasteman considers the all too personal experience of impersonal systems of exploitation but equally, and against communitarian fantasies, the need to think all imaginable futures as only socially, not privately, producible; in Occupy, Nick Thoburn discovers a collective exposure and deprivatisation of the privatised hells of living through austerity; and P. Valentine exposes the social function of the intimate ordeal of sexual violence. Maintaining conceptual and experiential distinctions, or f ire walls, between the personal and the impersonal, the domestic and the political, both within the mainstream and on the left, is exposed as actively constituitive of the system as a whole.

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Book specifics:

- Title: Mute Vol. 3, No. 3 Becoming Impersonal
- Editor: Josephine Berry Slater
- Publication: 2012
- ISBN: 978-1-906496-86-9 (B/W POD) 978-1-906496-03-6 (Colour)
- Size: 254mm x 178mm x 9mm
- Binding: Paperback
- Pages: 158
- Illustrations: 27
- Available via Amazon UK (amazon.co.uk), metamute.org/shop
- Distributed directly by Mute Publishing: Contact Howard Slater; howard@metamute.org

Mute Books is the imprint series of *Mute* Magazine. It specialises in cultural politics and gives more space to the many distinctive voices and practitioners that the magazine has hosted since its inception in 1994 or whose contribution to contemporary culture and thought deserves a more sustained focus.