

# Anthropocene islands

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Editors: David Chandler & Jonathan Pugh

The small island is one of the most emblematic and symbolic figures of the Anthropocene. In the media, academia and international policy-making, small islands are the most high-profile figures for debates about global warming, sea level rise, intensifying disasters such as hurricanes, the vast accumulations of plastics in surrounding oceans, and nuclear fallout. Just as notable, islands have become key laboratories for a whole range of novel approaches to philosophy, politics and ethics in the Anthropocene; from islands often being at the centre of contemporary debates about resilience and indigeneity, to newly emerging speculative ontologies and technologies for correlating to the forces of the Anthropocene. This explicitly positions the figure of the island in the Anthropocene at the centre of a wide range of key contemporary cross-disciplinary debates that cut across many intellectual concerns and practices.

Yet, to date no special issue/section of a leading journal—or indeed any other journal for that matter—has been produced on the figure of the island in the Anthropocene. The papers in this special section will answer three key questions:

- 1) Why has the figure of the island emerged as one of the most emblematic figures of the Anthropocene?
- 2) How are islands being reconfigured and appropriated in debates about the Anthropocene?
- 3) Given the centrality of the figure of the island, what does this reconfiguring of islands in the Anthropocene tell us about how the stakes of the Anthropocene itself are more broadly being approached and engaged?

This special section will be published in May 2022 in *Island Studies Journal* 17(1), but individual papers will be published online ahead of print as and when they complete the peer review and editorial process. *Island Studies Journal* (ISJ) is a web-based, freely downloadable, open access, peer reviewed, electronic journal that publishes papers advancing and critiquing the study of issues affecting or involving islands. It is listed and abstracted in Scopus and Web of Science (Social Science Citations Index).

For further information, or if you are interested in submitting a paper, contact guest editors David Chandler ([D.Chandler@westminster.ac.uk](mailto:D.Chandler@westminster.ac.uk)) and Jonathan Pugh ([jonathan.pugh@newcastle.ac.uk](mailto:jonathan.pugh@newcastle.ac.uk)). Manuscripts should be between 5,000–8,000 words and must be written in excellent English (prepared in accordance with the ISJ submission guidelines: [http://islandstudies.ca/guidelines\\_instructions.html](http://islandstudies.ca/guidelines_instructions.html)).

Interested authors are asked to submit abstracts of 150–200 words by 31 January 2020. If accepted, initial drafts of full papers will be expected by 31 January 2021. The deadline for final submission is 31 May 2021. These materials should be e-mailed to the guest editors (please use the title ‘Special Section on Anthropocene Islands’).