

The Nobel Museum
Centre for Baltic and East European Studies (CBEES), Södertörn
University
&
The NERU Network (*Northern Europe – from Cold War Division to*
***Restructured Europe*)**

Warmly welcomes you to an international conference

Thinking and Making Connections:

**Cybernetic Heritage in the Social and Human Sciences
and Beyond**

10 – 11 November, 2008

The Nobel Museum

&

Södertörn University

Stockholm, Sweden



The conference programme

Monday, 10 November 2008

Location: The Nobel Museum, Stortorget, Stockholm

Time: 13.00-18.30

12.00 – 13.00 **Registration**

13.00 – 13.10

Welcome. **Rebecka Lettevall**, Södertörn University and the Nobel Museum, Sweden

13.10-14.30, Session 1

Chair: **Egle Rindzeviciute**, Linköping University, Sweden / De Montfort University, the UK

Andrew Pickering, the University of Exeter, the UK:
Sketches of another Future: Cybernetics in Britain, 1940-2000

Slava Gerovitch, MIT, USA:
Cybernetic Translations: The Allure and the Menace of Cyberspeak

14.30-15.00 Coffee break

15.00-17.00 Session 2

Chair: **Teresa Kulawik**, Södertörn University, Sweden

Joanna Zylinska, Goldsmiths, University of London: *Is There Life in Cybernetics? Designing a Post-humanist Bioethics*

Klaus Krippendorff, University of Pennsylvania: *Cybernetics's Reflexive Turn*

Vessela Misheva, Uppsala University: *Cybernetics and Systems Theory: Allies or Foes?*

17.00-17.10 A break

17.10 – 18.30, Session 3

Chair: **Jenny Sundén**, Royal Institute of Technology (KTH), Sweden

Celine Lafontaine, Université de Montréal, Canada
The Cybernetic Matrix of French Theory

Jasia Reichardt, London, the UK:
The Early Days of Intermedia

18:30 Buffet dinner for the registered participants at the Nobel Museum

Tuesday, 11 November 2008

Location: Rooms MB 505, MA 613
Södertörns högskola (Södertörn University)
Alfred Nobels allé 7, Flemingsberg

Time: 09.00-18.45

08.30-09.00 **Registration** (outside of MB 505)

09.00-10.30, MB 505

Session 1. Soviet cybernetics

Chair: **Slava Gerovitch**, MIT

Margareta Tillberg, Max-Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte / Royal Institute of Technology (KTH): *Cybernetics in Art and Design under Brezhnev*

Henriette Cederlöf, Södertörn University: *Cybernetics and the Science Fiction of the Strugatsky Brothers*

Egle Rindzeviciute, Linköping University/ De Montfort University: *Governance through Freedom in an Authoritarian State: Cybernetics and Soviet Cultural Policy*

10.30-10.45 **Coffee break**

10.45-12.15, MB 505

Session 2. Cybernetics in the Media and Arts

Chair: **Irina Sandomirskaja**, Södertörn University

Sandra Gaudenzi, Goldsmiths: *The Influence of Cybernetics on Documentary Making*

Karolina Uggla, Stockholm University: *The Influence of Mathematical Logic: Towards an Aesthetic Interpretation of Cybernetic Analogies in the Exhibition COOL, Skånska konstmuseum, Lund 1968*

Maria Prieto, University of Camilo Jose Cela: *Towards a World Just City*

12.15-13.15 **Lunch break**

13.15-15.15, MB 505

Session 3. Historical and social dimensions of cybernetics

Chair: **Patrik Hernwall**, Södertörn University

Benjamin Peters, Columbia University: *A World Already in Motion: On the Origins of Information, Organization, Feedback*

Andreas Gunnarsson, Göteborg University: *Cyborg Role Model: The First Swede in Space as a Public Demonstration of an Appropriate Relation to Technology*

Federica Frabetti, Goldsmiths: *Calculating the Unforeseeable: The Concept of 'Software System' in the Cold War Years*

Jason Jixuan Hu, George Washington University/ WINTOP Organizational Learning Laboratory: *Unfolding the Dynamic Structure Dimension of Cognition: Cybernetics as an Extraordinary Milestone of the Human Cognitive Capacity Development*

15.15-15.45 **Coffee break**

15.45-17.15, MB 505

Session 4. Not just Norbert

Chair: **Chris Bissell**, The Open University

Chris Bissell, The Open University: *Some Other, Cybernetically-Inclined, Control and Communication Engineering Contemporaries of Norbert Wiener*

Magnus Ramage, The Open University: *Norbert and Gregory: Two Strands of Cybernetics*

David Chapman, The Open University: *Information and Meaning: Complexity, Surprise and Context in Telecommunications and Art*

Parallel session

17.15-18.45, MB 505

Session 5. Second order cybernetics, and the social sciences and humanities

Chair: **Ranulph Glanville**, UK

Bernard Scott, Defence Academy, UK: *The Constructed World: Cybernetic Models of Learning and Psychological Individuation*

Karl Mueller, WISDOM / University of Ljubljana: *Second-Order Cybernetics as a Contemporary Research Program*

Ranulph Glanville, UK: *At the Heart of Designing - Second Order Cybernetics*

Parallel session

17.15-18.45, MA 613

Session 6: Russian and American Conversations on Cybernetics, Philosophy and Social Change

Chair: **Stuart A. Umpleby**, The George Washington University

Vera Gushchina, Voronezh State University: *What Type of Society Can Make Effective Use of Cybernetics in Management?*

Tatyana Medvedeva, Siberian State University of Transport: *Cybernetics and the Russian Intellectual Tradition*

Stuart Umpleby, The George Washington University: *Reflections on the Russian and American Conversations on Cybernetics and Systems Theory*

19.00 **Dinner for the registered participants, Södertörn University**

The conference organisers would like to gratefully acknowledge the generous support received from the Nobel Museum, the Centre for Baltic and East European Studies (CBEES) at Södertörn University and NordForsk.

The Scientific Committee

Teresa Kulawik, Professor of Gender Studies, Södertörn University

Egle Rindzeviciute, Postdoctoral Fellow, Linköping University / Lecturer in Arts and Cultural Industries Management, De Montfort University

Rebecka Lettevall, Assistant Professor of the History of Ideas, Södertörn University

Göran Bolin, Professor of Media and Communication Studies, Södertörn University

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