

## CALL FOR PAPERS

\*ECREA Radio Research Conference 2019:

Radio as a Social Media: community, participation, public values in the platform society.\*

\*19-21 September 2019, University of Siena (Italy)\*

The next conference of the Radio Research Section of ECREA will be held at the Department of Social, Political and Cognitive Sciences of the University of Siena, from 19 to 21 September 2019. The 2019 theme is: Radio as a Social/Convivial Media: community, participation, public values in the platform society.

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### **\*The topic\***

In the age of platformization of culture (Nieborg & Poell 2018) every media is being turned into a digital platform and every audience is being datafied and commodified. What is the role of radio within this new media ecosystem? Tim Wu (2011) showed how radio broadcasting too was eventually colonized by the ethos of profit, but along its history the radio medium has been able to partially escape its commodification and it has carved out a social role as a public service media and as a community/civic media, more open to audience interaction and participation than television and print media used to be.

In a media ecosystem increasingly shaped by algorithms, radio is the only medium that still has a relevant analogue component, especially in non-western areas of the world. The relevance of analogue broadcasting is not only a residual practice but could be also framed as a space of freedom, a practice of resistance to the process of platformization.

\*"Radio as a social media" \*is the theme of the 2019 ECREA Radio conference. What does it mean to be a "social media" in the era of digital "social media"?

Our proposal is that radio, in order to be "social", needs to be "convivial", in the sense proposed by Ivan Illich in its work "Tools for Conviviality" (1973), which also inspired the first hackers and makers of home computer's history.

\*Conviviality \*is a concept that was introduced by Ivan Illich (1973). He imagined a world where people had an open relationship with the material world surrounding them, including the technologies they used: 'I choose the term 'conviviality' to designate the opposite of industrial productivity. I intend it to mean autonomous and creative intercourse among persons, and the intercourse of persons with their environment' (1973, p. 11). Conviviality is about being vigorously engaged in relationships, conscious of values and meanings. For Illich, a convivial technology was a tool that people could manipulate, transform, adapt and control. Convivial tools are 'those which gave each person who uses them the greatest opportunity to enrich the environment with the fruits of his or her vision' (1973, p. 21). Conviviality according to Illich revolves around the idea of free and equal access to empowering tools.

Conviviality, as David Gauntlett noted, “is therefore about having the power to shape one’s own world. Illich makes it clear that individuals must retain this power – society must not seek to drain it from them” (2011, p. 168).

Is it still possible a social/convivial use of radio in the age of proprietary algorithms-driven journalism and music consumption?

\*This conference aims at gathering together all the scholars that are currently exploring, from different and/or interdisciplinary perspectives, the complex entanglement between radio/audio/digital media and society. \*

The conference will try to situate radio studies within the broader contemporary media ecosystem and aims at starting a dialogue with and accepting contributions from Internet Studies, Platform studies, Social Media studies, critical political economy of the media, Media History, digital media management, Cultural Studies, production studies, ethnography, sound studies, social sciences.

ECREA Radio Research 2019 is not only a conference, it wants to be also a festival. A festival for the community of scholars with an interest in radio.

Take a chance to enjoy Tuscany at its best (late September)!

\*DEADLINE for abstract submissions: January 15, 2019\*(18:00 hours Greenwich Mean Time)

The Scientific Committee of the conference will select the proposals that could deal with the following topics:

**\*Radio AS a social media\***

- \* Community/civic/free/pirate/alternative/radical/DIY not for profit radio
- \* radio and conviviality (Illich)
- \* radio audiences, empowerment, participation
- \* radio and the diaspora
- \* radio and migration
- \* Migration, identity, radio
- \* copyright, copyleft and radio creation

**\*Radio AND social media\***

- \* Doing radio in the age of social media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, WhatsApp, Snapchat...)
- \* Datafication of listening
- \* radio and music streaming platforms
- \* radio curation vs. algorithmic curation
- \* music radio programming vs. music platforms programming
- \* radio, music platforms and the listener’s agency
- \* networked listeners

- \* Access, Interaction, Participation (Carpentier)
- \* social media for radio: between exploitation and participation
- \* radio as an app
- \* “haptically-mediated” radio listening

### **\*Radio AS public media\***

- \* Who care for...Public service radio?
- \* Public service radio and innovation
- \* radio and cultural diversity
- \* Radio and the public sphere(s)

### **\*Radio (retro)Futurism\***

- \* radio innovation and multi-platform delivery
- \* radio-vision
- \* radio and Artificial Intelligence
- \* Smart speakers and audio/radio listening
- \* Transnational radio
- \* Analog stories
- \* Podcasting
- \* the second age of podcasting: a new digital mass media
- \* repurposing radio content on new platforms distribution technologies
- \* hybrid radio/hybrid future
- \* DAB, streaming or LTE broadcasting?
- \* Streaming kill the digital (DAB) star
- \* What’s the frequency, Kenneth (frequencies and transmission studies)

### **\*Radio as a Research field\***

- \* Political economy of the radio
- \* Radio and gender studies
- \* Radio genres
- \* Radio art
- \* Politics of listening
- \* Poetics of listening
- \* Philosophy of listening
- \* History of listening
- \* Audio vs. Radio
- \* Radio audiences and commodification
- \* Production practices/studies
- \* Reception/Production ethnographies
- \* Digital ethnography
- \* Digital Methods
- \* Network analysis
- \* Radio history

- \* Radio journalism
- \* Radio and the music industry
- \* Ownership, regulation and governance of radio

SPECIAL ISSUE OF "THE RADIO JOURNAL"

We invite delegates of the conference to submit their full papers no later than October 30, 2019 to be selected for a special issue of The Radio Journal, edited by the ECREA Radio Research board, to be published in the second issue of 2020.

**\*SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE\***

- \* Tiziano Bonini, University of Siena, Italy
- \* Marta Perrotta, Roma Tre University, Rome, Italy
- \* Enrico Menduni, Roma Tre University, Rome, Italy
- \* Magdalena Oliveira, Universidade do Minho, Braga, Portugal
- \* Grazyna Stachyra, Lublin University, Poland
- \* Belén Monclus, Autònoma University, Barcelona, Spain
- \* Salvatore Scifo, Bournemouth University, UK

Conference website:

<http://www.congressi.unisi.it/ecrea2019/>  
 <<https://emea01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fecrea.eu%2FEmailTracker%2FLinkTracker.ashx%3FlinkAndRecipientCode%3DG4kQagfQJ7zboUmm7Uhqus1mW6I9cEMPZN5t33g7gtfAvt97vxuUDnStefRmiQrECmWBXmoRghdkY%252bS3iOCAnW9pi%252b8G3SfACrrp1UtRiLQ%253d&data=02%7C01%7C%7Cb095664fc56f454f129508d62870ef3e%7Cede29655d09742e4bbb5f38d427fbfb8%7C0%7C0%7C636740862852317154&sdata=I1KAvGu2G%2BsRQQRLNcEF8c5UoLPg5cyu1Hynsyv5lqM%3D&reserved=0>>

**\*TIMELINE\***

Paper and Panel Submission Deadline:

\*January 15, 2019\*

Final decisions on accepted papers and panels: \*March 10, 2019\*

Early registration deadline:

\*May 31, 2019\*

Late registration deadline:

\*July 15, 2019\*

Full paper submissions for *The Radio Journal*/ Special Issue:

\*October 30, 2019\*