

Journalism and Philosophy

Nobody asked but ...

At today's philosophy shared interest group we talked about journalism and the question came up whether journalism was coincident with philosophy in any way. It occurred to me, thinking about it, that philosophy and journalism may have started in the same way. I'm thinking about the gathering that Socrates presided over in Athens. It was built around a central forum for communication. King Lear expressed the vital need to know,

*And pray, and sing, and tell old tales, and laugh At gilded butterflies,
and hear poor rogues Talk of court news; and we'll talk with them too,
Who loses and who wins; who's in, who's out; And take upon's the
mystery of things, As if we were God's spies: ...*

— William Shakespeare

— Kilgore Forelle