

Rethinking Cultural Criticism

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Helle Kannik Haastrup
Editors

Rethinking Cultural Criticism

New Voices in the Digital Age

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PREFACE

This edited book, *Rethinking Cultural Criticism: New Voices in the Digital Age*, presents a collection of original, international research about cultural criticism across media in the twenty-first-century digital environment. The book is the outcome of an international two-day conference, hosted at the University of Copenhagen, in November 2018 with scholars from more than 10 different countries. We would like to thank all who participated, several of whom have also contributed to this book.

The conference marked the closing of the four-year research project *From Ivory Tower to Twitter (FITT): Rethinking the Cultural Critic in Contemporary Media Culture* (2015–2019, grant-ID: 4180-00082). A project that has studied how media institutional and technological developments during the past decade have enabled advanced public participation in debates about arts and culture but also challenged established notions of cultural authority, enlightenment and expertise, and destabilized the position of critical institutions such as academia and the news media in the cultural information and valorization circuit. We would like to thank Independent Research Fund Denmark for providing us with the unique opportunity to realize this project and for flexibility in regard to the project timeline and team composition. We would also like to thank the Danish School of Media and Journalism (DMJX) for co-funding one of the Ph.D. fellowships in the project.

The project was led by Nete Nørgaard Kristensen from the University of Copenhagen and included a research team of eight scholars from

five Danish research institutions: Unni From, Helle Kannik Haastrup, Aske Kammer, Steffen Moestrup, Louise Yung Nielsen, Erik Svendsen and Troels Østergaard. We would like to thank all project members for their intellectual and scholarly contributions during the project, some of which are also presented in this volume.

We would also like to thank a number of international colleagues for their valuable and inspiring input during the project period: Folker Hanusch, Jan Fredrik Hovden, Susanne Janssen, P. David Marshall, Julian Matthews, Kristina Riegert, Steen Steensen, Marc Verboord and Karin Wahl-Jorgensen. A special thanks to Henrik Bødker for always being willing to provide provoking but precise input. Finally, we would like to thank all the international colleagues who served as anonymous reviewers of the book chapters for their valuable comments and feedback.

We hope that *Rethinking Cultural Criticism: New Voices in the Digital Age* will be a useful contribution to international research on cultural criticism—and, more broadly, cultural journalism—and that it will inspire fellow media and journalism scholars to engage with this intriguing and diverse field of study.

Copenhagen, Denmark
Aarhus, Denmark
Copenhagen, Denmark
June 2020

Nete Nørgaard Kristensen
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