



**LUNDS**  
UNIVERSITET

# KOM Public Seminars

LUND UNIVERSITY | DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA  
SPRING 2018

# KOM Public Seminars

## Spring 2018 schedule

DATE	EVENT	PAGE
FEBRUARY 21	<b>Refugee Crisis Representations:</b> How users comments are challenging the Public Sphere Dario Lucchesi   University of Padova, Italy	3
FEBRUARY 28	<b>Automated Intimacy on Infidelity Websites:</b> The Case of Ashley Madison's Bots Katherine Harrison   University of Copenhagen, Denmark	3
MARCH 7	<b>Hybridoffentligheten:</b> Hur vi ser på vår kommunikation på sociala medier – och vad vi inte förstått om den än Jack Werner   Frilansjournalist och föreläsare	4
MARCH 15	<b>Media Freedom International Symposium</b>	5
MARCH 21	<b>Discourse theory, contingency and the representational logics of death</b> Nico Carpentier   Uppsala University	6
APRIL 11	<b>A Vision of New Human Ethics?</b> How neurodiversity unsettles communicative normalcy in the global age Anna Reading   Kings College, University of London, UK	6
APRIL 12-13	<b>Mobile Socialities International Research Workshop</b>	7
APRIL 18	<b>Does a like make you click?</b> Effects of social endorsements on political information use during the federal German election campaign 2017 Jakob Ohme   University of Southern Denmark	8
APRIL 25	<b>Apocalyptic argumentation</b> Anders Eriksson   Lund University	9
MAY 2	<b>Ethics in Rhetorical Education</b> Anders Sigrell   Lund University	9
MAY 9	<b>Making Environmental Problems Visible:</b> Independent Documentary Films in China Marina Svensson   Lund University	10
MAY 23	<b>En botfärdig synderskas sorgesång:</b> Brottsrapporterande skillingtryck som sensationsmedier och mikrohistoriska källor Karin Strand   Svenskt visarkiv (Musikverket)	11
MAY 30	<b>Children's Reception of Critical Concepts in Animation</b> Mania Alehpour   University of Tehran, Iran	11

# Refugee Crisis Representations: How users comments are challenging the Public Sphere

FEBRUARY 21 | 1-3 PM | SOL CENTRE A214 | GUEST RESEARCH SEMINAR

Dario Lucchesi: Ph.D. student in Social Sciences - Interaction, Communication, Cultural Construction at FISPPA Department - Section of Sociology, University of Padova (Italy). His research interests mainly concern the role of the Web 2.0 in social processes with a focus on the analysis of social media communication forms. The main aim of his Ph.D. research is deepened Social Network Sites role in the representation of refugees crisis through the theoretical framework of participation in the online public sphere.

My Ph.D. research aims to investigate the role of Facebook users in the construction of the current "refugee crisis" representations. The field of media representation of immigration phenomena has a strong tradition, but a large part of these researches is still focused on the role of traditional media, like newspapers and television, in producing simplified images and common rhetorics based on negative representations of migrants. Although Social Networks Sites are recognized as spaces for express the public opinion and engage in the public discussion, fewer Italian researches are focused on the contemporary refugee crisis representations that emerge from Facebook users. Since this, the focus of my research is to consider and analyze

user comments as forms of articulating voices that show a part, often ignored, of the public opinion able to enrich the media representations.

The empirical material is collected from 3 Facebook pages of Italian newspapers and their posts about the narration of the refugee crisis. These pages are one of the main common sources where people read news in their everyday life and they also represent a journalism in transition: in fact, they manifest the continuity between traditional forms and new ones of journalism, but at the same time they also represent a new way of expressing opinions through comments.

Through the notion of degradation of the public sphere, the purpose is to critically reflect about the role of comments, trying to delineate a public sphere model that allow to include online participatory forms, which can on one side promote informed citizenry and collective reflection, on the other increase opinion radicalization, polarization and the spread of niche audiences. Within the online participatory culture, where the number of people who produce contents is bigger than who can read them, which meanings assume thousands of comments produced everyday on social media if they are often ignored?

# Automated Intimacy on Infidelity Websites: The Case of Ashley Madison's Bots

FEBRUARY 28 | 1-3 PM | SOL CENTRE A214 | GUEST RESEARCH SEMINAR

New media are increasingly intersecting and intertwined with our daily lives, bodily and intimate practices, and relationships. The new media environment, however, is not just home to humans. In this paper, I take inspiration from Kember and Zylinska's argument in *Life After New Media* that 'our relationality and our entanglement with non-human entities continues to intensify with the ever more corporeal, ever more intimate dispersal of media and technologies into our biological and social lives' (2015, p. xv) to look at the example of socialbots.

In August 2015, it was revealed that the Ashley Madison website had been using bots to engage potential customers. Ashley Madison could be described as a kind of dating website, but one for people who are in relationships and wish to have a discreet affair. In this paper I want to explore how bots might challenge normative practices of intimacy by asking: What if the most troubling thing about well-known and recently-hacked infidelity website, Ashley Madison, was that it was populated by bots masquerading as human contacts and they were being taken for real?

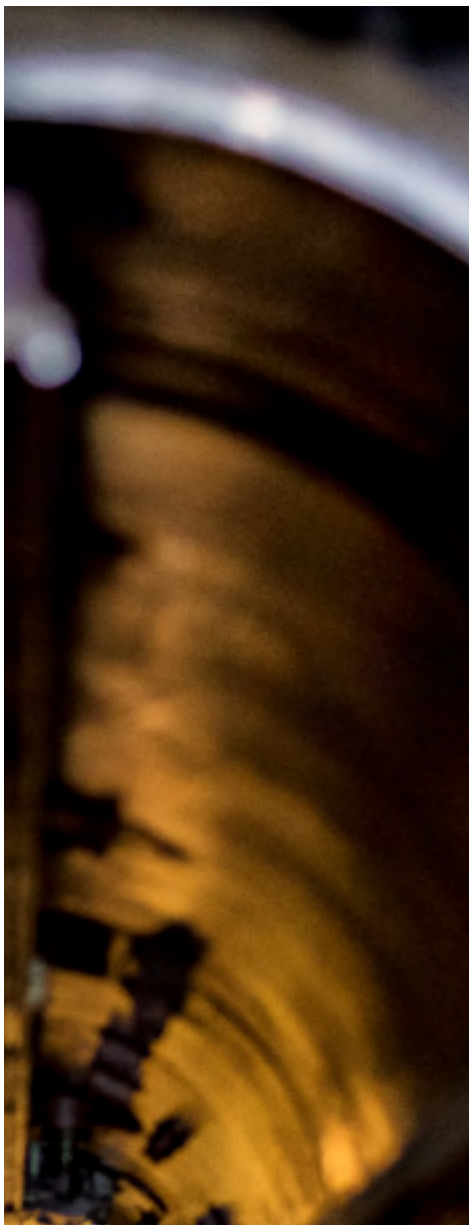
Katherine Harrison is researcher at the Department of Media, Cognition and Communication, University of Copenhagen, Denmark, and the Department of Gender Studies, Lund University, Sweden. Her areas of expertise include feminist cultural studies of technoscience with particular reference to digital technologies, Science and Technology Studies and normcritical perspectives on gender and the body. Her current research projects concern the intersection of new media and practices of intimacy on infidelity websites, as well as a project focusing on Big Data in Big Science.

# Hybridoffentligheten

## Hur vi ser på vår kommunikation på sociala medier – och vad vi inte förstått om den än

7 MARS | 13-15 | SOL-CENTRUM A214 | GÄSTSEMINARIUM

Jack Werner är frilansjournalist och föreläsare. 2014 lanserade han tillsammans med två kollegor satsningen Viralgranskaren på tidningen Metro, som belönades med Stora journalistpriset. Han är programledare för SR-podden Creepypodden, om och med vår tids spökhistorier. 2014 kom han med boken *Creepypasta – spökhistorier från internet* och våren 2018 kommer hans bok om felaktigheter på internet, *Ja skiter i att det är fejk det är förjävligt ändå*.



Anders Borgs berusade urspårning på en fest sensommaren 2017 har varit föremål för mycket debatt, men en detalj har vi missat att skärskåda: vad dess efterspel säger om det Mia-Maria Hammarlin och Lars-Eric Jönsson kallar konversationer och prat i text på sociala medier. Som programledare för en podd om moderna spökhistorier och faktagranskare av felaktigheter som sprids på sociala medier, och därtill mycket intresserad av de folkloristiska aspekterna av båda dessa områden, har jag ofta stött på kännetecknen för vad jag kallar hybridoffentlighetens bedömningsproblem. Inte bara i Anders Borgs kommentarsfält.

Vi tycks betrakta våra publiceringar i sociala medier som i första hand en sorts muntlig kommunikation, men under vissa omständigheter kan de plötsligt komma att sättas under lupp på samma sätt som vore de publicistiska. Det resulterar i krockar mellan avsikt, förväntan och rumslighet, och i kölvattnet ställs vi inför flera intressanta frågor. Förstår vi vad våra publiceringar i sociala medier är – och vad de tolkas som? I vilken utsträckning går de att tolka som pålitliga representationer av vår egentliga världsbild, på det kategoriska vis som vi idag utövar? Hur spårar vi muntligheten i det skrivna, och vice versa? I vilken utsträckning begriper vi att våra publiceringar är offentliga? Och vad innebär de sociala medierna för den som intresserar sig för det moderna folkberättandet, i allt från insamling till klassificering?

Med dessa frågor som utgångspunkt kommer jag beskriva mina erfarenheter som praktiker. Jag är emellertid långt från en akademiker, och kommer därför med stor glädje ta del av den bildade publikens inspel om hur detta än så länge mycket utforskade fält kan definieras och förstås närmare.

Photo: Fredrik Miegel





Photo: Fredrik Miegel

## Media Freedom

**MARCH 15 | SKISSERNAS MUSEUM & SOL-CENTRE | INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM**

Freedom is embedded within the values of media and democracy. Seemingly self evident freedom is hard won and comes at a cost in media, culture and society. Media freedom evokes our right to communicate, where access to media and public spheres holds the promise of freedom of expression, diversity of representation, and media accountability. The constraints on media freedom occur in the form of state control, a lack of public accountability and restricted access to technological infrastructures and content across geographical and economic borders. Constraints also appear where the market freedoms of media institutions eclipse the civic freedoms of audiences and users. In the current climate of the rise of populism, fake news and filter bubbles within the social network media economy, neo liberal politics and commercial logics threaten to narrow civic liberties within the populist divide. This international symposium critically examines media freedom and stricture, addressing both the values of creative freedom and communicative rights and the ways in which these may be compromised.

Contributions to this symposium on media freedom address the theme from political, social-cultural and personal perspectives. The symposium seeks to debate both the political economic and policy contexts to media freedom and the aspects of freedom related to creative labour, representation and cultural practices. Presentations address the following areas of enquiry: media and democracy, political engagement and social activism, technological infrastructures and the material aspects of freedom, freedom of expression and creative freedom, media independence and media work, cultural citizenship, popular culture, media audiences, media censorship and media ethics, amongst other areas of inquiry. The research questions include: 1. How can we critically examine media freedom in news, radio and television, film, digital and social media? 2. In what ways can we understand freedom in the context of contemporary media ecologies? 3. What are the power dynamics of freedom in media, society and culture? Different approaches to research on media and freedom can include media, communication and cultural studies, political communication, sociology and anthropology, cultural geography, media history, film studies, memory studies, amongst others.

Confirmed speakers include John Corner (Leeds University), Rita Figueiras (Catholic University Lisbon) Des Freedman (Goldsmith's College, London), Joke Hermes (InHolland University, Netherlands), Annette Hill (Lund University), Viola C Milton (University of South Africa), Winston Mano (University of Westminster, UK), and Jane Roscoe (University of West of England, UK),

For further information please consult our website:  
<http://www.kom.lu.se/en/mf2018>.

There is a registration fee of 800 SEK (85 Euros) that covers food and drink for the day and an evening buffet.

# Discourse theory, contingency and the representational logics of death

MARCH 21 | 1-3 PM | SOL CENTRE A214 | GUEST RESEARCH SEMINAR

Nico Carpentier is Professor in Media and Communication Studies at the department of Informatics and Media of Uppsala University. In addition, he holds two part-time positions, those of Associate Professor at the Communication Studies department of the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB-Free University of Brussels) and Docent at Charles University in Prague. Moreover, he is a Research Fellow at the Cyprus University of Technology and Loughborough University. His latest books are 'The Discursive-Material Knot: Cyprus in Conflict and Community Media Participation (2017, Peter Lang), and 'Cyprus and its Conflicts. Representations, Materialities, and Cultures' (2018, Berghahn, with Vaia Doudaki).

The presentation first gives a basic outline of Laclau and Mouffe's (1985) discourse theory, with an emphasis on its ontological level, which mediates between political fixity and contingency. In a second part, the case of death -- the ultimate moment of materiality -- will then be used to show the logic of social construction, but also the contingency of these constructions. Three types of arguments will be used to show this contingency - the complex articulation of the signifier of death, the historical instability of the signifier of the good death, and the political struggle over the good death in relation to euthanasia (in Belgium). The third part of the presentation will focus on the media constructions of euthanasia in Belgian newspapers, in relation towards three particular cases.

## A Vision of New Human Ethics?

How neurodiversity unsettles communicative normalcy in the global age

APRIL 11 | 1-3 PM | SOL CENTRE A214 | GUEST RESEARCH SEMINAR

This talk seeks to reframe how we think about ethics and communication through quietly unsettling neurotypical ethical paradigms. It asks how images about, by and with people with autism invite a reorientation of human-centric and neurotypical ethical assumptions about images and the media in the unevenly global –digital or global age? How does the 'autistic assemblage' – You Tube videos made by and with autistic people, campaign videos made by the UK's National Autistic Society, and films as translations of a nonverbal autistic world challenge a history of 'troubled images' of autistic people in popular culture? More broadly in what ways do they suggest the need for a new kind of communication ethics based on human neurodiversity as well as the rights of non-human persons?

The paper begins by explaining the concept of the 'global' age derived from research on mobile and social witnessing of birth, life, death and political action. The idea of the global is then developed further through a genealogy of the significance of the image in relation to autism within popular culture. The paper then turns to the emergence of new kinds of images by and of autistic people that are made possible in the global age. The paper concludes by suggesting that imaging neurodiversity prompts new kinds of considerations for the ways in which Western media ethics are founded on neurotypical assumptions that are largely human-centric. By taking into account neuro-diversity communicative ethics include in new ways the material and energetic significance of (visual) communication for non-human persons and the earth's environment.

Anna Reading, PhD is Professor of Culture and Creative Industries at Kings College, University of London, UK and Honorary Visiting Professor at the Institute for Culture and Society at Western Sydney University, Australia. She has published extensively on media and memory. She is the author of *Polish Women, Solidarity and Feminism* (1992) *The Social Inheritance of the Holocaust: Gender, Culture and Memory* (2002); and *Gender and Memory in the Global Age* (2016 and the co-editor and co-author of an additional four books, including *Save As... Digital Memories* (2009) and *Cultural Memories of Nonviolent Struggles: Powerful Times*. She is joint Managing Editor of the international journal, *Media, Culture and Society*. She also writes plays, with seven scripts performed in the UK, Finland, Poland, US and Ireland. She is currently writing a new book on activist and future memory, as well as editing a book on Chinese-British memory.

# Mobile Socialities

APRIL 12-13 | SOL-CENTRE | INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH WORKSHOP

This two day research workshop critically examines the emerging concept of mobile socialities, addressing the phenomena of people on the move in relation to the role of mobile media in everyday life. Mobile socialities is a bridging concept that emphasises the socio-cultural within the overlapping spheres of mobilities and mobile communications research. This workshop brings together interdisciplinary perspectives on mobilities of various kinds (people, places, information, commodities, communication) in order to discuss theories, methods and empirical cases that help us understand and analyse emerging modes of mobile socialities.

The workshop is an outcome of collaboration with Professor Maren Hartmann (Berlin University of the Arts) who was a recipient of an RJ funded Swedish-German Programme Research Award for Scientific Cooperation. The aims of the workshop are to a) establish collaboration with international scholars working at the intersections of media and cultural studies, mobilities and mobile communications research; and b) to plan publications and funding applications on mobile socialities. Key questions for the workshop include:

- 1) What forms of socialities do we find in mobile times?
- 2) In what ways are time and place critical to mobile socialities?
- 3) How do we research the mobile nature of screen content for transnational audiences, users and publics?

The programme contains invited speakers and roundtable discussions. Invited participants include senior and junior scholars debating mobile socialities through empirical and theoretical analysis of different cases, including mobile media, place and time, media and communication infrastructures and information flows, political and non-political forms of mobilisation, media geographies, affect and social relations, media and migration, mobility and labour, critical algorithm studies, transnational audiences, media ethics. The workshop is funded by MKV, Lund University and University of Denver, Colorado, USA.

Organisers Magnus Andersson, Maren Hartmann and Annette Hill. Contact Annette Hill (Annette.hill@kom.lu.se) for further information.

Invited participants include: Dr Magnus Andersson (Lund University); Professor Deborah Chambers (Newcastle, UK); Dr Deniz Neriman Duru (Lund University); Dr Leopoldina Fortunati (Udine, Italy); Professor Maren Hartmann (Berlin University of the Arts); Professor Annette Hill (Lund University); Dr Carlos Jimenez (Denver University, USA); Dr Emily Keightley (Loughborough, UK); Dr Christian Licoppe (Paris, France); Professor Anna Reading (Kings College, London); Barbara Maly-Bowie (doctoral researcher Vienna, Austria); Professor David Morley (Goldsmith's College, London); Kristian Møller (Copenhagen, Denmark); Dr Erika Polson (University of Denver, Colorado); Professor Lynn Schofield Clark (University of Denver, Colorado); Philipp Seufferling (doctoral researcher Södertörn University, Sweden); Kevin Witzemberger (doctoral researcher University of Zurich, Switzerland)



Photo: Zaki Habibi



# Does a like make you click?

## Effects of social endorsements on political information use during the federal German election campaign 2017

APRIL 18 | 1-3 PM | SOL CENTER A214 | GUEST RESEARCH SEMINAR

Jakob Ohme is Assistant Professor at the Centre for Journalism at the University of Southern Denmark. He recently finished his dissertation titled 'New Media, New Citizens? How media exposure in a digital age shapes political participation'. In his research, he explores digital media effects on political participation and democratic citizenship. His work is concerned with the development of innovative exposure measurements that address evolving media use contexts in a digital age.

News exposure increasingly takes place on social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter, where citizens can select from an abundance of information available in their newsfeed. Here, political information directly competes with entertainment news and other non-political content for the attention of users. In this social media news environments, social endorsements are a distinctive feature. Those additional information – such as the number of likes an article received – are available for every news item in a newsfeed. Given the prominent visibility and social relevance of such cues for users, social endorsements may alter the way citizens select information on social media. This selection decision is ultimately connected to the questions if social media platforms have the potential to increase exposure to likeminded opinions or rather diversify users' political worldviews. It is therefore important to explore, how strongly recommendations, likes or popularity measures affect selective exposure decisions on social media.

In this talk, first results of a study conducted before the German federal election in 2017 will be presented. In an online-survey experiment, participants were provided with the exact same news and entertainment posts in a closely mimicked Facebook newsfeed, while type and number of social endorsements were randomly assigned. The setting's high ecological validity helps to assess the relevance of social endorsements compared to other content cues and gives unique insights in political media exposure patterns of citizens during election campaigns.



Photo: Fredrik Miegel



# Apocalyptic Argumentation

APRIL 25 | 1-3 PM | SOL CENTER A214 | RESEARCH SEMINAR

The strongest kind of argumentation is the one that appeals to higher ideals and realities, as for example religion and myths. Apocalyptic thinking concerns the ultimate fight between good and evil at the end times. The group that knows the hidden truths about the awaited divine intervention gathers the followers for the apocalypse. ISIL, The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, and Donald Trump are two of the most powerful propagandists in our world today. Even though they are archenemies they share an apocalyptic worldview that legitimizes their argumentation.

Docent Anders Eriksson is Senior Lecturer in Rhetoric at Lund University. His special interests are history of rhetoric and argumentation. He also has a degree in theology. The paper will be presented at the International Society for the Study of Argumentation in July 2018.

The Islamic State build their propaganda on the idea of a violent fight for caliphate in the end times. The magazine Dabiq has taken its name from the town of Dabiq in northern Syria, mentioned in a hadith about Armageddon. ISIL believes Dabiq to be the town where Muslim and infidel forces will eventually face each other. After the crusaders have been defeated by the forces of the Caliphate, the apocalypse will begin. When Dabiq now has been taken by Turkish and Kurdish forces ISIL has renamed their magazine to Rumiya, Arabic for Rome, suggesting terrorist attacks in the western world.

Donald Trump has aligned himself with evangelical Christians with an apocalyptic worldview. They see the United States as besieged by Satanic forces – communism and secularism, family breakdown and government encroachment – and they proclaim Trump to be God’s chosen leader in the end times. *Countdown to the Apocalypse: Why ISIS and Ebola are just the Beginning* is the title of a book by the leading pastor Robert Jeffress.

# Ethics in Rhetorical Education

MAY 2 | 1-3 PM | SOL CENTER A214 | RESEARCH SEMINAR

Anders Sigrell is Professor in rhetoric at Lund University. Research interests are among other things the didactics of rhetoric and the rhetoric of didactic (chiasmus). This paper will be presented at the olympic conference held by International Society for the Study of Argumentation (ISSA) at Amsterdam University.

The question on moral and ethics in rhetorical education has been a central topic ever since the subject was coined two and half millennia ago. The perhaps most common take on the question, with some support from Aristotle, is to understand rhetoric as a tool that could used for good, as well for less good objectives. In my paper I will try to make the argument that that is a less constructive standpoint. The argumentation will its starting point in the connection rhetoric and democracy, not only historical, but doxological as well.

The perhaps most well phrased critique of rhetoric as a subject is that rhetoric tries to “Make the weaker argument the stronger, and the stronger argument the weaker” (Plato, Aristophanes, Aristotle, Isocrates, Protagoras, as well as more contemporary scholars).

In my presentation I will argue that the critics are right. Rhetoric actually tries to make weaker argument the stronger and vice versa, for the simple reason that if we do not try to that, we have beforehand decides which argument is the strongest. The question under discussion “could be otherwise” (to quote the Aristotelian definition of the rhetorical domain). In everyday life that is shown by the fact that we have all changed our minds, even on matters where we were sure that we would not.

A cornerstone in democracy could be said to be to try to find the strongest argument, something that cannot be decided beforehand. This ought to be part of our teaching in rhetoric and argumentation.



Photo: Zaki Habibi

## Making Environmental Problems Visible: Independent Documentary Films in China

MAY 9 | 1-3 PM | SOL CENTRE A214 | GUEST RESEARCH SEMINAR

Marina Svensson, Professor of Modern China Studies and Director Centre for East and South-East Asian Studies, Lund University. Marina is doing research on social and cultural issues in China, including the role of the Internet. She has organized a total of four Asian documentary film festivals and workshops in Lund with scholars and filmmakers from countries such as China, India, Japan, Myanmar and Singapore, and addressing topics such as youth, urban changes, memory and trauma, and activism and documentary film. She was recently a co-editor of a special issue on documentary film and activism in China for *Studies in Documentary Film*, Vol. 11, No. 3, 2017.

Images and documentary film have long been important in order to raise awareness and motivate people into actions to protect the environment. One of the earliest films on environmental issues was Noriaki Tsuchimoto's *Minamata: The Victims and Their World* (1972) that brought attention to mercury poisoning in Japan and triggered an outcry on these issues. A more recent example is Al Gore's *An Inconvenient Truth* (2006) that was one of the first documentary films to tackle climate change.

This presentation discusses the different motives, focus, framing and visual rhetoric in a selected number of Chinese documentary films addressing environmental problems in China. It addresses both the possibilities and limitations of these films, bearing in mind that they are made by different actors, including activists, journalists, artists and socially engaged documentary filmmakers, and circulated on different platforms. The paper problematizes issues such as voice, frames, agency and audiences.

It also focuses on how filmmakers and others today use web 2.0 to circulate films and create debates and engagement with audiences. It addresses a range of different documentary films, some of them have been made more for a foreign audience and some primarily address a Chinese audience. Films discussed include *Beijing Besieged by Waste* (Wang Jiuliang 2011) and *Plastic China* (Wang Jiuliang 2017), *Behemoth* (Zhao Liang 2015), and *Under the Dome* (Chai Jing 2015).

# En botfärdig synderskas sorgesång: Brottsrapporterande skillingtryck som sensationsmedier och mikrohistoriska källor

23 MAJ | 13-15 | SOL-CENTRUM A214 | GÄSTSEMINARIUM

Karin Strand är fil dr i litteraturvetenskap och enhetschef för Svenskt visarkiv (Musikverket). Hennes forskningsintressen rör mediering, motiv och socialhistorisk relevans i folkliga och populära visor i former som handskrivna visböcker, tidig schlager och skillingtryck. Hennes senaste bok kom 2016; *Brott, tiggeri och brännvinets fördärv: studier i socialt orienterade visor i skillingtryck*. För närvarande arbetar hon med ett projekt om kvinnliga missdådare i skillingtryck.

och sångbar form. Hur förhåller sig skillingtryckens berättelser till tidningspressens? Vems perspektiv på brott och brottsling är det vi möter i visorna och med vilken moralisk tendens? Och hur såg omständigheterna ut för visornas huvudpersoner; de dömda brottslingar som här saknar en egen röst?

För att belysa tryckens växlingskurs mellan verklighet och visa görs nedslag i några fallstudier av kvinnliga missdådare som blivit föremål för rapportering i skillingtryck, närmare bestämt personer dömda för barnamord. Barnamord är det grova brott där kvinnor utmärker sig såväl i missdådartrycken som i brottshistorien överlag. Det är en gärning som i sina variationer springer ur förtvylade sociala omständigheter (jfr Lövkrona 2004), men är också en handling som i kulturen bär starka betydelser utöver sig själv. Barnamörderskan, kvinnan/modern som tar livet av oskyldiga barn, är en folk devil (Cossins 2015), en gestalt som väcker fasa och indignation, för att inte säga moralpanik. Vilken är visornas del i opinionen om detta brott?

Skillingtryck kallas de enkla vistryck som från slutet av 1500-talet och fram till 1900-talets första hälft såldes och spreds till en bred allmänhet. Visorna kunde vara av de mest skilda slag: här trycktes psalmer, kungahyllningar, folkliga och humoristiska visor liksom visor om aktuella händelser skrivna direkt för spridning i skillingtryck. Hit kan räknas nyhetsvisor, nidvisor, tiggervisor, pamfletter och inte minst: visor som rapporterar om grova brott och brottslingar i samtiden. Sådana missdådar- och avrättningsvisor var en genre som fick ett stort uppsving under 1800-talet.

I detta föredrag diskuterar jag de brottsrapporterande visornas sätt att framställa det inträffade och de inblandade i säljande

## Children's Reception of Critical Concepts in Animation

MAY 30 | 1-3 PM | SOL CENTRE A214 | GUEST RESEARCH SEMINAR

In recent years the entertainment companies such as Disney and Dream works have produced and released popular animations including critical concepts, for instance, admiring differences, resistance against gender stereotypes, resistance against irrational traditions, breaking cliché about disable people, rethinking about beliefs and opinion, criticism of human function in dealing with the environment etc. Since thinking critically is the main issue in this world more than any other age, the overall scope in this research is to find out about children's reception of critical concepts in these animations with a focus on the context that children live in.

I exposed 20 Iranian children (10 girls and 10 boys) to 8 animations which present critical concepts: Zootopia (2016), Kung fu Panda3 (2016), Inside out (2015), Frozen (2014), How to train your dragon2 (2014), Brave (2013), Wall-E (2009) and Happyfeet1 (2007). The age of cases ranged from 9 to 12 and semi-structured interviews conducted with them before and after exposure to the animations. The theory framework synthesizes in 4 theories: Reception theory, Sociocultural theory, Media Equation and Cognitive Dissonance.

The findings showed that children's reception of animations was affected by the schemas they had. In fact, children had different schemas which had been shaped during their life affected by the context they live; their family, their stage of cognitive development, their culture etc. In some case, their interpretation was totally different from the story of animations because their schemas were different. Besides, the age of children was an important factor which affected their receptions.

Mania Alehpour is a Ph.D. candidate in Communication Studies, at the Department of Communication Studies, University of Tehran. Her research is focused on children and media, with interest in critical thinking and children's reception of animation. Her dissertation project is titled Children's reception of critical concepts with a focus on selected animations.



# KOM Research seminars

## Spring semester 2018 programme

---

The KOM seminar series is an international and multidisciplinary forum for research in the Communication and Media Department at Lund University. The seminar series features scholars from within the University and around the world, presenting academic research in the social sciences and humanities.

Our aim is to share ideas and dialogue on the theories and practices of communication and media, including journalism studies, media and communication studies, media history, and rhetoric.

For further information please contact seminar coordinator Tommy Bruhn at [tommy.bruhn@kom.lu.se](mailto:tommy.bruhn@kom.lu.se). You can also see our website: <http://www.kom.lu.se/forskning/konferenser-och-natverkstraffar/>

Cover photo: Fredrik Miegel

