



# Our Voice

Everything around us is connected: societies involve links, junctions; life is a latticework of elements, situations, and affections. Social groups replicate themselves in small social, academic, family units, in groups united by similar interests and congeniality that also relate to each other and with their surroundings.

During this pandemic, digital networks and emotional links have kept us united; we've been able to get news, know what's going on with the virus, and how to protect ourselves or even how to grieve. We've established communication with others; we've worked in academic groups or on common causes, and, parallel to that, we've related to each other thanks to affection and empathy.

In a poem where he talks about war, Jorge Luis Borges writes of "the weave of man." But precisely the cohesion that for a very long time made it possible to win battles, becomes essential for life, for creating and ensuring the permanence of everything alive. All life, including even the very basic, implies connection: the universe, our cells—our neurons that communicate inside our body—, our bodies for pleasure and procreation; for every element and day-to-day process—no less complex for being day-to-day— of what it implies to be alive.

This issue of the magazine centers on weave or connection precisely because we think that it has been fundamental in the times we are going through now, when networks have allowed us to communicate with each other and when social and emotional fabrics have kept us in the best possible conditions as human beings. At the same time, we have seen how embroidery or sewing have become forms of communication that not only embrace tradition, but also the possibility of rebelling through a new language. So, they have turned into tools for speaking, for decorating, for comforting, and for protesting.

Symbolically, webs make room for whatever we want to think, for desire itself, love, family, art that cannot be explained without referencing interconnections and communicating voices. Even violence, consumption, pain, desolation, and death imply combinations, links, oppositions that make no sense without their other side, the positive.

Based on the crosscutting theme of connections, this issue explores the universe as an expanding cosmic web; the neurons that facilitate our internal communication; music, which is at the same time the combination of sounds and rhythms, stimulates our senses; social movements, whose success is based to a great degree on how strong the relationship of their members and groups are, constituting a system. It also analyzes the violence that encroaches upon the basic fabric of society and the negation of rights, or, the politics that feed resentment, and all the things that avert these negatives, like sisterhood, therapeutic processes, or the analysis of our societies' important processes, such as reflecting on migration, seen from the point of view of netnography, a recent research tool, or the networks and links created through art, literature, embroidery, and the very possibilities we have of communicating with each other.

I would like to point out that during the pandemic, this magazine itself has faced obstacles, but it has not stopped production or getting out to its readers thanks to the connections among all of us and the powerful latticework that culture represents for filling our confinement with meaning. **MM**

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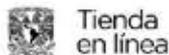
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