

# Northeast Popular Culture Association Annual Conference October 22-24, 2020

## **Thursday - October 22**

### Session #1: 5:00pm

#### *Monsters and the Monstrous 1 - Finding Monsters*

*Panel Chair: Michael A. Torregrossa*

Here Are our Monsters – Sarah Shiffman-Ackerman, CUNY Hunter College  
What Scares Me? What Scares You? - Scott Bastedo, Kutztown University of Pennsylvania  
Found Footage Ecophobia and Creep (2014) - Caitlin Duffy, Stony Brook University  
Creative Reflections: The Monster in the Mirror – Noel Sloboda, Penn State York

#### *Psychology and Popular Culture – Adulthood, Family, and Social Problems*

*Panel Chair: TBD*

Adulthood is Hard, OK Boomer? - Terri Patkin, Eastern Connecticut State University  
Parent Suicide & Family Comm. in "I Am Not Okay with This" - Mike Alvarez, University of New Hampshire

#### *Television 1 - Philosophy, Quality, Nostalgia*

*Panel Chair: TBD*

Theater of the Absurd & the Muppet Show's Existential Crisis – Johanna Church, Johnson and Wales University  
Moral Categorization in "The Good Place" - Lizhen Zhao, University of Massachusetts Amherst  
DOCUMENTARY NOW! and the Discourse of Quality Television – Betsy Walters, Boston University  
A Million Miles Away: Black Mirror as Gen X Nostalgia Therapy - Melissa Vosen Callens, North Dakota State University

#### *Music 1 - Challenging Musical Norms*

*Panel Chair: Terry Hamblin*

"Because I'm a Woman": Feminism, Resistance, & Country Music – Haley Stammen, Wilmington College  
White Feminism, Black Music, and Rihanna's Lingerie - Emmalouise St. Amand, Eastman School of Music  
The Ultra-Modernist Trajectory of Bob Graettinger – Aaron Keebaugh, North Shore Community College  
Cannibal Corpse etc.: Monstrosity in Death Metal – Drew Brodney, Clark University

#### *Global Culture Studies 1 - Street Art, Travelling Art, and Academe*

*Panel Chair: Peter Cullen Bryan*

Artists, Boosters, and Vandals: Street Art, a Test Case - Rob Weir, University of Massachusetts Amherst  
Off/Site: The Vietnam Veterans Memorial's "Traveling Walls" - Kim Theriault, Independent Scholar  
"What Some Have Thought": Reflexivity in House of Leaves – Jason Rubenfire, Independent Scholar  
Students, Travel, & the Consumer Bubble - Sean Murray, St. John's University

Session #2: 6:15pm

*Monsters and the Monstrous 2 - Monsters and Identity*

*Panel Chair: Michael A. Torregrossa*

The Animal as Monstrous Other in Children's Popular Culture - Donna Varga, Mount Saint Vincent University

What Makes a Monster? - Paige Zentner, Heritage University

Monstrous Economics in Leigh Bardugo's Six of Crows - Kathleen Kellett, Rutgers University Camden

*Politics, Civic Life and Popular Culture 1 - Expansive Politics: Information Spread and "Outsiders" Rising*

*Panel Chair: Dana Gavin*

"Till Not One Monster of that Race Remains": Monstrosity and Anglophobia in Philip Freneau's Political Propaganda - Álvaro Albarrán Gutiérrez, Universidad de Sevilla

Somewhere in Time: Art Bell's America on Coast to Coast AM - Paul Arras, SUNY Cortland

Trump Bots & Algorithmic Experimentation on Twitter - Randall Livingstone, Endicott College

Welfare Mother to Run for Governor: Dottie Stevens, 1990 - Kathleen Banks Nutter, Independent Scholar

*Health, Disease and Popular Culture*

*Panel Chair: TBD*

The Bioethics of Blood Transfusion from the Hulk - A. David Lewis, MCPHS University

"Who is that?": Negotiating Identity and Dementia in Bojack - Cristi Flood, St. Thomas University

Virtual Fitness Challenges: Place, Travel, & Motivation - Alana Seaman, Lindsey Schroeder, and Angela Sardina, University of North Carolina Wilmington

*Television 2 - TV and Americana*

*Panel Chair: TBD*

FX on Hulu: Wall Street and the Commodity Audience - Peter Arne Johnson, Boston University

"Wicked Little Town": Hedwig and the Angry Inch on Riverdale - Kelly Aliano, Long Island University Post Campus

Five Decades of Black Family Sitcoms and the American Dream - Karen Honeycutt, Keene State College

"Iron Ron: Feminist Masculinities in Parks and Recreation" - Leslie Stratyner, Mississippi University for Women

*Food, Foodways and Culture 1 - Food of the Past*

*Panel Chair: Ann Kordas*

Mice and Mare's Milk: Cuisine of the Medieval Far East - June-Ann Greeley, Sacred Heart University

Let Them Eat Cake: Dietary Reform and 19th-Century Authors - Ann Kordas, Johnson & Wales University

*Sports 1 - Inclusivity and COVID*

*Panel Chair: Rob Weir*

Arguments for an Inclusive Baseball Hall of Fame - Kevin Hogg, Mount Baker Secondary School

COVID and Youth Sport: Intergalactically Stupid? - Ryan King-White, Towson University

### Session #3: 7:30pm

#### *Monsters and the Monstrous 3 - Transformative Powers of the Monstrous*

*Panel Chair: Michael A. Torregrossa*

Beloved Monsters in Jackson's *The Haunting of Hill House* – Justin Moir, Independent Scholar

Making Monsters: Re-Casting the Frankenstein Story in Comics – Michael Torregrossa, Independent Scholar

The Monstrification of Human: Hwayi: A Monster Boy and The Culture Of Child Abuse in South Korea – Rachad Chafik Elidrissi, University of Marmara

#### *Politics, Civic Life and Popular Culture 2 - Artful Politics: Creative Expressions of Engagement*

*Panel Chair: Dana Gavin*

President, government, national idea in vandalism of youth - Irina Simonova, Ural State Pedagogical University

The Clash: Punks, Skins, & Political Struggle, 1975-1985 – Benjamin Thomason, Bowling Green State University

#### *Genders, Sex and Sexualities 1 - Savage Survival Panel*

*Panel Chair: Carol-Ann Farkas*

Savage Survival: The Monsterring of Menstruation, Virginity and Sensory Deprivation in Horror Cinema – Jacqueline Morrill, Clark University; Mallory Trainor, Clark University; Caitlyn Angeletti, Clark University

#### *Teaching and Popular Culture - D&D and COVID*

*Panel Chair: Lance Eaton*

Design, Dadaism, and D&D: A Multimodal Writing Workshop – Nicole O'Connell, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth

Adventures in Pop Culture, Teaching, & COVID – Lance Eaton, North Shore Community College

#### *Food, Foodways and Culture 2 - The Meaning of Food*

*Panel Chair: Ann Kordas*

Exploring Authenticity in Anthony Lucero's *East Side Sushi* - Désirée Schuler, Johnson & Wales University

Paddington and Pineapples: Exploring Food and Fandom Studies – Laura Kitchings, Boston University

Putting the "Pan" in Pandemic: The Solace of Homemade Bread – Geraldine Wagner, Johnson & Wales University

#### *Philosophy and Popular Culture*

*Panel Chair: TBD*

Oyotunji: An Update after 50 Years – Joseph Baumstarck, University of Louisville

Harold and Maude: A *Danse Macabre* – Christopher Ketcham, West Chester University of Pennsylvania

Replicability, Community, Verifiability - Sung Hoon Kim, Independent Scholar

## **Friday - October 23**

### Session #4: 1:00pm

#### *Monsters and the Monstrous 4 - Monsters in the World Today*

*Panel Chair: Michael A. Torregrossa*

Before the Presidency: Trump as Chaotic Evil – Faye Ringel, U.S. Coast Guard Academy

"Reading Cultures from their Monsters": 28 Days After 9/11 - Moira Armstrong, Independent Scholar

"VILE.": Siren Head and Modern Anxieties - Hannah Gunson-McComb, Independent Scholar

Evolution of Trolls: Medieval Monsters & Internet Bullies – Richard Fahey, University of Notre Dame

*Dance and Performance Studies*

*Panel Chair: TBD*

Making Things/Up: Fabrication, Performance, Zardulu – Taylor Black, New York University

How Do You Solve a Problem Like Musical Theatre Revisionism – Rebecca Heimel, Cambridge College

Shall We Dance... The Polka? - Annie Potter, Columbia University

The Dancing Chorus in the New Deal - Anna Waller, Columbia University

*Genders, Sex and Sexualities 2 - Gender, Media, and Education*

*Panel Chair: Carol-Ann Farkas*

Teaching Media Literacy in the Gender Studies Classroom - Jessica Mason, University at Buffalo

Impact of Classroom Literature on LGBTQ+ Students - Sherri Crowson, Southern New Hampshire University

*Special Topics for 2020: Animals and Culture*

*Panel Chair: TBD*

Deconstructing the Natural Dog in Two Films – Marwood Larson-Harris, Roanoke College

The Little Guys: Pocket Pets in the Public Imagination – Rachel Pincus, The New School

Untitled Videogame Paper: Postmodern Goat and Becoming-Goose – Elizabeth Gartley, The New School

"Save the Rhinos" as Conservation Fantasy: IVF & News Media - Saryn Chorney, New York University

*Film & History 1 - Themes and Transitions in Filmmaking*

*Panel Chair: Marty Norden*

Paul Leni's Transition from German to Hollywood Filmmaking – Marty Norden, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Canonical Grindhouse: Revenge Tragedies and Proto Splatter – Rocky Colavito, Butler University

In the service: Vietnam and Racial Disparity Within Film – Shawn Driscoll, University of Massachusetts Lowell

*Politics, Civic Life and Popular Culture 3 - Influencing the Political Narrative*

*Panel Chair: Dana Gavin*

An Administrative Marvel?: Images of Bureaucrats in SHIELD - Aaron Smith-Walter, University of Massachusetts Lowell

The Enduring Revisionism of JFK Camelot Mythology – Darrell Hamlin, Fort Hays State University

Recontextualizing Power in Stand-up Comedy Dialogues – Alix Kraminitz, Georgetown University

Session #5: 2:15pm

*Monsters and the Monstrous 5 - Revisiting Monsters of the Past*

*Panel Chair: Michael A. Torregrossa*

Trygon's Tail & Female Power in Miller's Circe – Susan Poznar, Arkansas Tech University

Renegotiating the Monstrous – Chloe Carroll, University of Limerick

Charms and Tokens Used to Fight Demons – Dena Arguelles, Drew University

Rewriting Wharton's Captive Woman in The Ghosts of Kerfol - Indu Ohri, University of Virginia

*Digital Media and Gaming Culture 1 - The Gamer's Existence from Economical to Psychological*  
*Panel Chair: TBD*

The Dark Sigil Will Guide Thee – Eric Stein, Trinity Western University

Climate Change Go!™ Climate Change and Locative Media Design – Tyler DeAtley, North Carolina State University

Hobos, Hoarders, and The Horde!: Playing Poor in Videogames - Adam Crowley, Husson University

Meditation: Self, Sound, and Community In Horror Podcasts – Matt Grinder, Union Institute and University

*Genders, Sex and Sexualities 3 - Queerness, Horror, Science Fiction*

*Panel Chair: Carol-Ann Farkas*

Queer (Re)production & the Horror/Humor Bind – Jon Heggestad, Stony Brook University

Adaptation in Bryan Fuller's Hannibal – Elizabeth Hutchison, Florida State University

Revisiting the Evolving Macho Mother-Hero in Science Fiction – Brennan Thomas, Saint Francis University

*Science and Technology 1 - Ufology and the Cold War*

*Panel Chair: Todd Olszewski*

Recent Developments in Ufology – Jeffrey Cain, Sacred Heart University

Reshaping Sociotechnical Imaginaries in Cold War Era Ads - Rebecka Mähring, Princeton University

*Film & History 2 - Portrayals of Gender in Film*

*Panel Chair: Carol Mitchell*

Gone Girl Two Ways: Marriage Satirized on Page and Screen – Devin McGrath-Conwell, St. George's School

"Mad Mad Fury Road," A Feminist Analysis – Saoirse Gaulocher, Plymouth State University

Michelangelo Antonioni, Isolation and Alienation – Kyle Heger, School of the Art Institute of Chicago

Caste and Gender in Recent Indian Cinema – Megha Anwer, Purdue University and Anupama Arora, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth

*Marketing and Advertising - Influence and Perspective*

*Panel Chair: TBD*

Connecting in Crises: Can Influencers Communicate Empathy? - Margaret Mullan, East Stroudsburg University

The God Couple: Marketing "The Two Popes" - Brian Snee, Manhattanville College

Session #6: 3:30pm

*Monsters and the Monstrous 6 - Monsters and the Monstrous in New England*

*Panel Chair: Michael A. Torregrossa*

"Crossing the threshold": Liminality in Hawthorne's Stories – McKenzie Bergan, University of Vermont

Killing Time at Lizzie Borden's House: Visitor Experiences – Jeffrey Debies-Carl, University of New Haven

Early UFO Culture as New England Folklore – Edward Guimont, University of Connecticut Stamford

*Digital Media and Gaming Culture 2 - Gender Constructions in Gaming*

*Panel Chair: TBD*

Subverting Genre Expectations in Doki Doki Literature Club - Jacob Brintzenhoff, Ryerss Museum and Library

Female Fatalities: Death Animations in Tomb Raider - Lyz Renshaw, Michigan Technological University

Pronouns & Play: Analyzing Gender-Inclusive Language in Games - Shelly Jones, SUNY Delhi

Adolescents Engaging with Racist Trends on TikToks - Helen Liu, York University

*Genders, Sex and Sexualities 4 - Gender Roles in the Media*

*Panel Chair: Carol-Ann Farkas*

Women's Movement Rhetoric Seen on Television Today – Brandy Hadden, Duquesne University

Masculinity and Friendship on Television News - Andi McClanahan, East Stroudsburg University of PA

Redefining Viewer Gaze: The Case of Fleabag - Nora Suren, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Women's Engagements with Gay Male Discourse in China's Media - Xiaofei Yang, RMIT University

*Special Topics for 2020: COVID-19 and Popular Culture*

*Panel Chair: Lori Seward*

Import of Coming-Of-Age stories to Middle School in COVID-19 – Benjamin Bishop, Muncie Community Schools

From Dusk till DAU: The Pandemic and the Rise of Post-Cinema - Alexandre Zaezjev, University of Geneva

*Film & History 3 - Cinematic Heroines and Superheroes*

*Panel Chair: Anupama Arora*

Ecologies After Endgame; Or, Marvel's Triumph Of The Myth – Andrew McGowan, Independent Scholar

Pink or Blue?: Sleeping Beauty in Popular Culture – Cari Keebaugh, North Shore Community College

Cocktails, Keynote, & Converse: 5:00pm

*Welcome & Awards*

*Keynote – Keisha Venson Sheedy, SNHU Innovation Center*

*Area Breakout Talks*

**Saturday – October 24**

Session #7: 9:00am

*Fantasy and Science Fiction 1 - Folktales and Children's and YA Literature*

*Panel Chair: Amie Doughty*

Kid Stuff: The Younging-Down of Adult SF Literature – Raymond Rugg, Independent Scholar

The Sleeping Beauty in the Wood (Coffin): Bram Stoker's *Dracula* as a Gothic Retelling of Sleeping Beauty - Mary McCartney, University of St. Thomas

Defense v. Utopia: Royals of Color in Children's and YA Lit – Amie Doughty, SUNY Oneonta

*Fan, Fandoms, and Celebrity Studies 1 - Activism and The Politics of Fandoms*

*Panel Chair: Shelly Jones*

Clash of the Titties: Female Fans Versus RuPaul's Drag Race – Allison Parker, Pasadena City College and Iliana Rocha, University of Tennessee-Knoxville  
How Do I Summon the KPop Stans?: Activism in Kfandom - Sharon Kong-Perring, Birmingham City University  
Japanese Doujin Culture's Community-Policing - Hsiao-Chen Lin, University of Oxford

*Race and Ethnicity 1 - Racial Identity in (Post?)-Racial America*

*Panel Chair: Chris Jeansonne*

The Post-Racial Coming-of-Age in Black American Novels – Jacob DeBrock, Independent Scholar  
Cross-Racial Politics and Colonial Memory in Watchmen (2019) - Winona Landis, Northern Kentucky University  
White Monstrosity in the Age of Donald Trump – Loredana Bercuci, West University of Timisoara

*Special Topics for 2020: Disney Studies 1 - The Parks*

*Panel Chair: Priscilla Hobbs*

Second Exit to Right and Straight Off the 405: Disney's OC - Kalyn McCall, Harvard University  
The Origins of Disneyland's Fantasyland Castle Robert Neuman, Florida State University  
An American Theme Park in Paris - Korine Powers, Boston University  
#HomemadeDisney: Disney Park Fandom During Crisis – Carissa Baker, University of Central Florida

*Film & History 4 - Film Media Mixes*

*Panel Chair: Marty Norden*

The Complexity of the Kids' Choice Awards - Hayley McCullough, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
Instagram, Postmodern Nostalgia and Remediation of Film - Alkim Yalin, University of Massachusetts Amherst  
When the Historical Fantastic Isn't Enough: An Examination of Project Blue Book the TV Series – Oscar De Los Santos, Western Connecticut State University and Kelly Goodridge, Western Connecticut State University

Session #8: 10:15am

*Fantasy and Science Fiction 2 - Game of Thrones and Ninth House*

*Panel Chair: Amie Doughty*

A Tale of Tails: Fantasy and the Great Comets of 1995-96 – Kristine Larsen, Central Connecticut State University  
Becoming-Heroic in Leigh Bardugo's Ninth House – Nova Seals, Brooks School

*Fan, Fandoms, and Celebrity Studies 2 - Rewriting Fandoms*

*Panel Chair: Shelly Jones*

As You Wish in Westeros: CBT and Game of Thrones Fusion Fic - Jessica Hautsch, Stony Brook University  
Toppling the Throne of Celebrity in Pixar's Coco -Susan Ray, Delaware County Community College  
"Allons-y! Using Fanfiction to Engage New Writers" - J.M. Grenier, Bay State University

*Race and Ethnicity 2 - The (Mis)Representation of Racialized Minorities*

*Panel Chair: Chris Jeansonne*

Curing the Yellow Fever in the Media - Eileen Chung, University of Pittsburgh

From Indentured to Dentured: Race, Class, and American Teeth - Mary Burke, University of Connecticut Storrs

Barbie Dolls as Social Problems in India - Namrata Bhadania, Old Dominion University

*Special Topics for 2020: Disney Studies 2 - Animation and Disneyfication*

*Panel Chair: Priscilla Hobbs*

POV and Dramatic Irony in Classic Disney Adaptations - Andie Redwine-Becker, Spalding University

The Flying Elephant in the Room: Dumbo, Unionization, and the Gilded Age of Disney Animation - Brad Moore, Independent Scholar

World of Tomorrow: Disney's Technological Messianism - William Chavez, University of California Santa Barbara

*Crime and Scandal in Fact and Fiction*

*Panel Chair: Joe Baumstarck*

The Early Criminal Record on the Boundary of Entertainment - Charles Brackett, Independent Scholar

Mysteries of Faith: Sleuthing in Religious Settings - Pamela Monaco, Wilbur Wright College

The Future of Murder Investigation: Altered Carbon & Upload - Christine Myers, Independent Scholar

How the English Satirical Print Downplayed Female Crime - Eleanor Parkin-Coates, Université de Lorraine

Session #9: 11:30am

*Fantasy and Science Fiction 3 - Time, Memory, and Humanity*

*Panel Chair: Amie Doughty*

Nonlinear Temporalities in J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings* - Lucien Darjeun Meadows, University of Denver

The Persistence of Memory: Can We Ever Forget? - Don Vescio, Worcester State University

"It Isn't Really Real:" Humanity in "White Christmas" - Raymond DiSanza, Suffolk County Community College

*World Literature - Travel, Ecocriticism, Untranslatability*

*Panel Chair: Susan Gorman*

Travel in "The Snows of Kilimanjaro" and Death in Venice - Russ Pottle, Worcester State University

Turning into Owls: The Penelopiad's Maids & Ecocriticism - Susan Gorman, MCPHS University

*Race and Ethnicity 3 - Media Literacy in Action: Representations of Race and Ethnicity in Popular Media (Panel)*

*Panel Chair: Brian McFadden*

The Case for Media Literacy Advocacy - Brian McFadden (Lead), Hofstra University

The Intersection of Class and Race in H&M's 2018 'Coolest Monkey in the Jungle' Advertisement - Josiah Chambers, Hofstra University

Minority Representation, Discrimination, and Reactions on CBS' Big Brother 21 - Gab Varano, Hofstra University

Hispanic Representation in Popular Media - Conor Jaime Donnelly, Hofstra University

*Special Topics for 2020: Disney Studies 3 - Frozen, Identity, and Music*

*Panel Chair: Priscilla Hobbs*

The Frozen-mania is Here to Stay: The Making of a Franchise - Pénélope Chandonnet,  
Concordia University

Frozen and Inside Out: Challenging Emotional Hierarchies – Kellie Deys, Nichols College  
Disney's Aladdin and the Development of the True Self - Christian Nelson, MCPHS  
University

Melodic Metaphors for Dreams in Three Classic Disney Songs - James Bohn, Stonehill  
College

*Comics and Graphic Novels*

*Panel Chair: TBD*

Desire and Repulsion: Abjection in Charles Burns' Black Hole - John Hebble, Drew  
University

New to the Universe: Star Wars' Doctor Aphra - Jason Kahler, Independent Scholar

The Asian Comic Book Superhero and His Detrimental Influence on the Asian-American  
Male's Social Mobility - Ramal Johnson, Norfolk State University

Executive Council Meeting: 1:00pm