

# SRN SCREENWRITING RESEARCH NETWORK

**Welcome to this quarterly newsletter from the Screenwriting Research Network. We hope to keep you updated with events around the network and in the world of screenwriting research.**

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## **Milan 2018**

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The theme for this year's SRN conference, to be held at Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore in Milan, is the relationship between cinema and television storytelling. Registrations are now open for the conference which runs from September 13-15, 2018. Organizers urge early registration (fee increases after 31 March) and emphasize that early booking for accommodation is wise as Milan will be very busy around that time. Link for registration: <http://www.unicatt.it/meetings/srn-home>

## **Dunedin 2017**

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The 2017 SRN conference was held at the University of Otago in Dunedin in the South Island of New Zealand. Conference organizers engaged strongly with their national screenwriting and filmmaking counterparts and the conference benefitted from the cross-fertilisation of scholars and practitioners. A short report and link to photos can be found here: <https://screenwritingresearch.com/2018/02/27/dunedin-2017>

## **SRN Awards**

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Members of the Executive Council are developing a plan for annual Screenwriting Research Awards to commence in 2019. It is envisaged that these awards will be decided by an independent panel of judges and that nominations from a wide range of sources will be encouraged, the key being the work's contribution to screenwriting research and knowledge. The awards will be formally proposed at the Annual General Meeting to be held during the conference in Milan in September 2018.

## **Screenwriting Archives and Resources Project (SARP)**

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Ian Macdonald sent out a recent call on behalf of the Executive Council for volunteers to provide data on screenwriting resources held by archives or related sources. The intention is to establish a database, to be published on the SRN website, of these resources and Ian reports that he has had considerable feedback already from members in several countries. If you seek further information or have information to add to this database, please contact Ian direct [i.w.macdonald@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:i.w.macdonald@leeds.ac.uk)

## Executive Council representation

The EC is concerned to broaden its representation and a call will be made shortly seeking an early career researcher to join the council membership.

## SRN Working Groups

SRN has established working groups so that members can continue discussions beyond the annual conferences. Each group has a different way of organising its discussions and keeping in touch with its members so if you are interested in joining a group please contact the organiser for the group in question. So far we have five working groups - Games, Collaborative screenwriting, Screenwriting histories, Women and Screenwriting and Teaching screenwriting. The contacts for these groups can be found on the website at <https://screenwritingresearch.com/working-groups/> but please keep an eye on the details as group leaders are likely to change. If you would like to set up a new group, then please let [anna.zaluczowska@leesbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:anna.zaluczowska@leesbeckett.ac.uk) know so that she can publicise it on the SRN website. We would like to encourage groups to share key aspects of these discussions with the wider membership through this newsletter. There will be an opportunity for working groups to meet and build membership at the Milan conference.

## Filmmaking Research Network

A network which may interest members, the FRN seeks to share best practice and resources in the field of filmmaking research and is generating some excellent discussion threads among its members on such subjects as the creative PhD and the place of commercial film production in academic research. <http://filmmakingresearch.net/>

### *Recent publications of note*

**Off The page: screenwriting in the era of media convergence** by Daniel Bernardi and Julian Hoxter

Examines screenwriting in the present day through the lens of the expanded Hollywood industry, including and beyond the studios, independent cinema, television, gaming and online content. <https://www.ucpress.edu/book.php?isbn=9780520285651>

**Screen production research: creative practice as a mode of enquiry** edited by Craig Batty and Susan Kerrigan

Uses case studies from a variety of approaches as a guide to the relationship between theory and

practice in screen production research. Aimed at educators and students with the intention of setting the agenda in this area of research. <https://www.palgrave.com/gp/book/9783319628363>

**Reinventing Hollywood: how 1940s filmmakers changed movie storytelling** by David Bordwell

Bordwell tells us this book has emerged from a keynote given at the SRN Brussels conference. It explores how the experiments of Hollywood filmmakers in the 1940s prefigure much of the ostensibly original narrative and cinematic approaches of today's Tarantinos and Nolans. <http://press.uchicago.edu/ucp/books/book/chicago/R/bo26774168.html>

**Transcultural screenwriting: telling stories for a global world** edited by Carmen Sofia Brenes, Patrick Cattrysse & Margaret McVeigh

Another book emerging from an SRN conference, this time Chile 2015. Uses an interdisciplinary approach to generate new perspectives on debates around notions of transnationalism, imperialism and globalisation. <http://www.cambridgescholars.com/transcultural-screenwriting>

**Scenariste et scénariste: de la reconnaissance institutionnelle de l'objet scénaristique dans le monde de l'art cinématographique français** by Gabrielle Tremblay

Not so recent but of interest to our French-speaking members, this publication looks at the screenplay and the screenwriter within the collaborative process of filmmaking through the lens of Becker's art worlds theory. <http://www.edition-lettmotif.com/produit/scenariste-et-scenariste/>

**Writing Hollywood: the work and professional culture of television writers** by Patricia Phalen

Based on interviews with prime-time drama and comedy writers, Phalen explores the interrelationships between television writers and executives, and the pressures inherent in sustaining a writing career in Hollywood. <https://www.routledge.com/Writing-Hollywood-The-Work-and-Professional-Culture-of-Television-Writers/Phalen/p/book/9781138229822>

*The Screenwriting Research Network is a research group consisting of scholars, reflective practitioners and practice-based researchers interested in research on screenwriting. The aim is to rethink the screenplay in relation to its histories, theories, values and creative practices.*

*The network commenced in 2006 within the Louis Le Prince Research Centre, at the Institute of Communication Studies (ICS), University of Leeds.*

*During the last twelve years the network has grown rapidly. Yearly conferences have attracted a growing number of people around the world to share experiences and discuss problematics of screenwriting research.*

*The conferences have taken place in Leeds (2008), Helsinki (2009), Copenhagen (2010), Brussels (2011), Sydney (2012), Madison, Wisconsin (2013) Potsdam-Babelsberg (2014), London (2015), Leeds (2016) and Dunedin, NZ (2017). The eleventh annual conference will take place in Milan in September 2018.*

## More information:



We welcome contributions and feedback which can be sent to Christina Milligan, Auckland University of Technology: [christina.milligan@aut.ac.nz](mailto:christina.milligan@aut.ac.nz)

For suggestions on the layout please write to C.S. Brenes, Universidad de los Andes: [csbrenes@miuandes.cl](mailto:csbrenes@miuandes.cl)