

Towards a Cyber Panopticon?

Cyberpanopticon: Time & Venue

27 - Tuesday - MAY 2014

POSTED BY VILHELMKONNANDER IN THEME

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Today, we welcome all SIF14 participants to the unconference 2 session:

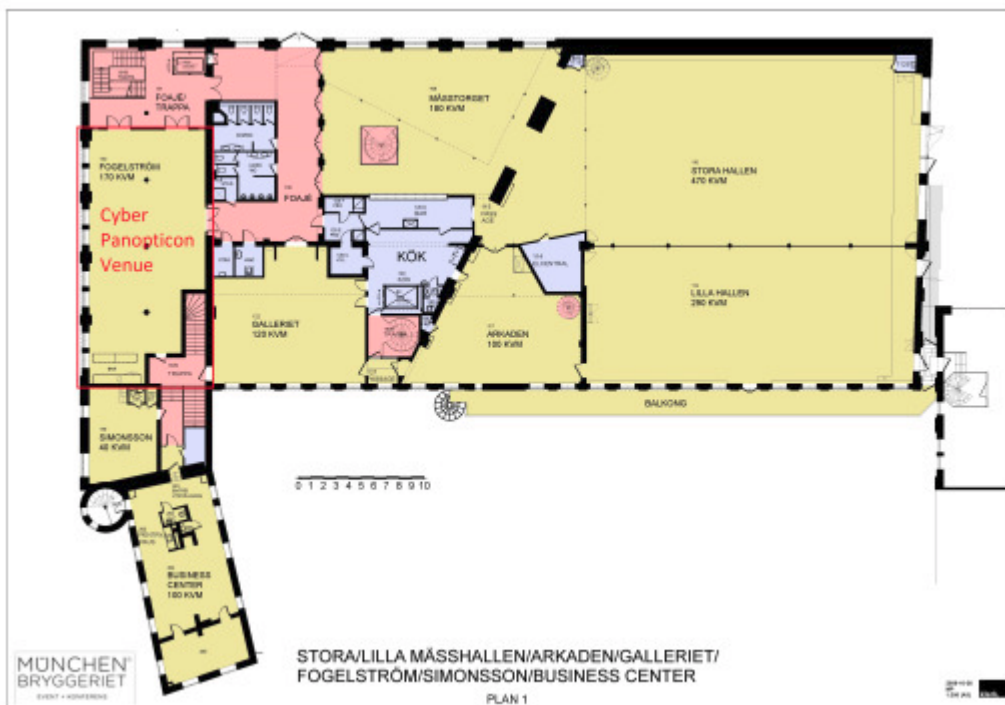
Towards a Cyber Panopticon?

Time: Tuesday 5 PM (between mingle and dinner)

Venue: Fogelstromska rummet (by the top of the entrance stairs, see map beneath)

Info: The *Cyberpanopticon blog* contains further info on theme, panelists, time, and venue.

Twitter: #sifpanopticon #sif12b



Towards a

Cyber Panopticon?

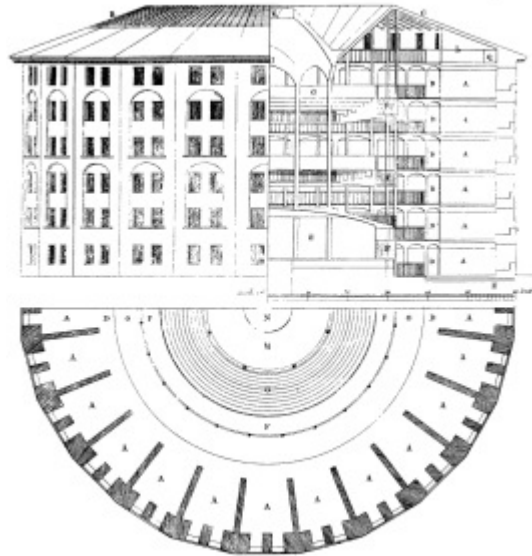
22 - Thursday - MAY 2014

POSTED BY VILHELMKONNANDER IN THEME

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How surveillance and censorship affect who we are and what we do

- What is the state of censorship vs. surveillance?
- Where do they meet and where do they diverge?



Jeremy Bentham [Public domain], [via Wikimedia Commons](#)

Half a century ago, French philosopher Michel Foucault argued that society was turning into a Panopticon – a model prison based on Jeremy Bentham’s utilitarian idea that prisoners would adapt their behaviour to potentially rather than actually being watched.

Thus, we depart from the argument that surveillance curtails freedom of expression and should be considered one method of censorship, by enforcing a climate of fear and self-censorship, because once you know or suspect you are being watched, you end up losing your freedom to openly speak your mind. This is most saliently so under authoritarian rule.

Combining a from-the-ground perspective – cyber activists from authoritarian states – with academic and technical aspects, we ask ourselves if surveillance is turning us into our own watchmen or if defiance might to the contrary augment our urge for online freedom of expression.

Walid Al-Saqaf

22 - Thursday - MAY 2014

Walid Al-Saqaf (@wsaqaf) is a print/online journalist turned cyber activist. He is the founder and administrator of *Yemen Portal*, a news and multi-content aggregator focused on content on his country (Yemen), as well as founder of *alkasir* – a website for mapping and circumventing cyber-censorship. Walid holds a Master in Global Journalism and is currently finishing his PhD at Örebro University, Sweden, where he is also Director of the Global Journalism Programme. He will defend his doctoral dissertation *Breaking Digital Firewalls: Analyzing internet Censorship and Circumvention in the Arab World* on 5 June.



Lina Ejeilat

22 . Thursday . MAY 2014

POSTED BY [VILHELMKONNANDER](#) IN [PANELISTS](#)

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Lina Ejeilat (@lina18) is co-founder and editor-in-chief of *Ziber.com*, a multimedia magazine and citizen-media platform based in Amman, Jordan. She received her Masters degree in Journalism/New Media from *Columbia University* in New York, and her Bachelors in Electrical Engineering from the *University of Jordan*. Lina also teaches Digital Media at the *Jordan Media Institute*, which offers an M.A in Journalism and New Media. She leads workshops and training programs for journalists and activists on social media and multimedia journalism in Jordan and the region. She previously worked as a reporter with *JO Magazine*-, and *Thomson Reuters* in Amman.



Vilhelm Konnander

22 . Thursday . MAY 2014

POSTED BY [VILHELMKONNANDER](#) IN [ORGANIZERS](#), [PANELISTS](#)

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Eastern Europe. Once an avid blogger, Vilhelm previously contributed to the Eastern and Central Europe coverage of Global Voices. He has also been the President of the Swedish branch of the International Council for Central and East European Studies (ICCEES), served with the Swedish MFA and at the Swedish AF HQ.



Andrew Lewman

22 - Thursday - MAY 2014

POSTED BY VILHELMKONNANDER IN PANELISTS

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Andrew Lewman currently runs The Tor Project (@torproject) as the Executive Director and a member of the Board. He's on the Board of the Privacy Enhancing Technologies Symposium, which brings together anonymity and privacy experts from around the world to discuss recent advances and new perspectives in privacy for the Internet and other communication networks. He works on IPVTech to help eliminate Domestic Violence, Intimate Partner Violence (IPV), and Intimate Partner Abuse (IPA) through the use of information technology, resources, biotechnology, and experience.



Andrew is a strong believer of individual rights, privacy, anonymity, and solving real-world problems; sometimes even with technology. He's been interviewed by the global press about these topics. Sometimes, he even writes code.

Afrah Nasser

22 - Thursday - MAY 2014

POSTED BY VILHELMKONNANDER IN PANELISTS

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In self-exile in Sweden since May 2011, **Afrah Nasser** (@afrahnasser) is a freelance writer and blogger since 2010 focusing on Human Rights violations, women's rights and politics of Yemen. She's a grad student in communication at University of Gothenburg and the co-founder of the Yemeni Salon in Stockholm NGO.

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<https://cyberpanopticonsif.wordpress.com/>

In April 2011, her blog has been featured as one of the 10 must-read blogs from the Middle East by CNN.com, in October 2012 the blog has been featured at no. 3 among 35 Top Middle East blog by The Monitor and she has been featured as one of the most active female journalists on twitter by the International Journalist Network. She has worked as a reporter for Yemen Observer newspaper 2008-2011, the Swedish International Radio 2012, the Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation in Sweden.

Nasser has contributed to 2 books and she regularly writes columns about Yemen for publications in Yemen and worldwide besides doing public speaking on Yemen's affairs.



Brett Solomon

22 - Thursday - MAY 2014

POSTED BY VILHELMKONNANDER IN PANELISTS

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Brett Solomon (@solomonbrett) is the co-founder and Executive Director of Access Now, an international NGO that promotes open and secure access to the internet as a means to the realisation of human rights and the free, full and safe participation in society. Prior to this he was the Campaign Director at Avaaz and the first Executive Director of GetUp!.

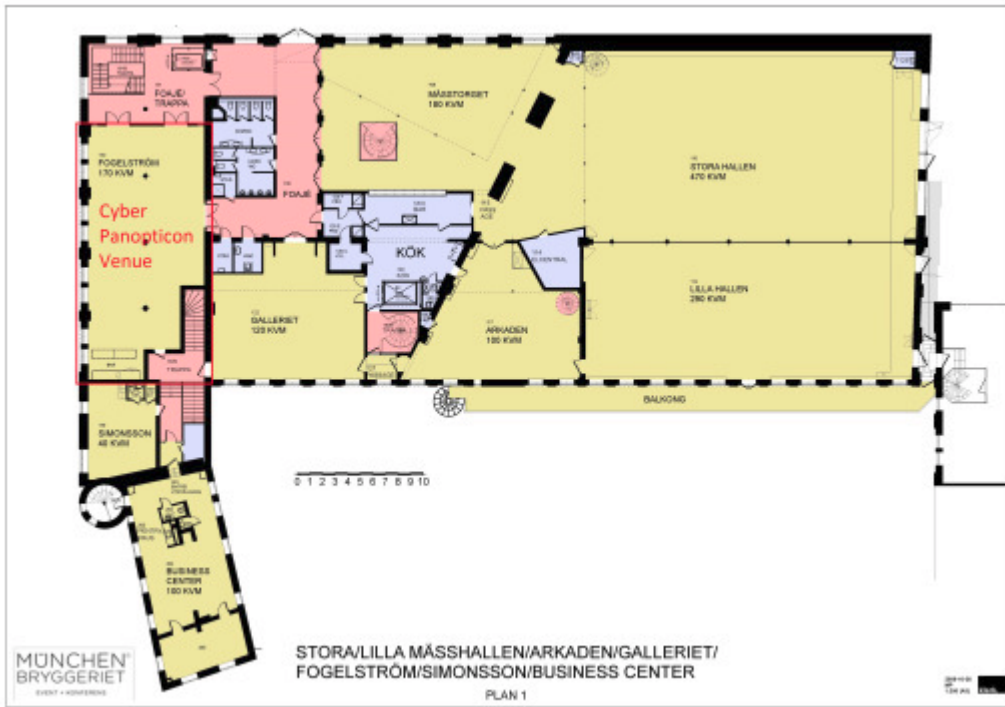
Employed by both Amnesty International and Oxfam, Brett has worked internationally on a range of social justice and human rights issues.



IMAGE

Venue: Fogelstromska rummet

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