

CALL FOR PAPERS:

The Big Screen vs. The Small Screen

A one-day conference exploring the competing cultures and contexts of cinema and television in a changing media environment

Canterbury Christ Church University (Department of Media), UK
February 16, 2011

Confirmed key speakers:

Professor Charlotte Brunsdon (University of Warwick)
Professor Mark Jancovich (University of East Anglia)
Dr. Karen Lury (University of Glasgow)

Distinguishing between big screen and small screen, cinema and television, Pauline Kael once wrote that cinema audiences "want the theatre screen to do what the television screen can't do: overpower them" (1965). Nearly fifty years later, do such expectations and experiences hold true? Is cinema (from IMAX to "home cinema") able to "overpower" us in a way that television cannot? Is it television (a "golden age"?), as opposed to cinema, that exists at the vanguard of experimentation? By what routes, and with what consequences, has recent television been adapted for cinema, and vice versa? In relation to new technology and related institutional shifts, how are cultures of production and consumption changing? Ultimately, how relevant are distinctions between "big screen" and "small screen" in an era of increasing convergence?

This international conference seeks to address these and other questions - we are seeking proposals for 20-minute presentations.

Topics for consideration might include (but are not limited to):

- * medium specificity then and now - re-assessing the cinema/television debate
- * gazes, glances (and 3D glasses!) - cinema and television spectatorship
- * the "cinematic experience" and "home viewing" - changing patterns of consumption
- * generational shifts - cinema, television, and youth culture
- * cross-media influence and intertextuality - the migration of genres, styles, and aesthetics from cinema to television and vice versa
- * from small screen to big screen and back again - contemporary adaptations, remakes, and spin-offs
- * networks and studios - industrial and institutional relations and integration
- * pantheon directors - applying models of film authorship to contemporary television
- * from IMAX to iPod - ever bigger and ever smaller screens

* technology and convergence - the "death(s)" of cinema and television as discrete media

Abstracts, of approximately 200 words (including a short biographical note), should be sent by email to shane.blackman@cant.ac.uk and andrew.utterson@cant.ac.uk by 1st October 2010 at the latest.

Please include your name, affiliation (where appropriate), home and office telephone numbers, and postal and email addresses with your proposal.

Please include any A/V requirements with your submission.

<http://www.canterbury.ac.uk/arts-humanities/media/>