

CURATING REALITY

New Tools for Investigative Journalism

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CONFERENCE SANDBERG@MEDIAFONDS 2012

Thursday, February 9th
13.30 – 17.30 hrs.
(Doors open at 13.00 hrs.)

Theater van 't Woord,
Openbare Bibliotheek
Amsterdam

English Spoken
Twitter #curatingreality

Today, we have more means than ever of gathering, interpreting and disseminating information. New forms of reporting, such as data journalism, crowdsourcing and social networks, are becoming increasingly important. Though it is often suggested that journalism is in crisis we are witnessing an explosive increase in journalistic practice and strong innovation in the field, thanks to a vast range of new possibilities.

The Sandberg@Mediafonds 2012 conference will concentrate on new forms and applications in investigative journalism resulting from technological advances. How can we use new media to better practise investigative journalism? How can we make the most of the shifting relationship between journalists and their audience, and of readers' and viewers' newly active role in producing and distributing stories? And how can technology be used to better keep an eye on the powerful, and to tell meaningful stories about the complex, fast-changing world we live in today?

The conference is a joint project of the design department of the Sandberg Instituut Amsterdam and the Mediafonds. It kicks off the Sandberg@Mediafonds masterclass, in which programme makers and designers collaborate on new cultural media productions that explore digital boundaries. The results will be unveiled on Thursday 7th June 2012.

www.sandberg.nl
www.mediafonds.nl
www.curatingreality.nl



PROGRAMME

13.30 PART I 'INPUT'

The Masters of the Media *[video]*
ROGIER KLOMP
This is propaganda

Welcome
HANS MAARTEN VAN DEN BRINK
Mediafonds

Introduction
ANNELYS DE VET
Sandberg Instituut Amsterdam

Deconstructing the role of social media during the Tunisian revolution
SAMI BEN GHARIBIA
Global Voices Advocacy Director

Multiple journalism
BREGTJE VAN DER HAAK
documentary filmmaker and journalist

Between trust and mistrust
JEROEN SMIT
Professor of Journalism, Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, author 'De Prooi'

BRENNO DE WINTER
Journalist of the Year 2011

Abstract
MARTIJN DE WAAL
writer and researcher

15.30 BREAK + INSTALLATIONS

Wiki Truth
KYRA VAN INEVELD
designer

Tsunami by proxy
MARLON HARDER
designer

16.00 PART II 'OUTPUT'

That New Design Smell *[video]*
MICHÈLE CHAMPAGNE
designer

10 ways data is changing journalism
SIMON ROGERS
Editor Datablog and Datastore, The Guardian

Visual journalism
JAN VAN TOORN
designer and visual journalist

Black Transparency
METAHAVEN
Daniel van der Velden

Occupy
YURI VEERMAN
artist, designer

Abstract
MARTIJN DE WAAL
writer and researcher

Moderator
ANNELYS DE VET
Head Design, Sandberg Instituut Amsterdam

17.30 DRINKS

ROGIER KLOMP

'The Masters of The Media' is the first short animated documentary in the 'This is Propaganda Series'. It analyses monopolization in the Media Industry. In western society the most valuable product is information. Based on information we decide who to vote for and what to buy. The companies that deliver it are therefore extremely powerful and influential. More companies means more sides to story. But their number is decreasing rapidly. Rogier Klomp graduated in 2004 summa cum laude at the Design Academy Eindhoven and co-founded 'This is propaganda'. His graduation project the animated documentary 'The Goatman Act' played at several international festivals. Since then he works in Amsterdam as an independant film maker, animator and political cartoonist.

www.klomp.tv

HANS MAARTEN VAN DEN BRINK

Hans Maarten van den Brink is director of the Mediafonds (Dutch Cultural Media Fund). He is a writer and was previously editor with the daily newspaper NRC Handelsblad, chief editor of VPRO Television and director of the Arts Center Witte de With.

www.mediafonds.nl

SAMI BEN GHARBIA

Sami Ben Gharbia (Bizerte, Tunisia, 1967) is Global Voices Advocacy Director and co-founder of the award-winning collective blog nawaat.org.

"I fled from Tunisia in 1998 and have lived in The Netherlands as political refugee. I speak Arabic, French, Dutch, English, and a bit of Farsi. My personal blog Ifikral (which means idea in Arabic) has been censored in Tunisia since 2003. I initially started blogging with the publishing of the first Tunisian e-book (Borj Erroumi XL) that tells the story of the escapade that I was forced to, crossing Africa and the Middle East, to reach Europe and get asylum. I can also be found at nawaat.org, an independent Tunisian site that I run together with a wonderful team. I joined Global Voices team as Advocacy Director. And I am fascinated by the use of new information technologies for advocacy and fighting censorship and oppression. That's why I'm blogging. That's why I'm here."

www.nawaat.org
www.cybversion.org
www.advocacy.globalvoicesonline.org
www.kitab.nl/tunisianprisonersmap

BREGTJE VAN DER HAAK

Bregtje van der Haak is a documentary filmmaker and journalist. Since 1997, she has been directing international documentaries on social change with a focus on urban life and globalization, most recently for the VPRO Backlight series. Her documentaries have been shown on television, in film festivals and in exhibitions around the world and include *Lagos Wide & Close* (2005), *Saudi Solutions* (2006), *Satellite Queens* (2007), *California Dreaming* (2010) and *Aftermath of a Crisis* (2011). As a project director and editor-in-chief for VPRO Television, she initiated Creative Commons distribution of public television programming and developed transmedia formats and collaborative media projects including *Metropolis TV* (2008) and *Urban Century* (2009). Van der Haak studied dance in Paris, political science and law at the University of Amsterdam and the New School for Social Research in New York and received an M.Sc. degree from the Graduate School of Journalism at Columbia University. She is a board member of the Prince Claus Fund and the Praemium Erasmianum and has been a visiting scholar at the Annenberg School of Communication and Journalism at USC Los Angeles and at the School of Creative Media at City University of Hong Kong, where she developed a curriculum for 'Future Creative Television'.

www.aftermathproject.com
www.vpro.nl/tegenlicht
www.youtube.com/user/VPROinternational

JEROEN SMIT

Jeroen Smit is an investigative journalist and the author of the books 'Het drama Ahold' and 'De Prooi: Blinde trots breekt ABN Amro'. He studied Business Administration in Groningen and started his career in consultancy. In 1990 he changed over to journalism. In 2005 'Het Drama Ahold?' was awarded with the prize 'Management book of the year' and in 2006 with the prize 'The most journalistic book of 2004-2005'. In 2007, when the Dutch bank ABN Amro lost its independence, Jeroen Smit decided to write a book about the bank. This new book, 'De Prooi: Blinde trots breekt ABN Amro', was nominated for the prize 'Management book of the year' in 2008. Meanwhile no less than 200,000 copies have already been sold, which makes the book an absolute bestseller. In 2010 he starred as host of the TV-series "Leaders Wanted". In that program Jeroen Smit was looking for answers on the question: what kind of leadership is needed in the 21st century? Recently Jeroen Smit was appointed Professor of Journalism at the Faculty of Arts of the University of Groningen.

BRENNO DE WINTER

Brenno de Winter (1971) is a Dutch ICT journalist. He writes for Linux Magazine, Computer! Totaal, NU.nl and Webwereld and is a commenter for the PowNews programme on PowNed TV. Brenno is also a podcaster and hosts "Laura Speaks Dutch". The Journalist magazine 'Villamedia' has named Brenno de Winter as the Journalist of the Year 2011. De Winter received the award because of his report over the abuses about the OV-Chipcard and the security problems of the government websites.

KYRA VAN INEVELD

Kyra van Ineveld graduated at the Design Academy Eindhoven last year with 'The Wiki Truth' as one of her projects. It seems that there is almost never one truth, or answer, although one will always be looking for it. This also reflects what The Wiki Truth is about. With Wikipedia, the wisdom of the crowd ensures that 'the truth' changes every second. We've become curators of our own reality. To illustrate this, van Ineveld printed out the five largest – and most changed – topics on Wikipedia, and bound them into five new encyclopedias. As you browse 'The Wiki Truth' you can follow the shifts and changes in the explanations. It seems that nothing is as fickle as the truth.

www.kyranineveld.com

MARLON HARDER

Marlon Harder graduated from ArtEZ Institute of the Arts Arnhem last year with three projects that focus on (new) media and the perception of reality. 'Tsunami by proxy' is a collection of 500 images printed on 1200 postcards about the tsunami nearby Sendai, Japan, March 11, 2011. Laid out chronologically they represent the viral spread of online pictures, while at the same time a pattern is created that shows the course of a natural disaster.

www.marlonharder.nl

MICHÈLE CHAMPAGNE

Michèle Champagne is a Canadian designer engaged in branding, typography, editorial and publishing. She shows a particular interest in design for open source dynamics where she engages pan-media strategies for post-medium publishing. During her masters degree at Sandberg Instituut Amsterdam, she launched That New Design Smell—a critical design magazine based on dialogue. It experiments with open content production, where criticism engages an active online public. Dialogue is then curated into a printed magazine you can hold in your hands. The magazine's output for beta Issue n° 0 qualifies as documentary news, whereas some of it is rather fictional, parodic and absurdist. In 2011, That New Design Smell won the Studentenprijs Grafisch Ontwerpen from Grafische Cultuurstichting, and is currently under development for Issue n° 1 scheduled for summer 2012.

www.michelechampagne.com
www.thatnewdesignsmell.net

SIMON ROGERS

Simon Rogers is editor of the guardian.co.uk/data, an online data resource which publishes hundreds of raw datasets and encourages its users to visualise and analyse them. He is also a news editor on the Guardian, working with the graphics team to visualise and interpret huge datasets. He was closely involved in the Guardian's exercise to crowdsourcing 450,000 MP expenses records and the organisation's coverage of the Afghanistan and Iraq Wikileaks war logs. Previously he was the launch editor of the Guardian's online news service and has edited the paper's science section. He has edited two Guardian books: 'How Slow Can You Waterski' and 'The Hutton Inquiry and its impact'. In 2010, Simon received a special commendation from the Royal Statistical Society in its awards for journalistic excellence. His Factfile UK series of supplements won a silver at the 'Malofiej 2011 infographics award' and the Datablog won the 'Newspaper Awards prize for Best Use of New Media, 2011'. Rogers is author of 'Facts are Sacred: the Power of Data' (on Kindle). In 2011, Simon was named Best UK Internet Journalist by the Oxford Internet Institute, Oxford University and won the inaugural XCity award from City University. The Datastore was honoured at: Knight Batten awards for innovation in journalism, 2011; Technical innovation, Online Media Awards 2011.

www.guardian.co.uk/datablog
www.twitter.com/datastore
www.amzn.to/t2dAnR

JAN VAN TOORN

Jan van Toorn is one of the most significant and influential Dutch graphic designers to have emerged since the early 1960s. While graphic design often does little more than give unthinking visual form to the status quo, Van Toorn focused on meaning rather than smooth stylistic expression and developed critical alternatives to the usual design world conventions. He has often remarked that he wanted to approach communication design as a form of visual journalism. In other words, the designer could function as a kind of reporter – investigating, reflecting, editing, shaping and delivering his findings in the form of a visual outcome. He spoke of his wish to use design as a way to "argue with visual means". His designs persistently call attention to their status as visual contrivances, obliging the viewer to make an effort to process their complexities. Projects such as Van Toorn's posters and catalogues for the Van Abbemuseum in Eindhoven and his long-running series of calendars for the printing firm Mart. Spruijt are powerful demonstrations of graphic design used as a means of commentary and as a tool of critique. Later, as director of the Jan van Eyck Academy, Van Toorn drew together all the strands of his critical practice into a multi-levelled educational initiative that urged designers to think harder about design's role in shaping contemporary reality.

DANIEL VAN DER VELDEN

Metahaven is a studio for design and research, founded by Vinca Kruk and Daniel van der Velden. Metahaven's work—both commissioned and self-directed—reflects political and social issues in provocative graphic design objects. Metahaven released 'Uncorporate Identity', a book on politics and visual identity, published by Lars Müller in 2010. Solo exhibitions include *Affiche Frontière* (CAPC musée d'art contemporain de Bordeaux, 2008) and *Stadtstaat* (Künstlerhaus Stuttgart/Casco, 2009). Group exhibitions include *Forms of Inquiry* (AA London, 2007), *Manifesta8* (Murcia, 2010), the *Gwangju Design Biennale 2011* (Gwangju, Korea) and *Graphic Design: Now In Production* (Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, 2011). In 2011, Metahaven was selected by Rolling Stone Italia as one of the world's 20 most promising design studios. Their forthcoming book, *Black Transparency*, is to be published in 2012.

www.metahaven.net

YURI VEERMAN

Yuri Veerman is an independent artist and designer currently studying at the Design department of the Sandberg Institute. Through his work he deals with the complex relationship between an idea and its host. His work explores the distance between matter and meaning; between the weight of a coin and the value we give it, between the colour of a flag and the feeling of patriotism, between the fabric of a headscarf and the endless debate it causes.

www.yuriveerman.nl
www.commoncurrency.net

MARTIJN DE WAAL

Martijn de Waal runs an independent office for research, strategy and curation that keeps an eye on the future of journalism, the future of storytelling and the future of urban culture. He is one of the founders of DeNieuweReporter.nl, a leading Dutch blog on new media and journalism. Together with Michiel de Lange he also founded TheMobileCity.nl, a research group on mobile media and urban design. He teaches for the Journalism MA program in the Media Studies department at the University of Amsterdam, and is also part of the New Media, Urban Culture and the Public Sphere research group in the Faculty of Philosophy at the University of Groningen. In 2009 he was a visiting scholar at MIT's Center for Future Civic Media.

www.martijndewaal.nl

ANNELYS DE VET

Annelys de Vet is a designer and head of the Design Department of the Sandberg Instituut Amsterdam (Masters Rietveld Academie). Since 2010 she heads the Sandberg@Mediafonds masterclass. Her work explores the role of design in relation to the public and political discourse. Since 1997 she runs her own studio, which has transformed from a client based practice towards a cultural think tank for visual strategies. She initiated several books concerning the representation of cultural and national identity: 'The subjective atlas of the EU, from an Estonian point of view' (2004), 'Subjectieve atlas van Nederland' (2005), 'The public role of the graphic designer' (2006), 'Subjective atlas of Palestine' (2007), 'Subjective atlas of Serbia' (2009), 'Subjective atlas of Mexico' (2011) and 'Subjective atlas of Hungary' (2011).

www.annelysdevet.nl
www.sandberg.nl/design

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