

TWO-DAY NATIONAL STUDENT SEMINAR

MEDIATED (DIS)PLAYS

THE FUTURE OF 'TEXT' AFTER WEB 2.0

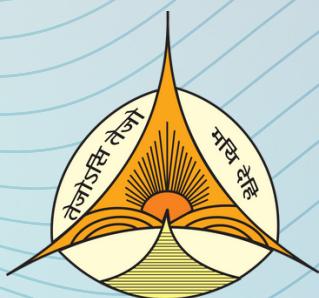
PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

ORGANISED BY

ENGLISH LITERARY ASSOCIATION

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

JESUS AND MARY COLLEGE, DU



27th-28th OCTOBER

2022

Key Information



Conference Dates: 27th - 28th October 2022

Last Date for Online Registration: 26th October 2022

Venue

27th October: Thevenet Hall, Jesus and Mary College, DU

28th October: Online (Links will be sent via mail after registration)

Register here: <https://bit.ly/MediatedDisPlays>

For further queries, please contact:

ela.jmc2020@gmail.com

Concept Note

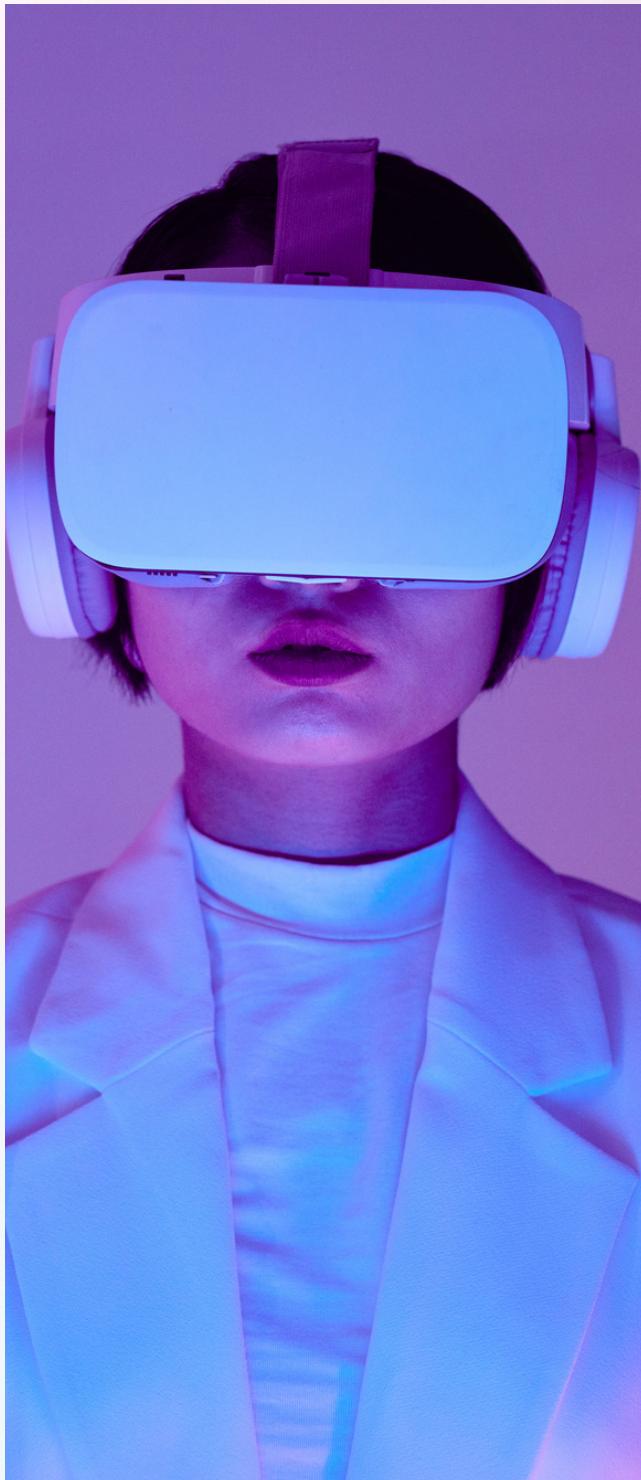
Across civilizations and cultures, thinkers and artists have pondered the significance of the medium in the production of knowledge and art. From ancient prioritizations of the oral and dialogic to the contemporary emphasis on visuality, media cultures have made it possible to explore the different ways in which literature and other arts can be created, disseminated, and received. The emergence of digital media in the 20th century has only sharpened the critical need to investigate the relationship between literature and mediality.

New constellations of aural, haptic and visual media including photography, digital video/film, social media, podcasts etc. have altered social and individual life by reorganizing our literary tastes and sensibilities. In addition, the emergence of new media has also revolutionized contemporary literature. The growing importance of film, television and digital media as texts of scholarly inquiry has not only led to a shift in the definition of what is a text but it has also impacted literary studies with the introduction of new media courses in university syllabi. The so-called “medial turn” has thus entailed fundamental restructurings in the field of the Humanities.

Media theory consequently is one of the most crucial critical approaches in the present. If the future is digital, will it change how we tell stories? We need a new theoretics not only to understand the future of Humanities but also to make sense of the extent of medial possibilities: of the different ways of telling and consuming stories; of the diversity of voices and grammars of storytelling; of the opportunities for novel, disruptive and democratic access; and of the alibis for re-producing extant hierarchies and exclusions.

This student conference aims to examine the “medial turn” in the Humanities. We invite papers that examine the relation between new media and literature, the meanings of mediality and its impact on scholarly and creative praxis, as well as on cultures of consumption. We want to generate conversations about the relationship between media theory and literary/cultural studies by re-evaluating the medialities of literature in the light of the literatures on mediality. We encourage students to engage with different media, print or digital, visual or aural, to examine the cultural production, circulation and consumption of ‘stories’.

Themes may include, but are not limited to the following:



Mediated Realities (e.g., Literary Realism, Virtual Reality)
Media Access and Participation
Commodification and Consumption of New Media
Censorship and Fake News
Memes and Trends
New Media, New Me: Identity and Assertion
Vlogs and Blogs
Digital Media in Contemporary Mass Culture
Children's Media
Television and Popular Genres
Celluloid Narratives
Oralities and Medialities
Fan Fiction and E-Publishing
Writing back? Media Theory and Postcolonial Literatures
Contemporary Indian Writings in English and Medial Experimentations
Regional Literatures and Intermedia Interventions

Please Note: This seminar will be held in hybrid mode. The first day (27th) will be an in-person event at Thevenet Hall, Jesus and Mary College, DU. The second day (28th) will be held online. Links will be shared via mail after registration.

Programme Schedule

DAY 1 (Offline)

11:00 am-12:00 pm

KEYNOTE LECTURE with **Prof. Ravi Sundaram**, Professor, CSDS, Delhi

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm — Lunch

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm — Technical Session 1 : Reading in the Digital Age

2:00 pm - 2:30 pm — Coffee/Tea

2:30 pm - 3:30 pm — Technical Session 2 : Mediated Memories and Identities

DAY 2 (Online)

10:00 am - 11:00 am — **PLENARY SESSION** with **Abhinandan Sekhri**, Founder, Newslaundry

11:00 am - 12:30 pm — **PANEL DISCUSSION:** Media Praxis in the Digital Age

Chair: Dr. N.A. Jacob

Panelists: Anurag Minus Vema, Mae Mariyam Thomas & Padmini Ray Murray

12:30 pm - 1:00 pm — Lunch

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm — Technical Session 3 : (Multi)Media Translation and Adaptation

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm — Technical Session 4 : New Media Aesthetics

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm — Technical Session 5 : The Margins of Media

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm — Technical Session 6 : Rethinking Pop and Fandom Cultures

3:00 pm - 4:00 pm — Venturing into Virtual Reality (Sponsored Cultural Programme)

4:00 pm — Vote of Thanks

Parallel Sessions

Parallel Sessions

Highlights of the Event

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Prof. Ravi Sundaram

Professor, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies

PLENARY SPEAKER



Abhinandan Sekhri

Director, Writer, Producer and
Co-Founder & CEO, Newslaundry

PANEL DISCUSSION

Session Chair



Dr. N.A. Jacob

Associate Professor, Ramjas College, DU



Dr. Padmini Ray Murray

Founder, Design Beku



Anurag Minus Verma

Film-maker, author, content creator, podcaster



Mae Mariyam Thomas

Presenter, journalist, podcast producer &
Founder, Maed in India

About the Speakers



KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Prof. Ravi Sundaram

In 2000, Ravi Sundaram co-founded the Sarai programme at the CSDS along with Ravi Vasudevan and the Raqs Media Collective.

Sarai grew to become one of India's best-known experimental and critical research sites on media. Along with colleagues, Sundaram co-edited the Sarai Reader series, *The Public Domain* (2001), *The Cities of Everyday Life* (2002), *Shaping Technologies* (2003), *Crisis Media* (2004). Sundaram wrote *Pirate Modernity: Media Urbanism in Delhi* (2010) and edited *No Limits: Media Studies from India* (Delhi, 2015). His recent book *Technopharmacology* (with Joshua Neves, Aleena Chia and Susanna Paasonen) came out from Minnesota and Meson Press (2022). He is currently finishing his next book project, *Events and Affections: Post-Public Media Circulation*.

Sundaram's essays have been translated into various languages in India, Asia, and Europe.

PLENARY SPEAKER: Abhinandan Sekhri



Abhinandan Sekhri is the co-founder and CEO of NewsLaundry. Based out of Delhi, NewsLaundry is an ad-free, reader-supported news media organisation. Over the last 10 years, it has won multiple awards for its journalism, including the Ramnath Goenka Excellence in Journalism Award and the RedInk Award.

Before starting NewsLaundry, Abhinandan co-founded Small Screen. With some of the biggest non-fiction and lifestyle shows under its belt, Small Screen is one of the leading production houses in India.

Abhinandan has produced, scripted and directed some of the most loved TV shows in the country, ranging from *Highway on my Plate* to news satire shows such as *Gustaakhi Maaf* and *The Great Indian Tamasha*. He is also the general secretary of DIGIPUB News India Foundation, the largest body in India representing digital news organisations and journalists. He started his career as a researcher and later was a reporter at TV Today Network in 1995 where he reported for Newstrack and Aaj Tak.

Panel Chair: Dr. N.A. Jacob



N. A. Jacob teaches English at Ramjas College, University of Delhi. His doctoral thesis at Rutgers University was titled *Looking Through Words: Histories of the Visual Image in Nineteenth-Century Literature*. His interests include philosophy, literary theory, aesthetics and photography studies. He was one of the architects of the DSE paper titled, Literature and Mediality.

Panelist: Dr. Padmini Ray Murray



Padmini Ray Murray (PhD, University of Edinburgh) is the founder of Design Beku, a collective that emerged from a desire to explore how technology and design can be decolonial, local, and ethical. Padmini established the first degree level digital humanities programme in India at the Srishti Institute of Art, Design and Technology where she was course director from 2016-2018. She has been the recipient of the Arts and Humanities Research Council Unbox Fellowship and the co-investigator with Claire Squires on The Book Unbound. She is co-investigator on Gendering the Smart City with Professor Ayona Dutta, and the digital lead on Two Centuries of Indian Print, a project in collaboration with the British Library and Jadavpur University. She has served as a trustee for Wikimedia UK, and has led a research project on platform governance and design for the Ekstep Foundation.

Padmini creates new media work which reflects her research and interests, such as Darshan Diversion (with KV Ketan and Joel Johnson), a feminist videogame about the Sabarimala temple controversy; Halt The Hate (with Pratyush Raman) an interactive database of crimes against minorities for Amnesty India. She has worked on Visualising Cybersecurity – a Hewlett funded project with the Centre for Internet and Society and Paul Anthony George, and A is for AI: A Dictionary of AI with Pratyush Raman.

Padmini's most recent published work focuses on how corporate online spaces commit and perpetuate epistemological violence against the marginalised, through collusions of infrastructure and the interface.

Panelist: Anurag Minus Verma



Anurag is a multimedia artist and host of the Anurag Minus Verma Podcast. He studied Art and Aesthetics at JNU, Delhi, and film editing at FTII, Pune. Apart from the video diaries and character videos that have steadily gained an audience on social media, he writes opinion pieces that get regularly published in many publications.

In his popular podcast, he invites top global thinkers and artists from all walks of life where they try to deconstruct and debate the pressing issues of society, culture, and politics.

His podcast regularly features on top charts, and he was recently invited as a speaker to discuss the success of his podcast journey at many prestigious campuses such as Harvard University, the University of Michigan, and Brandeis University.

Panelist: Mae Mariyam Thomas



Mae Mariyam Thomas is a presenter, podcast producer, journalist, entrepreneur and voice over artist with over a decade of experience in the radio industry and 5 years in the podcasting space. She started her career as a News Editor/Journalist for a community radio station in Wales, UK. When she moved back to India in 2010, she continued working in radio as a presenter, producer and creative manager, until eventually she began exploring the growing medium of podcasting.

She now runs her own podcast production company. She's most well-known for being the host of India's first indie music podcast *Maed in India* which was selected by Apple as one of the Best Podcasts of 2018 in India.

Maed in India, the show, has been running for over 7 years and is a platform to showcase some of the best independent music coming out of India. With over 250 episodes out so far, it features interviews, new/unreleased music and live recording sessions with indie musicians.

In 2019, Mae Mariyam Thomas was chosen by GQ magazine for their 50 Most Influential Young Indians.

Technical Sessions

DAY 1 (Offline)

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm — Technical Session 1: Reading in the Digital Age

1. Reconsidering Our Ideas About Literature with the Democratization of Publishing in the Age of 'Instapoetry', Vinay Rajoria, Jamia Millia Islamia
2. Omori: Towards a Fresh Way of Interpreting Digital Literacies, Maria Catherine Kurian, Jesus and Mary College, DU
3. The Next Literary Adventure: Storytelling in Choose Your Own Adventure Games, Sophia Ngayam Lungleng Shongzan, Jesus and Mary College, DU
4. The Book and 'I': Performance of Reading in the Digital Age, Prachi Sharma, Hansraj College, DU

2:30 pm - 3:30 pm — Technical Session 2: Mediated Memories and Identities

1. From Recollection to Recapitulation: Situating Time, Memory and Dotage in 'Vortex' and 'Amour', Pritha Banerjee, University of Delhi
2. Exploring the Intersection of Literary Media and Memory: The Study of the Narrative in British Black Comedy-Drama, *I May Destroy You*, Manisha Kalita, Indraprastha College for Women, DU
3. Mediated Memories and Commodified Nostalgia in the Digital Landscape, Ann Mariya Sabu, Jesus and Mary College, DU
4. Consumption of New Media Theory and Reconfiguration of Identity in Diasporic Literature, Himani Bisht, Gargi College, DU

DAY 2 (Online)

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm — Technical Session 3: (Multi)Media Translation and Adaptation

1. 'Viddying the Horrorshow': A Clockwork Orange on Screen, Vanshika Chaudhary, Jesus and Mary College, DU
2. Vlogging Austen: Literary Adaptation for New Media Platforms, Arya Lovekar, Krea University
3. Transmedial Narration of Oedipus Rex by Sophocles: Analyzing the Evolution of Storytelling in Pedagogical Spaces, Vanshika Trivedi, Zakir Husain Delhi College, DU
4. Lost in Translation?: The Evolution of Baul Music from the Tongue to the Screen, Shaoni Dutta, Jesus and Mary College, DU

Technical Sessions

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm — Technical Session 4: New Media Aesthetics

1. The City as a Hyperreal Text: Medial Experimentations, Postmodernism and Transmediality in Wes Anderson's *The French Dispatch* (2021), Disha Chakraborty, Presidency University
2. Cultural Effects of Software: Examining the Post-Digital Aesthetics Moment, Nivedya P T, AJK Mass Communication Research Centre, JMI
3. The Art of the Game: How Video Games Act as the 'Joystick' in the 'Medial Turn' of the Humanities, Ritwick Khanna, Ramjas College, DU
4. Within Wired Realities: Post-Structuralist Perception in *Serial Experiments Lain*, Aarushi Singh, Jesus and Mary College, DU

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm — Technical Session 5: The Margins of Media

1. The Celebrated Consumer: Digital Capitalism and the Fetishised Worker, Rinjini Majumder, Miranda House, DU
2. Social Media as Spaces of Assertion for the Marginalised, Ankush Pal, Jamia Millia Islamia
3. Media Culture: A (Not) Required Impetus for Queer Literature and Art, Priya Jain, Vivekananda College, DU
4. New Imperialism of the New Media: Purview of Influences and Receptivity of Literature in Web 2.0, Vishnupriya Saxena, Hansraj College, DU

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm — Technical Session 6: Rethinking Pop and Fandom Cultures

1. The Hallyu Wave of Catharsis: Korean Dramas as the New Medium of Purgation of Emotions in Search of Identity and Belonging, Marya, University of Delhi
2. Teenagers, Dystopia and Revolution: Young Adult Fiction in Film, Sanah Munjal, Jesus and Mary College, DU
3. Love Letters to the Fandom: A Study on Fan-Fiction, Sneha Gupta, Zakir Husain Delhi College, DU
4. Canon and Post-Canon: Fan-Fiction as a Revolutionary Act, Tushita Karuna Chhetri, Zakir Husain Delhi College, DU

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

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Register here: <https://bit.ly/MediatedDisPlays>

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