

Summaries

Articles

Anders Ørom: Genrer indenfor fagmedier (Kinds in subject medias)

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In the article the term "subjects medias" is used as a wider term which includes subject literature and specialist knowledge communicated through non-print medias such as film and cd-rom. The article presents an analysis of a number of elements relevant to the definition of a kind. In order to define a kind in the field of subject literature and subject medias four elements - or aspects - are considered be essential. The first one is the function of the document. Which purpose does the document serve and for whom is it written? The second is the language (written, spoken and/or visual). Which are the characteristics of the language, and which of the linguistic functions defined by Roman Jakobson are the dominating ones? The third is the structure of the document and the way the content is communicated. Is the composition of the media product determined by the structure of the subject, by a scientific standard or by a narrator trying to create fascination and tension? The fourth element is the way in which the author or the film director presents himself in the subject media. Does the author present himself as an objective and authoritative representative of science or does he present himself as an "I", who is subjective and reflective? The article defines for instance the scientific treatise as a kind combining the four elements as follows: the function of the treatise is to document

new scientific knowledge for fellow-scientists in the field. The language used in the treatise is normally neutral, objective and without metaphors. The structure follows the so-called IMRAD pattern (Introduction, Method, Results And Discussion) and the author uses the pronoun "We" or "I" in a way which underlines scientific authority. In a similar way other kinds as for instance the essay and fiction are defined. Besides the attempt to create a framework for defining kinds in subject medias the article argues that the field of subject literature and subject medias is undergoing a transformation. New kinds using elements from fiction are under development and diversification.

Søren Brier: CD-ROM som populærvidenskabeligt multimedie. (CD-ROM as a multi-medium for Popular Science: On the threshold of realising the dream of The Glass Bead Game?)

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The article analyses the development of the use of CD-ROM as a multimedia within science mediation. Through the analysis of a number of popular science CD-ROM's the paper discusses the optimal use of multimedia functions, hypertext, virtual reality elements, edutainment, interactivity and Internet connections. Further is analysed examples of the use of personal video introductions and talks on or within different topics, the use of poetry, music, graphical art, morphing and animated pictures. A

series of CD-ROM's on space, space travel, the solar system and Cosmos is analysed for their mixture of facts and fiction, their plot to get you through the material, their mediation levels, their use - or lack of - personalised narrators and finally what they focus on in the sciences. Is it facts or fascination? Is it the wonder of space or the power of technology? A list of technical problems that has to be solved is made and finally a list of quality criteria for the organisation of the material and media on popular science CD-ROM's is constructed pointing the possibility of developing a new multimedia language which leads towards Hermann Hesse's dream of a unified language for science, philosophy and art in "The Glass Bead Game". Fiorella Terenzi's *Invisible Universe* from Voyager is one of the most daring in this aspect.

Kirsten Steen Nielsen: Den elektroniske læsesal (The Electronic Reading Room)

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The article presents and discusses a pilot project carried out at the children's department of København Kommunes Biblioteker. This pilot project, The Electronic Reading Room, stems from a need of making the library services for school children more up to date, and it aims at an evaluation of the user needs, of the quality and the suitability of electronic medias such as cd-roms as well as of the role of the librarian in the new context. The article deals with the selection of cd-roms for children, with the concept of quality in the context of an electronic reading room for children, further on it treats the technical problems connected to the use of cd-roms in children's libraries and with the profile of the cd-rom collection. One essential conclusion is that the electronic reading room differs much from the classical part of the reference collection.

Tina Hansen, Trine Ørnstrup og Martin Dyrbye: Metamodel til vurdering af materialevalgskilder inden for humanistisk faglitteratur. (Metamodel to evaluate the sources of material selection within the humanities)

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This article is about acquisition of materials in the humanities, and the use of a so-called "metamodel" to evaluate the sources of material selection, e.g. reviews. The structure of the metamodel is influenced by three different views: the concepts of library and information science (formulated by Birger Hjørland), the historian's theoretical reflections on the value of reviews in historical research and in the writing of history (formulated by Svend Ellehøj), and finally the theoretical reflections on how to expose information about different media (formulated by Jørgen Bruun Pedersen). The metamodel consists of seven different parts, which are interacting, and illustrates the process of material selection as a unified whole.

Søren Brier: Fikta: En ny type populærvidenskab. Om udvikling af nye genre indenfor videnskabsformidling herunder det populærvidenskabelige essay og science in fiction. (Ficta: A new type of popular science fictionalisation? On the development of new genres in science mediation amongst others the popular science essay and 'science in fiction').

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The article gives a short description of the main forms that the mediation of science falls in. It then delves on the development of more fictional forms in popular science especially the use of the personal essay by Stephen Hawking and Tor Nørretranders. It discusses how the development of personal views and theories in broadly published non-peer-reviewed literature breaks boundaries between science and debate literature. The further development of the use of faction - fictional techniques in the mediation of factual texts - in popular science literature as for example James Gleick's book on cha-

os is demonstrated. Djerassi's development of 'science-in-fiction' in his novels *Cantors Dilemma* and *Bourbaki* is a further sign of a new interest in science as drama and adventure which is also seen in the movie *Contact*. The paper then analyses Michael Crichton's book *Jurassic Park* and shows - in the light of some of his other novels such as *The Lost World*, *Congo* and *Airframe* - how he develops a new dramatised and fictional form of mediation of highly abstract scientific theories. *Jurassic Park*, of course, has some of the characteristics of a science fiction but it also have a mediation of theories of non-linearity, chaos and fractals you have not seen in a novel before as so central an element. Further it has a history of ideas meta-perspective on the development of our culture's world view and technology. This book has serious messages which the movie unfortunately did not manage to bring forth very well. I call this rather new genre - which Crichton develops to its full blossom in *Jurassic Park* and *The Lost World* - for *FICTA*.

Susanne Ørnager: Billedarkiver i Dagbladsredaktioner. En servicevirksomhed (Image archives in newspaper editorial offices. A service activity)

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This article talks about photo archives in Danish newspapers and the possibility for the archives of becoming real service activities. On the basis of »Grounded Theory«; a qualitative method of analysis developed by B. Glaser and A. Strauss, a study of an empirical investigation of 17 newspapers has been carried out. This analysis shows that photo archives have a very real chance of becoming visible service organisations and a five point plan of action based on Jytte Clement's and Richard Normann's »Service Management« methods is suggested. Finally it is concluded that photographs and pictures are saleable objects for newspapers and therefore an integrated part of news communication. It is suggested that in future studies focus be placed on the quality of visual communication, and that external customers' needs and wishes be examined.

REVIEW

Pierre Evald: Tankens klarhed bag lysets bibliotek (Clearcut Thinking behind the Library of Light)

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The new public library in Malmö, Sweden, was inaugurated in June 1997 and the building and its interior design documented in: *Tidernas bibliotek* (1997). In a review of the book focus is on the elaborated and innovative design process, including new extremely professional approaches to the design of librarians' service points, of user equipment, exposition of material and mixing of paper-based and electronic services. The book is an outstanding source of inspiration for any consideration dealing with the adjustment of the library as place to serve the demands of a turbulent society. Almost half of the chapters are due to the now former chief librarian Sven Nilsson, who in the building and in the book has made some landmarks hard to overlook for library planners.