



**EDITORIAL:**

**Hybrid Culture in the Technology-Mediated World:  
Its Developments and Stakes**

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The 24<sup>th</sup> issue of *INTERFACE* features the theme “Hybrid Culture in the Technology-Mediated World: Its Developments and Stakes,” which was one of the main topics discussed at the *INTERFACEing* 2023, held at Kobe University from 25 to 27 September 2023 with the topic: “Changing Paradigms: Humanities in the Age of Crisis”. In our era, the phenomenon of “hybridization” is expanding extensively and venturing into completely new dimensions due to rapid technological advancements, opening up unexpected possibilities and problems in all aspects of human activities. This issue includes three papers, two highlighting the emerging questions related to authorship and solidarity in our contemporary world and one dealing with a more general topic regarding translation.

The first paper, “A Brief Note on Japan’s AI Race, The Copyright Dilemma, and Generative AI Impact on Authorship” by Montserrat Crepsín Perales (University of Barcelona), provides a very timely and stimulating discussion of the relationship between authorship and generative AI, focusing on Japan’s policy on copyright issues. In particular, it calls into question Mark Coeckelbergh’s attempt to apply Roland Barthes’s concept of “the death of the author” to copyright issues in the age of generative AI.

The second contribution, “Shifting Conceptions of Solidarity: From Immigration to the Pandemic” by Karen Connie Mayo Abalos-Oren-

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dain (University of the Philippines, Diliman), presents a hugely noteworthy attempt to bring into light the variety of roles played by the idea of “solidarity” as the situation changes especially in the recent cases of global immigration and Covid-19 pandemic.

The third paper, “Agency in Translation: The Case of Tito N. Sarego’s Fascist-Era Translation of *The Sittaford Mystery*” by Giorgia Sfriso (Fu Jen Catholic University), examines Tito N. Sarego’s translation of Agatha Christie’s detective fiction during Mussolini’s Fascist regime. The study highlights the complexity of the dual forces shaping translations: the prevailing regime’s mandates and the individual translator’s agency. In so doing, the analysis elucidates the intricate dynamics of cultural adaptation during politically charged periods.

The above articles discuss extensively the impact of technical and artificial maneuvers on human culture and society, ranging across the topics of copyright, immigration, and translation. Together, they shed light on the intricacies of cultural hybridization in our technologically advanced world, providing valuable insights and predictions for future developments. While it may still be early to determine whether technology including generative AI will ultimately help or harm human civilization, these articles mark a significant step forward, adding depth to the ongoing scholarly conversation on hybrid culture in the modern era.