

Design Responsibility: Potentials and Pitfalls

Call for working papers

for The 8th NORDCODE Seminar & Workshop,
May 27-29 2009

at Kolding School of Design, Denmark

Design Responsibility: Potentials and Pitfalls – The 8th NORDCODE Seminar & Workshop will take place 27th to 29th of May 2009 in Kolding, Denmark. The seminar is organized and hosted by Kolding School of Design for the Nordic network for research on communicative product design (NORDCODE).

Seminar theme and topics

The overall theme of the seminar is the notion of design responsibility. Responsibility is by no means a clear-cut term in design or design research. Rather the notion reflects an ever growing attention to and critical thinking upon the effects of design – of conceptualizing, creating, producing, using and putting artifacts into the world. Design relates to issues of functionality, sustainability, ethics, aesthetics and signification – just to name a few. The aim of the seminar is to bring these issues into play and examine the potentials and pitfalls of design responsibility in connection to the communicative aspects of design. Further we would like to explore design aesthetics, research methodology, design processes, form experience and pleasure, and cultural and social signification of design. Questions of interest are:

- What does the notion of design responsibility entail for design research and design practice?
- How can design responsibility be used or be useful for designers and in design research?
- What is responsible design – and what is not?
- How is responsibility communicated in design and design research?

We invite design researchers, professional designers, and other contributors to send in working papers on these, and related issues. We encourage contributions from theoretical and methodological as well as analytical and practical standpoints to identify and discuss the potentials or pitfalls regarding the notion of responsibility in design and for designers and researchers. Suggested topics for presentations are:

- Criteria for design
- Ideology and design
- Discourse on design
- Ethics in design



Seminar

Each participant will give a 20-minute oral presentation, including a discussion of 10 minutes, based on the submitted working paper. Both paper and presentation should be in English. In addition, three keynote lectures will be given on the subject design responsibility and the communicative aspects of design. For information on keynotes, please visit our seminar website: <http://www.designskolenkolding.dk/nordcode>

PhD Student Participation

Prior to the NORDCODE Seminar & Workshop, the second session of the 2009 Nordcode PhD course, *Communicating Design Research – Scholarly Writing*, will be held at Kolding School of Design May 26. To learn more, please visit: <http://www.nordcode.tkk.fi>

For PhD students affiliated with The Danish Doctoral Schools of Architecture & Design (DKAD) participation and presentation of a working paper at the Seminar & Workshop entitles the student to 3 ECTS points. The NORDCODE Seminar & Workshop gives the student an opportunity to take part of on-going design research, as well as to present and discuss their own work in an informal and amicable setting. The purpose for the student is to practice the process of writing a paper, presenting a paper and participating in discussions of papers.

About NORDCODE

The Nordic network for research on communicative product design (NORDCODE) was initiated in 2000 by research colleagues of the department of Industrial Design Engineering at Chalmers University of Technology (in Gothenburg, Sweden) and of the “Meaning of Form” research group at the University of Art and Design Helsinki (TAIK), Finland. Since 2003, the network has held a series of successful seminars at Nordic design research institutions as well as a series of Nordic PhD courses.

Important dates

Deadline for submission of working paper: March 10 2009

Notification of acceptance: April 15 2009

Last day for registration: May 4 2009

NORDCODE seminar May 27-29 2009

Format

Length of working paper: 3-5 pages

Submit working paper as pdf (preferred format) or as MS Word

Paper and seminar language: English



Program/Selection process/Registration

Full seminar program will be published at:

<http://www.designskolenkolding.dk/nordcode>

Mail working papers to: ml@dskd.dk

Submitted papers will be reviewed in order to align them to the overall seminar theme and topics.

Register to the seminar and social events of interest by sending an email to:

lw@dskd.dk

For further information, please visit us at:

Designskolen Kolding: <http://www.designskolenkolding.dk/nordcode>

Nordcode: <http://www.nordcode.tkk.fi>

Attending without submitting a paper

The number of participants is limited, but it will be possible to attend without presenting a paper in the event of vacancies.

Seminar Fee

The seminar is free of charge. If you sign up for the seminar, but do not attend without giving prior notice, DKK 300 will be charged for prepaid expenses.

The 2009 Biennale for Arts & Crafts and Design

From May 7 to September 6 2009 Trapholt Art Museum, The Museum at Koldinghus and The Museum of International Ceramic Art at Grimmerhus host the 2009 Biennale for Arts & Crafts and Design. Visits to one or more exhibition venues will be part of the seminar program. For more information on the 2009 Biennale, please visit: <http://www.biennalen2009.dk> (in Danish).

Funding

Design Responsibility: Potentials and Pitfalls – The 8th NORDCODE Seminar & Workshop is kindly supported by:

- NORDCODE
- Danish Centre for Design Research (DCDR)
- The Danish Doctoral Schools of Architecture & Design (DKAD)

Organizing committee

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