



European Network  
for Cinema and  
Media Studies

## **Media Politics – Political Media**

The NECS 2013 Conference

Prague, Czech Republic, June 20-22, 2013

Hosted by Faculty of Arts, Charles University in Prague

### **Submission Deadline: January 31, 2013**

Please email all inquiries to [conference@necs.org](mailto:conference@necs.org)

**Confirmed keynote speakers** include: Georgina Born (University of Oxford) and Gertrud Koch (Freie Universität Berlin).

### **Call for Papers**

Film, Media and Cultural Studies have been struggling to respond to the increasing politicization of audiovisual media prompted by recent developments in globalization, conglomeration, digitization, copyright law, censorship, corruption, activism, and ecology. It is perhaps fitting then that the next NECS conference – focusing on “Media Politics – Political Media” – takes place in the Czech capital of Prague, a city lying at the heart of a region characterized by countless regime changes and oft-redrawn borders.

In light of significant changes to the media landscape, it is imperative that, as media scholars and practitioners, we ask how we might best understand the full range of ways in which media operates politically, and how we may respond to what Toby Miller described as “the irrelevance of screen studies to *both* popular *and* policy-driven discussion of films”. The goals of the NECS Conference of 2013 are threefold: to re-evaluate the political character of media histories, texts, experiences, communities, and institutions; to illuminate the political underpinnings of media theories; and to shed light on the ways in which media might function as a political tool for hegemonistic, oppressive, illegal or unethical activities and critical or counter-cultural responses to them.

Potential topics may include, but are not limited to:

- (1) Political Aesthetics: the politics of perception and aesthetic experience, politics in film, politics of the text, taste and distinction, body politics, pleasure, the gaze, politics of sound, authorship, the canon, New Waves, realism, reflexivity, avant-garde.
- (2) Political Theory: media and democracy, populism, violence, ideology, utopia, governmentality, class, ethnicity, age, subjectivity, identity, privacy, the micropolitics of production and consumption communities, political philosophy through film.
- (3) Political Economy: media markets, the public-sphere, citizenry, popularity, ownership, (de)regulation, cultural policy, conglomeration, globalization,

convergence/divergence, media capital, creative labour, intellectual property, (self)-exploitation, art-money.

- (4) Political History: media and the state, the nation and nationalism, political parties and regimes, political communications, (post-)fordism, (post-)colonialism, (cold-)war, propaganda, neo-liberalism, digitization, the politics of memory, exile.
- (5) Politics of Engagement: alternative modes of production and distribution, digital democracy, corruption, piracy, media activism, “producers”, militant media, open source, file-sharing, remixing, mash-ups, media ecology.

Scholars from all areas of film, media and cultural studies (including radio, television, new media, game studies etc.), whether previously attached to NECS or new to the network, are invited to submit proposals for contributions.

Please note that you may hand in a paper or panel proposal related to the thematic guidelines of the conference outlined above, or alternatively submit a paper or panel proposal for open call in any field of cinema and media studies.

We especially encourage pre-constituted panels in order to strengthen the thematic coherence of individual panels. There are three ways of participating in the Prague conference:

- (1) by organizing a pre-constituted panel. (the members of the NECS work groups are especially encouraged to put together a pre-constituted panel);
- (2) by proposing an open call paper outside a pre-constituted panel.
- (3) by organizing a workshop, concentrating on more practical aspects of our field such as teaching or research methods (to propose a workshop, please contact [conference@necs.org](mailto:conference@necs.org) directly);

Please note that individuals may submit only one paper proposal, either to the open call or as a part of a pre-constituted panel or workshop.

Panels may consist of 3-4 speakers with a maximum of 20 minutes speaking time each. All presenters are obliged to provide us with a title, an abstract of max 150 words, 3-5 key bibliographical references, name of the presenter and institutional affiliation.

Panel organizers are asked to submit panel proposals including a panel title, a short description (up to 100 words) of the panel and information on all the papers as listed above.

Please submit all proposals **before January 31, 2013** through the submission forms that will be accessible from January 1<sup>st</sup> on at: [www.necs.org](http://www.necs.org). Notification will follow shortly thereafter (around February 28, 2013). The conference language is English.

Conference attendance is free, but valid NECS-membership and online registration is required to participate in the conference. Participants must register with NECS at [www.necs.org](http://www.necs.org) and **pay their fee before a proposal is submitted**. Proposals from non-members (including all members of pre-constituted panels) will not be taken into consideration. For the terms of NECS membership, please also refer to our website.

Participants will have to cover their own travel and accommodation expenses. Travel information as well as a list of affordable hotels and other accommodations will be posted on the NECS website in the spring of 2013.

For the conference organizers:

**The NECS Conference Committee**

Melis Behlil, Sofia Bull, Aurore Fossard, Paulo Granja, Petr Szczepanik

**The NECS Steering Committee**

Melis Behlil, Sophie Einwächter, Jaap Kooijman, Tarja Laine, Trond Lundemo, Patricia Pisters, Astrid Söderbergh Widding, Malin Wahlberg

**The Local Organization**

Petr Szczepanik, Tereza Dvořáková,  
Kateřina Svatoňová, Petr Bilík, Lucie  
Česálková, Ivan Klimeš, Petra  
Hanáková, Adéla Kokešová, Daniela  
Paulová, Alexandra Hroncová