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Gergen, M. and Jones, K., 2008. Editorial: A conversation about performative social science. *Forum: Qualitative Social Research*, 9 (2), pp. 1-12.

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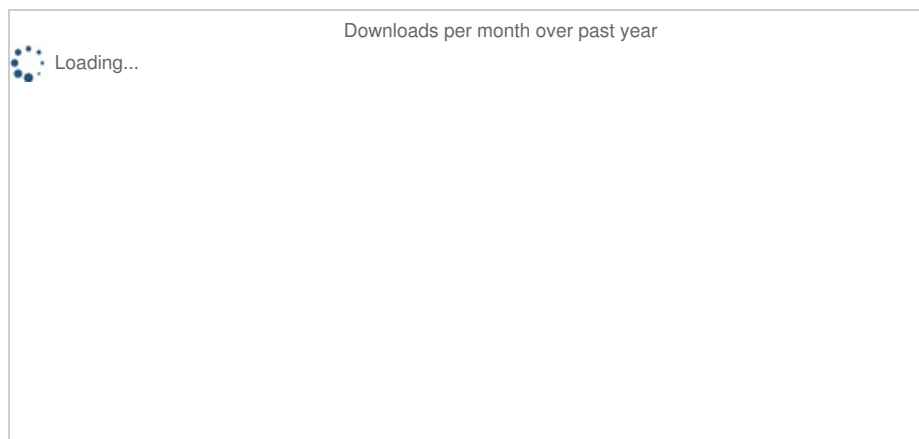
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## Abstract

Conversing by e-mail and mediated by an imaginary cyber-moderator, two of the co-editors of this Special Issue on Performative Social Science (PSS) Mary GERGEN and Kip JONES, themselves pioneers of PSS, engage in conversation around such topics as creativity, skill and craft, outputs and outcomes, aesthetics, audience, evaluation, interpretation, scholarship, ambiguity, talking and doing, and inter-disciplinary collaborations. While GERGEN concludes that action is meaningful and rich in symbolic significance, JONES, like Norma DESMOND, speculates that PSS "is big; it's the pictures that got smaller".

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Performative Social Science is a synthesis that provides solutions to many of these very requirements. Part of "doing" PSS is the breaking down of the old boundaries and previous expectations such as what research is supposed to resemble after it is "finished." Employing techniques from the Arts and Humanities, opportunities are presented to work in traditional Social Science arenas and expand the means of production and dissemination to novel and creative levels. Editorial: A conversation about performative social science. *Forum Qualitative Sozialforschung* / *Forum: Qualitative Social Research*, 9(2), Art. 43. Retrieved from <http://www.qualitative-research.net/index.php/fqs/article/viewArticle/376> Guttenplan, D. D. (2011). Editorial: A conversation about performative social science. *Forum: Qualitative Social Research*, 9(2), Article 43. Jones, K. (2007). How did I get to Princess Margaret? (2008). *Forum: Qualitative Social Research Special Issue on Performative Social Science* (42 articles), 9(2). Jones, K. (2009). How did I get to Princess Margaret?