New Issue: Forum “Too Old For the Job?” is Launched with First Installments

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From an age studies perspective, the 2024 US-American election is both a blessing and a curse: It puts age and ageism on the political map in an unprecedented way; it also reminds us how much work there is still to do for scholars and activists in the field. Issue 8 of Age, Culture, Humanities dedicates a forum to this timely topic. Under the title “Too old for the job? The 2024 US American Presidential Elections,” we invited a prominent group of colleagues to contribute short comments and reflections. And we were delighted that almost all of them accepted, despite the short deadline.

The forum starts with Ashton Applewhite, who liked the idea of an interview about the topic and who discusses, among others, the intersections of ageism and ableism. The result is available in two versions: as a transcribed text and (a first for ACH) as an audio file. Kathleen Woodward weaves a personal reflection on the note of retirement into a consideration of how age figures in the election debate. And Margaret Gullette links the palpable ageism in the presidential campaign with the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic.

These first essays will be followed by contributions from Kate de Medeiros, Valerie Lipscomb, Cynthia Port, Jørn Brøndal, and Stephen Katz in conversation with Andrew Achenbaum. We take advantage of the fact that ACH is an online journal. Therefore, we publish new incoming essays as soon
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as they are ready.

As the year progresses, we expect to also publish exciting original research articles that have been submitted over the past months.

We hope you enjoy reading this brand-new issue!

Anita Wohlmann and Aagje Swinnen,
on behalf of the entire ACH-crew