Meaning-making in global and local information infrastructures – an argument coming from genre theory

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Meaning-making in global and local information infrastructures

- Genre
- Meaning-making
Meaning-making in global and local information infrastructures

In the contemporary digital information society almost all communication and interaction is shaped and guided by structures designed and constructed by information professionals trained in knowledge organization.
Meaning-making in global and local information infrastructures

- What can be observed in society and culture?
- Omnipresence of digital media
- Algorithms in social life
- Databases
Meaning-making in global and local information infrastructures

• Genre

  – Social action

  – ‘Defined’ by those producing, using and appropriating specific forms of communication in particular localized contexts (everyday genres, de facto genres)

  – Coordinates systems of activity

  – Embedded in systems of activity
Meaning-making in global and local information infrastructures

• Digital media and its genres
  – Search
  – Structuring knowledge
  – Filtering
  – Databases
Meaning-making in global and local information infrastructures

• Local genres, global genres
  – Search engines
  – ‘Social’, ‘mass’ and networked media
  – Genre and activity systems
Meaning-making in global and local information infrastructures

- Local genres, global genres
  - Meaning-making
  - Tension
  - Distance
  - Other/addressee
Meaning-making in global and local information infrastructures

• Meaning, communication and interaction

  – Grounded in actions, activity and genre systems constituting and produced by the people and institutions involved

  – Local and global

  – Structures are ‘designed’ and ‘constructed’ by the people and genres involved