

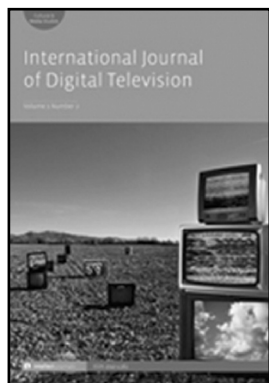
## Journals Review

### ***International Journal of Digital Television***

Bristol, United Kingdom: Intellect Journals

Vol. 1 (2), 2010

ISSN: 2040-4182 / 2040-4190 [online]



The *International Journal of Digital Television* is one of this year's academic newcomers in the field of television studies. In the second issue of the journal, there are mainly case studies on the situation of digital television in different countries. First, an article by Geneviève A. Bonin describes the digital switchover in television in Canada from an economic and political point of view, highlighting

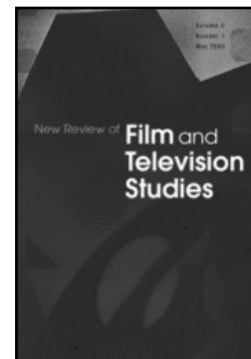
some legislative gaps. The next article presents cases of digital television migrations in Ireland, Greece, Finland, Austria and New Zealand. In this, Kenneth Murphy shows the conditions that affect media systems in each country, depending on the differentiating capacity of internal markets and the supposed regulatory neutrality in this respect. Krisztina Rozgonyi and Márk Lengyel analyse the situation in Hungary and describe the country's evolution regarding the implementation of DTT and other digital platforms. Then, Heikki Hellman exposes the Finnish case but, this time, emphasises what the author considers an acceleration of the commercialisation of the audiovisual sector, contrasting with the more protectionist tradition the country has experienced in recent years. There is also a work from researcher Michael Starks – a dissertation on various reports that look to discover how the digital switchover is affecting pluralism and free speech. In the same issue, the Russian situation is examined (Andrei Richter), as is the Danish (Erik Nordahl Svendsen). The rest of the articles go beyond analysing digital television's regulatory frameworks. For example, there is also research about the change in the way audiences are measured via technology using data feedback channels in research led by Els De Bens, from the Universiteit Gent, amongst other more technological research.

### ***New Review of Film and Television Studies***

Oxford, United Kingdom: Routledge

Vol. 8 (2), 2010

ISSN: 1740-0309 / 1740-7923 [online]

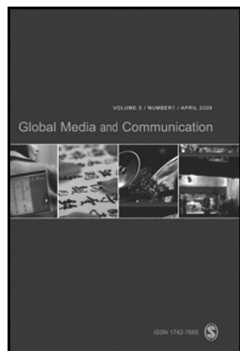


The *New Review of Film and Television Studies* opens its second issue with an article by Richard Misek, which presents the thesis of using white light in cinema as an example of certain ideological presuppositions that are dominant in Aristotle's western aesthetic principles. Paul Ramaeker then talks about the historical development of realism in North American detective films and the continuity of the genre's visual style, from a revisionist perspective. The following study, by Mark Jancovich, is based on a gender perspective which analyses the archetype of the *femme fatale* as someone emerging from the post-Second World War audiovisual world with various motives and certain contradictions. Tina Kendall publishes an article on the materialist theory of Siegfried Kracauer's cinema, and then Daniella Treveri Gennari and Marco Vanelli show how Italian Neorealism is the sub-product of the collaboration between left-wing intellectuals, filmmakers and even the Catholic Church. In this apparent contradiction, the authors glimpse a profound change in the relations between the Church and the film industry arising in the post-war era, resulting in the Church becoming a leading player and driving force in Italian cinema. The last of the articles in this issue is by Polona Petek and it deals with the contribution of contemporary road movies produced by Slovenian cinema from the onslaught of pro-European and "Yugonostalgia" debates in which the emergence of a certain non-Eurocentric cosmopolitanism is argued. The reviews section includes a work by Federico Pagello about the various books that have studied different phenomena arising from the film *The Lord of the Rings*. Another review looks at the book *Bakhtin and the Movies: New Ways of Understanding Hollywood Film* in which Martin Flanagan uses Bakhtin's linguistic theory to analyse the audiovisual language of films.

### **Global Media and Communication**

London, United Kingdom / Thousand Oaks: SAGE Publications. Vol. 6 (1), 2010

ISSN: 1742-7665 / 1742-7673 [online]



Created in 2005, *Global Media and Communication* is one of the few magazines where one can find a space that encourages real critical debate on the changing world of communication. The last/latest issue highlights an interview with Lu Xinyu, a leading communications academic at the University of Fudan (China) and an important voice within the intellectual movement of China's "new

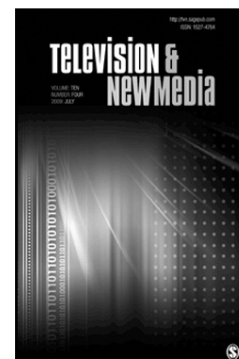
left" movement. The interview covers such issues as the New Documentary Movement (NDM) and underground narratives and the notion of class. Next, there is an article by Christian Fuchs (Universität Salzburg) which goes back to an analysis of Lenin's imperialism and applies it to contemporary society. Thus, a series of variables is used, such as the role of economic concentration, the predominance of financial capital, the importance of exporting capital, spatial stratification as a result of corporate domination and the political dimension of spatial stratification in the world. The author highlights that this theory is still relevant in media studies. The English channel Al-Jazeera is analysed in Mohammed el-Nawawy's and Shawn Powers' article (University of Southern California). The article describes the role of the international channel in a globalised world and points out that its journalistic model offers an alternative to the dominant model of the news media, which promote stereotypical attitudes towards culturally different "others". Tine Ustad Figenschou (Universitetet i Oslo) also takes Al-Jazeera as an object of study. The author analyses the channel's news content and concludes that it broadcasts more about the south, representing a potential counterflow for other news channels. As well as these articles, this issue also contains book reviews on indigenous media, Chinese television, the relationship between politics and the Venezuelan media, and cultural studies. The volume ends with Stijn Joye's reflection on the importance of alternative voices within the world of news.

### **Television & New Media**

London, United Kingdom / Thousand Oaks: SAGE Publications. Vol. 11 (4), 2010

ISSN: 1527-4764 / 1552-8316 [online]

In the latest issue, the international journal *Television & New Media* offers a wide range of interesting articles. Dedicated to more recent trends in television studies and new media, among the articles that make up this issue, the one by Philip W. Sewell (Washington University in St. Louis) stands out, examining as it does the struggle for cultural power that took place in the critical and



political debate surrounding the so-called *dramedies* at the end of the 1980s, and which resulted in a change in practices and in redefining quality television. On the other hand, the article by Julie P. Elman (New York University) examines one of ABC's programmes, *After School Specials* (1972-1995), and suggests that the programme used a rehabilitative focus in representing problems faced by adolescents, tackling problems such as sexuality in a more proactive way, which has brought about a redefinition of teenage television. In "Exporting Exile on TV Martí", Mariana Johnson (University of North Carolina Wilmington) focuses on broadcasting by the United States in Cuba, more specifically on the *TV Martí* channel, which has no audience since the Cuban government cuts the signal to stop it from being broadcast on the island. The author argues that the existence of this channel can only be understood if one analyses Cuban exile while questioning its efficacy as propaganda and the United States' real need to export the imaginary of Cuban exile through this television channel. William M. Kunz's article (University of Washington Tacoma) addresses the flow of television across national borders, using broadcasting in the United States as a case study. The author points out, on the one hand, that there is a total absence of programming from outside the USA, and, on the other, that there is a predominance of just six large conglomerates in the North American audiovisual markets. This issue ends with a review of a book by Stuart Cunningham about Australian culture.

**Science Communication**

London, United Kingdom / Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications. Vol. 32 (2), 2010  
ISSN: 1075-5470 / 1552 – 8545 [online]



A veteran journal in the field of communication (the first issue dates back to 1979), *Science Communication* examines three rather broad and interrelated topics, namely communication between scientists, communicating scientific and technical news to the public and the spreading of knowledge. The first article in this issue examines the Mexican press's coverage of news about climate

change and the presence of certain frames and solutions in its coverage, pointing out that the dominant framing is from ecology/science. The article by Jen Schneider (Colorado School of Mines) presents an ethnographic study of communication and the uncertainty felt by journalists when dealing with environmental themes, suggesting that scientific training workshops aimed at journalists should focus more on metacommunication than seeking to improve communication between science and communication. On the other hand, a group of researchers from Johns Hopkins University presents a study on the representation of complex issues in the media, such as cancer, and points out that the media generally reports on scientific works but with limited objectives, which impedes the empowerment of the public or the effective promotion of preventative measures for this disease. The next article presents a study on the effects of priming and website interactivity in the development of certain attitudes in adolescents. The article by John C. Besley (University of South Carolina) looks at public engagement and the impact of fairness perceptions on decision favourability and acceptance. Finally, George Zarkadakis ("Feline Quanta", Greece) describes FameLab's initiative as a successful model in training young scientists as science communicators, which shows that science can generate emotion and interest in audiences with different cultural backgrounds, and that the key is to find suitable scientists, passionate about communicating science, and help them build and develop their communicative abilities.

**Continuum. Journal of Media & Cultural Studies**

Oxford, United Kingdom: Routledge  
Vol. 24 (3), 2010  
ISSN: 1030-4312 / 1469-3666 [online]



The latest issue of this well-established journal is devoted to a single theme and called *Television and the National*, focusing on the debate of the validity of Australian cultural expression on television, despite television being one of the most globalised fields. In this, Albert Moran proposes an interesting issue: "TV nation or TV city?", from the case of television in the city of Sydney as a platform for the development of nationwide television in Australia. Jane Landman also places us in the Australian sphere with a study on the use of television as a civic colonial education mechanism in Papua and New Guinea. Similarly, Pat Laughren presents a piece of research that, in some ways, is closely related to that of Landman but is situated as a case study some years later and general to all Australian documentary production. Chris Healy and Alison Huber also employ a historical perspective, but they look at a series from the 1960s (*Ask the Leyland Brothers*) and draw a connection between television and cultural memory. Felix Thompson analyses the intentionality of representing socially diverse debates and the construction of national identity by the BBC through analysing two series, *Coast* and *Spooks*. And Peter Hughes then returns to Australia to focus on pro-governmental aspects of the programme *Border Security: Australia's Front Line*, which is dedicated to describing the migratory phenomenon. The penultimate article in this issue is a work by Emma Prince about how reality shows are used to construct national cultural identity. Prince adds a certain gender perspective and analyses the system's infrastructure. And finally, Mark Balnaves and Tom O'Regan, from Curtin University of Technology and the University of Queensland in Brisbane, respectively, offer an analysis about how to measure audiences in Australia and America, and examine specifically the "professional culture" which has developed around broadcast ratings and the technical implications.