

Symposium: When information came of age: the past, present and future of the information society

20th of April 2016, Copenhagen

The symposium is followed by a workshop on April 21st for contributors to a special issue of *temp* about the history of the information society.

At the beginning of the 21st century, the information society fundamentally changed our ways of communicating, shopping and living. Basic structures of society seem to change and well-known media and other institutions become superfluous. At the very heart of our information society we find different conceptions of information technology, including the overarching concept of information itself.

The term 'information technology' is often embedded in a view of information that is closely related to computing. The history of this concept is; however, much broader with traces back to the Middle Ages. When this history is neglected, information is simply tied to a post-1945 modern society, and thus appears to be an impoverished, diffuse, or even ahistorical concept. This symposium will therefore gather diverse types of researchers in order to challenge this fundamentally ahistorical understanding, and challenge restricted notions about the information age. The symposium takes place at the Royal School of Library and Information Science, UCPH, April 20th 2016.

The symposium is sponsored by the Carlsberg Foundation

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International key-notes

Dr. Toni Weller, visiting research fellow at De Montford University in Leicester, UK. *The ubiquity of information in history and the role of the information historian in the present.*

Professor Sven Dupré, Chair of History of Art, Science and Technology at Utrecht University, the Netherlands. *The role of the arts in the making of an early modern knowledge society.*

Professor Jane Winters, professor in Digital History at the Institute of Historical Research (IHR), UK. *Working with the archived web and born-digital big data – challenges and opportunities.*

Dr. Daniela Zetti, associated member of the center "History of Knowledge", Switzerland. *Digitization and historical narratives.*

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