

Pelle Snickars (b. 1971) - CV & major publications

I am currently (since 2022) professor of digital culture at Lund University. Previously, I worked as professor of media and communication studies at Umeå University for almost a decade. Most of my research activities in Umeå took place at the digital humanities hub, Humlab. Prior (before 2014), I was Head of Research at the National Library of Sweden, where I was in charge of a research department of some ten academics. In 2009, the National Library merged with the Swedish National Archive of Recorded Sound and Moving Images, where I had (from 2004) worked as Head of Research as well.

I obtained my PhD in cinema studies at Stockholm University in 2001. I did my postdoc as a fellow of Deutsche Akademische Austauschdienst—partly at Universität Trier and partly at Universität der Künste in Berlin. The postdoc was also funded by a film historical project with money from the Swedish Research Council, and I spent almost two academic years in Berlin working in various libraries and archives. I was once a film scholar, then turned media historian, and then again turned into a media studies and digital culture scholar, working both practically within the heritage sector with digitization projects, and also with research and scholarly publications. In 2006, I founded the book series, Mediehistoriskt arkiv—arguably Scandinavia's foremost media historical publication series.

At present, I consider myself to be both a media and digital culture scholar, as well as a digital humanist with a focus on historical matters, particularly with regards to the media history of the heritage sector. My research interests are broad, and situated at the intersection of digital culture, media history, digital cultural heritage and the digital humanities. During the last few years I have written two thick books on the media history of cultural heritage in Sweden—Kulturarvets mediehistoria: dokumentation och representation 1750–1950 published in 2020n—as well as a media history of audiovisual archives in Sweden, Audiovisualla arkiv: en svensk mediehistoria 1930–1990.

I have published 24 books—a number of them in the book series Mediehistoriskt arkiv, but I have also worked with international university presses as Columbia UP, MIT Press and McGill-Queen's UP. In addition, I have published around a hundred peer-review articles and book chapters—I have some 2,200 citations on Google Scholar. All my publications are available at pellesnickars.se. My books with most citations include the research anthologies, *The Youtube reader* (2010) and *Moving data: The iPhone and the future of media* (2012), titles I once co-edited with professor Patrick Vonderau. Among more recent well-cited publications are the jointly written monograph, *Spotify teardown. Inside the black box of streaming music* (2019)—a book that was even reviewed in the music magazine *Rolling Stone*.

I have supervised ten PhD:s to completion. As a professor holding a chair first at Umeå University and then at Lund University, I have during the last decade initiated a number of research projects, received substantial external funding, and collaborated with many academics and developers. Since 2012, I have received funding for seven major research projects (of some 60 million SEK). At present I am project manager for the research project Modern Times 1936—modernatider1936.se—a project that explores how AI and machine learning models can foster new knowledge about the history of Swedish modernity.

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I have been invited as keynote speaker on ten occasions; I have been faculty opponent, external expert, and part of an examining committee more than twenty times in Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Luxembourg. Furthermore, I have worked as an external subject specialist evaluating positions and grants for a number of Swedish universities, as well as the Turku Institute for Advanced Studies, Riksbankens Jubileumsfond, the Wallenberg foundations, the Netherlands Research Council (Hera), the Norwegian Research Council, the FWF Austrian Science Fund, the Swiss National Science Foundation, the Danish Independent Research Fund, CHANSE (Collaboration of Humanities and Social Sciences in Europe) and the Luxembourg National Research Fund. I have also been part of the editorial board of the journals Human-IT, Journal of Scandinavian Cinema, and View. Journal of European Television History and Culture. I am currently on the editorial board of the Journal of Digital History, and on the advisory board of the new journal Computational Humanities Research. I also sit on the C2DH Scientific Committee at the Université du Luxembourg. Last but not least, I have been a member of the board at the Swedish Agency for the Media (Mediestödsnämnden)—and I am presently a member of the Swedish Research Council's Council for Research infrastructure (RFI).

Major publications

- Snickars, P. & Stjernholm, E. (2024) 'Upscaling Swedish Biograph' Journal of Scandinavian Cinema 14:3
- Snickars, P. & Eriksson, M. (2024) 'Introduction—on tools, bit by bit' Journal of Digital History 3:1
- **Snickars,** P., Eriksson, M. & Skotare, T. (2024) 'Tracking and tracing audiovisual reuse: Introducing the Video Reuse Detector', *Journal of Digital History* 3:1
- Snickars, P. (2024) Audiovisuella arkiv: en svensk mediehistoria 1930–1990 Mediehistoriskt arkiv
- **Snickars, P.**, Jarlbrink J. & Lundell, P. (2023) From big bang to big data: A history of the media McGill-Queen's UP
- **Snickars, P.** (2022) 'Modeling media history. On topic models of Swedish media politics 1945–1989', *Media History* 28:3
- **Snickars, P.**, Eriksson, M. & Skotare, T. (2022) 'Understanding Gardar Sahlberg with neural nets: On algorithmic reuse of the Swedish SF archive', *Journal of Scandinavian Cinema* 12:3
- **Snickars, P.** (2020) Kulturarvets mediehistoria: dokumentation och representation 1750–1950 Mediehistoriskt arkiv
- **Snickars, P.** (2020) 'Media and Mediatization' in Arcangeli, A, Rogge, J. & Salmi, H. eds. *The Routledge companion to cultural history in the western world* Routledge
- Snickars, P. et. al. (2019) Spotify teardown. Inside the black box of streaming music MIT Press
- **Snickars, P.** (2019) 'Metamodeling. 3D-scanning and rendering Christopher Polhem's Laboratorium mechanicum' in Kuroczyński P., Pfarr-Harfst, P & Sander M. eds. *Der Modelle Tugend 2.0 Vom digitalen 3D-Datensatz zum wissenschaftlichen Informationsmodell* Arthistoricum
- Snickars, P. & Mähler, R. (2018) 'SpotiBot—Turing testing Spotify', Digital Humanities Quaterly 12:1
- **Snickars, P.** & Jarlbrink, J. (2017) 'Cultural heritage as digital noise: 19th century newspapers in the digital archive', *Journal of Documentation* 73:6
- **Snickars,** P. & Norén, F. (2017) 'Distant reading the history of Swedish film politics—in 4,500 governmental SOU reports', *Journal of Scandinavian Cinema* 7:2
- Snickars, P & Fleischer, R. (2017) 'Discovering Spotify—A thematic introduction', Culture Unbound 9:2
- Snickars, P (2017) 'More of the same—On Spotify radio', Culture Unbound 9:2
- **Snickars, P.**, Hyvönen, M. & Vesterlund, P. (2017) 'The formation of Swedish media studies, 1960–1980', *Media History* 24:1
- **Snickars**, P. (2016) 'Debunking public service? Meta-academic and personal reflections from inside the Swedish public service broadcasting commission', *Mediekultur. Journal of media and communication*

research 32:61

Snickars, P. (2016) 'More music is better music' in Wikström, P. & DeFillippi R., eds. *Business innovation and disruption in the music industry* Edward Elgar

Snickars, P. (2015) 'Remarks on a failed film archival project', Journal of Scandinavian Cinema 5:1

Snickars, P. & Hedling, O. (2014) 'Film studies anno 2013: A bird's eye view', *Journal of Scandinavian Cinema* 4:1

Snickars, P. (2014) 'Himalaya of data', International Journal of Communication 8

Snickars, P. (2013) 'Against search—Towards a new computational logic of media accessibility', Hartley J., Burgess J. & Bruns A. eds. *Blackwell companion to new media dynamics* Blackwell

Snickars, P. & Vonderau, P. eds. (2012) Moving data: The iPhone and the future of media Columbia UP

Snickars, P. & Vonderau, P. eds. (2010) The Youtube reader Columbia UP

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