

## **CALL FOR THEMES, ABSTRACTS, PAPERS**

**TO:** Scholars in philosophy, history, political science, sociology, media studies, communications, rhetoric, literary theory, and cultural studies, AND practitioners in politics and the media

**FROM:** The Society for Phenomenology and Media (SPM)

11<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
THE SOCIETY FOR PHENOMENOLOGY MEDIA  
Arlington, Virginia  
Metropolitan Washington, DC  
USA  
February 26 -28, 2009

## **SUBJECT: PHILOSOPHY, POLITICS, AND THE MEDIA**

For ten years the Society has explored how the media shape our “being-in-the-world” and influence our interaction with others. We have gathered scholars from around the world in conferences and showcased their work in our publication *Glimpse*. In 2009, the Society will focus on the impact of the media on politics. We especially want to encourage cross-disciplinary dialogue and exchange between practitioners and theoreticians. And, for the first time in SPM’s history, we are reaching out to the public with special sessions intended to broaden the conversation on politics and foster an appreciation for engaged philosophical reflection.

The time and place of the conference – after the election of a US president and just outside an international political and news center, Washington, DC – informed our choice of subject. Nonetheless, we welcome papers that address politics, past and present, anywhere in the world, at all levels, and in its many forms. For its part, media includes everything from the human voice and body language to bumper stickers and Face Book.

Continental philosophers have done ground-breaking work on the media and mediation: The names of Adorno, Benjamin, Baudrillard, Barthe, Bourdieu, Deleuze, Derrida, Habermas, Ingarden, Merleau-Ponty, and Sartre come to mind. Perhaps, the Ancients blazed the trail. In his day, American public philosopher Walter Lippmann suggested that Plato’s Cave Allegory is a critique of the media of Plato’s day – one that occurs in a political work no less. The conference is an opportunity to expose and explore the thought of these and others or take up the issues they raise in a collegial setting.

### **DUE DATES:**

Themes, October 30: A phrase or sentence or two proposing the subject for a paper. Submission of a theme will allow us to firm up time and space requirements and offer you feedback on suitability of idea for the conference.

Abstracts, November 30: 100-300 words; either a gist of paper or a description of what you intend to do in your paper and the approach you will take. We will offer you a place on the program based on your abstract.

Papers, January 30: 3,000 words/30-minutes reading time. This due-date is for those whose abstracts have been selected. We would like to share electronic copies to other conference presenters.

**CONTACT:** with submissions or questions or for details on the conference

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