



FRONTISPIECE: MISSY PENA

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Readers,

Welcome back for our second edition. The papers herein presented were the excellent work of scholars who participated in our First Annual FANS Conference in early June. Three of our scheduled presenters were unable to attend for various reasons, but their contributions were of such excellent quality we believed they should be included in this proceedings edition anyway. The content ranges from Edo-era kabuki as a medium of expression and social protest to modern online “h8ter” anti-fandom culture with a wide swath of material in between them. We would like to thank all of our contributors, even those who were unable to attend in person, for helping to make our first event an international success.

A-Kon, our gracious hosts, had never held such an event before this year but we are all excited about prospects for next year’s event. In the meantime, we have voted in two new members of our executive committee, so we wish to give them a warm welcome: Dr. Darren-Jon Ashmore, Professor at Akita International University, and Jonathan Tarbox, CEO of Arashi Productions. Both gentlemen were presenters at our event and we believe that their contributions with us and to fandom and neomedia studies generally will strengthen our group and its various projects. Special thanks to go Helen McCarthy, one of our own founding members and our keynote speaker this year. We have also published a second edition of our research bibliography. Please feel free to peruse it and let us know if there are any corrections or additions that should be made.

In all, we are off to a good start and have a promising future ahead of us. We invite you to contribute to our publication with reviews, articles, responses to previous publications, and letters to the editor. Virtually any topic within the wide realm of fandom and neomedia studies is fair game for our publication. We have always insisted that we maintain our status as a truly interdisciplinary group so as to keep an open mind to new ideas and an open eye to excellence in research. As with all true fans, we invite you to join us in our fandom.

Sincerely,

J. Holder Bennett
Editor-in-Chief, *The Phoenix Papers*
Chairman, Fandom and Neomedia Studies Association

MISSION STATEMENT:

Our mission is to encourage the study of fans through their interactions with neomedia. We understand neomedia to refer to both new media, as well as traditional media that is being used or interpreted in new ways. The study of fandom has implications for studies ranging from Economics to Political Science, and from History to Anthropology, and so we believe it should be better studied to further all areas of academic progress.

VISION STATEMENT:

Our vision is to encourage, assist, and publish research on fandom and neomedia studies.