

Call for workshops papers:
Censorship and Self Censorship: theory and ethics.
April 26-27, 2012
Music department,
Oslo University College

Second Workshop with international partners,
Sponsored by a NordForsk grant to
Nordic Network for Researching Music Censorship

Dear Nordic members of RMC,

In recent times discussions over censorship and self censorship have made headlines in public discourse on culture. The Mohammed cartoons in Denmark and similar incidents in Sweden and Norway have challenged and complicated artistic freedom of expression and most recently plans on a theatre performance based on the Oslo shootings in July 2011 and the nomination of Norwegian metal band Taake to the 'Spellemannsprisen' have caused heated debate over ethics and culture. The incidents have brought about calls for renewed public attention to the effects of artistic products and a conspicuous divide between supporters and opponents of unconditional freedom of expression is emerging, often resulting in self imposed limitations interpreted as self censorship. In music social life and among musicians the acute political situation together with the increased permeability of digital media has likewise caused unease and the balance between consideration over social peace and artistic freedom of expression have collided causing artists to restrict and silence themselves for various reasons including respect for the victims or fear of consequences.

This workshop aims at examining and discussing the delicate and often unclear distinction between censorship and self censorship and it calls for reflections over the ethics involved.

Based on an abstract of up to 400 words, 6 to 8 papers relating to the workshop theme will be selected for presentation and discussion during the workshop. The format of the meeting will be that presenters will speak for 20 minutes followed by in depth discussion with workshop participants. We also consider the possibility of poster presentation or panels with shorter papers. Suggestions for all types of presentations are welcomed.

Travel and accommodation in Oslo will be covered for all participating members whether or not they present papers.

Deadline for abstracts and proposals is Monday, March 5th

Contact: Annemette Kirkegaard, University of Copenhagen; kirkegd@hum.ku.dk

Invited speakers are:

Karin van Nieuwkerk, Nijmegen University, NL, & John Hutnyk, Goldsmiths, UK

Van Nieuwkerk is the author of '*A trade like any other*': *Female singers and dancers in Egypt* 1991 and *Muslim Rap, Halal Soaps and Revolutionary Theatre*, 2011. John Hutnyk has written *Critique of Exotica, Music, Politics and the Culture Industry*, 2000 and edited *Celebrating Transgression* 2006

This is the second of three workshops, which together with three larger Nordic meetings and four PhD seminars are the primary activities of The Researching Music Censorship network.

See also www.rmc.ku.dk