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PRINT IS DEAD

Over the last few years, or if you're old enough to remember, probably even more like the last couple of decades, you will have heard many reports about the 'death of print'. The printed magazine as we all know it has changed. Gone are the days of cult magazines such as The Face, Arena and Sleazenation, now a new breed of magazines has been born. Take a stroll down to your nearest newsstand and you will find an abundance of independent original, well-thought-out and beautifully designed printed publications for all kinds of niche markets. Considering we are living in the digital age, this recent explosion of new titles seems unlikely. Perhaps the reports of the 'death of print' are an exaggeration of the truth.

The idea of the permanence of print, particularly for the generation who have grown up in this digital age, is something exciting. To see a person engrossed in a publication is a very positive experience compared to seeing someone, drawn into the bright screen of an iPad. The pleasure of having a physical publication that you can 'own' – in this case with UNFOLD, where our students have researched, written, photographed, designed, styled and edited the content as bona fide contributors – is powerful. Nothing can change that. It's permanent. That's why I am hopeful that print will live on.

Let me draw your attention to the 2013 Media Consumer Survey 'Love in a cold climate', commissioned by Deloitte. Here seventy-five per cent of respondents said that print was their preferred format and that Digital Tablets did not feature as a favoured consumption device for magazine content. Despite their penetration growing to a third of households in that year. Indeed, with the continued rise of tablet devices, this figure would be out of date already by the time we go to press.

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Here at UNFOLD, we are passionate about print and we love paper! We have crafted this magazine to be much more than just a collection of words and images – we have painstakingly sampled paper stocks and weights, and deliberated over typefaces and print finishes. After all, we think UNFOLD should be something special rather than ordinary. We have no interest in creating throw-away media. We want to make this magazine feel treasured, ending its days on your bookshelf or lying on your coffee table for months on end. So it’s time to put down your tablet and read on...

Paul Owen
Creative Director & Editor in Chief
WE ARE FASHION & UNFOLD Magazine