About the cover art While Carrie Yamaoka’s earlier work made strange sites of control and regulation including prisons, camps, and censored books, her recent artworks shift the boundaries and dimensions of site-specific work, which results in an evolving situation. At first glance, the work on the cover seems to be a representation of her studio. The black figure in the center appears to be a tripod-like object seemingly anchored in the center. Or is it a person? A photograph of a painting has been taken in her studio. The camera on the tripod becomes the viewer, the “I,” or the eye, both present and absent. Or can we describe the artwork as an utterance and action that is always becoming in light of her materials, especially her use of mylar and resin that abstracts, reflects, and distorts what we initially see in the work, resulting in a kind of ripple effect and (queer) affect? 72 by 45 (wall) is constitutive of Yamaoka’s formal experimentation that in part explores and articulates the processes of “decay, disrepair, and entropy.” This particular work complements well the themes of this special issue: the artwork’s boundaries and conditions shift and morph to other states of transformations—an always becoming—contingent on a viewer’s embodied interaction with the piece.

Carrie Yamaoka is a New York–based visual artist. Yamaoka has shown widely in the United States and Europe since the 1990s. Recently her work has appeared in arms ache avid aeon: Nancy Brooks Brody/Joy Episalla/Zoe Leonard/Carrie Yamaoka: fierce pussy amplified (Chapter 5) at Beeler Gallery, Columbus College of Art and Design, Columbus, Ohio, and at the Institute of Contemporary Art, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. Her first solo museum exhibition recto/verso opened at the Henry Art Gallery, University of Washington, Seattle, in July 2019. Yamaoka is a 2017 recipient of the Anonymous Was a Woman Award and a 2019 John Simon Guggenheim Foundation Fellow. She is also a founding member of the queer art collective fierce pussy. For more information on her work, please see carrickeyamaoka.com.
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Cover
Carrie Yamaoka
72 by 45 (wall)
2016
Reflective polyester film, urethane resin, and mixed media on wood panel
72 × 45 in.
Courtesy of the artist