

# WORLDING SF

## Tentative Program

DECEMBER 6, 2018

- 11.30 a.m.: Conference Opening (Meerscheinschlössl, Mozartgasse 3)  
Words of Welcome  
Peter Scherrer (Vice-Rector for Research and Early Career Scholars)  
tba  
Opening Remarks/Acknowledgments  
Conference Organizers
- 12.30–2 p.m.: Mark Bould (University of the West of England, United Kingdom):  
“The Great Clomping Foot of Nerdism Stamping on the Human Face–Forever: World-Building and Contradiction”
- 2–3.30 p.m.: Warm Buffet
- 3.30–5 p.m.: Panels A (Department of American Studies, Attemsgasse 25 & Department of German Studies, Mozartgasse 8)

| A1: FRANCHISING  | A2: WORLDBUILDING BEYOND<br>STORYTELLING               | A3: PERFORMING WORLDS                          | A4: COHERENCE AND DECOHERENCE   |
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| Chair: Paweł Frelik                                      | Chair:   | Chair: Peter Goggin                            | Chair: Damian Podlesny  |
| Dan Hassler-Forest (Utrecht University, The Netherlands) | Christina M. Heinen (University of Oldenburg, Germany) | Sanja Vodovnik (University of Toronto, Canada) | Mladen Jakovljevic (University of Pristina–Kosovska Mitrovica, Serbia/Kosovo) & Milan M. Cirkovic |

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| "Transmedia Worldbuilding and Industrial Convergence in the Age of Global Capitalism"   | "Music of Black Holes and Sounds from Space: LIGO Sonification and Their Creative Side Effects"  | "Have AI-Will Perform: Human-Machine Collaboration in Science Fiction Theatre and Performance"  | (Astronomical Observatory of Belgrade, Serbia)<br>"De/Coherence in Philip K. Dick's <i>Ubik</i> and <i>The Man in the High Castle</i> "                                      |
| Stephen Joyce (Aarhus University, Denmark)<br>"Rights Regimes and Franchise Guardians"  | Jonathan E. Shipley (Independent, United States of America)<br>"World Building: The Devils is in the Details"  | Karin Lingnau (Academy of Media Arts Cologne, Germany)<br>"Science Fiction and (Ecological) Reality: The Use of Game Engines as an Artistic Tool in the Construction of Extrapolated Realities" | Manuela Neuwirth (University of Graz, Austria)<br>"Beam me into Being? <i>Star Trek's</i> Nova of (Dis)Appearance and/as the Existence and Essence of a Cohesive Multiverse" |
| Jonatan Jalle Steller (University of Leipzig, Germany)<br>"Building a Common Universe: Narrative, Commercial, and Political Strategies in the Setup and Maintenance of the MCU" | Maximiliano Jiménez Romero (University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands)<br>"Gratify the desires of the people who visit your world': Narrative and Immersion in <i>Westworld</i> " | Erin Horáková (University of Glasgow, United Kingdom)<br>"IV, IV S, V"  | Michel Diester (University of Paderborn, Germany)<br>"World Transaction in <i>Black Mirror</i> "   |

5-5.30 p.m.: Coffee Break (Department of American Studies, Attemsgasse 25)

5.30-7 p.m.: Panels B (Department of American Studies, Attemsgasse 25 & Department of German Studies, Mozartgasse 8)

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| B1: <i>STAR TREK</i> I: <i>DISCOVERY</i>         | B2: URSULA K. LEQUIN                             | B3: SCIENCE FICTION FROM THE FORMER EASTERN BLOC I  | B4: SEX AND GENDER  |
| Chair: Sabrina Mittermeier                       | Chair: Francis Gene-Rowe                         | Chair:  | Chair: Sylvia Spruck Wrigley  |
| Jennifer Volkmer (University of Munich, Germany) | Magdalena Hangel (University of Vienna, Austria) | Julie Novakova (Charles University, Czech Republic) | Sarah Gawronski (University of Louisiana-Lafayette, United States of America) |

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| "Building the Building Blocks of Today: How Zeitgeist Influences <i>Star Trek's</i> Vision(s) of the Future"  | "The Construction of Sexualized Violence and Its Representation in the Work of Ursula K. LeGuin"                             | "Building Bridges from the Czech Basin: Worldbuilding in Modern Czech Speculative Fiction" (SKYPE?)  | "'There are always two sides, aren't there?' The Lines That Divide Us"  |
| Mareike Spychala (University of Bamberg, Germany)<br>"Mother of the Fatherland: Gender, Sexuality, and the Mirror Universe in <i>TOS</i> and <i>DSC</i> " | Elizabeth Shipley (Karlsruhe University of Education, Germany)<br>"Worlding Gender in Ursula K. LeGuin and Ann Leckie"       | Anna Warso (SWPS University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Poland)<br>"Worlding Resistance: The Woman's Place and the Oppressive State"            | Jennifer Brown (Boston College, United States of America)<br>"Dysphoric and Gendered Identities in Becky Chambers' <i>Wayfarer</i> Series"  |
| Sabrina Mittermeier (University of Munich, Germany)<br>"Captain's Log: Experiencing <i>Star Trek's</i> Universe from the Captains' Point of View"         | Amy Butt (Independent, United Kingdom)<br>"As Plain as Spilt Salt: The City as Social Structure in <i>The Dispossessed</i> " | Damian Podlesny (Pedagogical University of Krakow, Poland)<br>"Politics and Science Fiction: The Political Worlds of Stanisław Lem and Philip K. Dick" | Christian Ludwig (Karlsruhe University of Education, Germany)<br>"'What are little boys made of?' Representations of Sex and Gender Beyond the Binary in the <i>Star Trek</i> Universe and Their Potential for the EFL Classroom" |

7.30 p.m.: Reception (City Hall, Main Square)

## DECEMBER 7, 2018

9–11 a.m.: Panels C (Department of American Studies, Attemsgasse 25)

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| <b>C1: MOVEMENT IS KEY</b>                  | <b>C2: WORDS AND WORLDS</b>            | <b>C3: BETWEEN SCARCITY AND ABUNDANCE</b>             | <b>C4: ROGUES ONE</b>   |
| Chair: Peter Kuling                         | Chair: Sean Guynes-Vishniac            | Chair: Cheryl Morgan                                  | Chair: Elisabeth Schneider  |
| Paweł Frelik (University of Warsaw, Poland) | Agnes Aminot (Caen University, France) | Erin Horáková (University of Glasgow, United Kingdom) | Wojciech Klepuszewski (Koszalin University of Technology, Poland) |

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| "Lost in Space: Vast Game Worlds and Spatial Science Fictions"  | "Words of After: Rebuilding the World Through Language and History in <i>Riddley Walker</i> and <i>The Book of Dave</i> "                                       | "The Future, Wouldn't That Be Nice?"   | "Boojly, Bandy, and Red Biddy: The Future of Drink in Kingsley Amis' Fiction" (SKYPE)   |
| Dietmar Meinel (University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany)<br>"Running a Neoliberal World: Movement in Space and Corporate Dystopia in <i>Mirror's Edge Catalyst</i> "  | Nadiia Vilkhovchenko (Lviv Polytechnic National University, Ukraine)<br>"The Semantic Peculiarities of Special Vocabulary Used in Science Fiction"              | Pascal Lemaire (Independent, Belgium)<br>"Steampunking Rome: Economics and Technology in Alternate History, the Case of the Roman Empire"                                | Iana Gagarina (University of Graz, Austria)<br>"Worlding Food: The Familiar and the Strange"  |
| Ria Narai (University of Wollongong, Australia)<br>"Boldly Going: Traveling to Fictional Worlds"  | Jerry Määttä (Uppsala University, Sweden)<br>"Minimalist Worldbuilding and SF Poetry: The Neologisms, Names, and Allusions of Harry Martinson's <i>Aniara</i> " | Aurelie Villers (University of Picardy, France)<br>"How the World of Alastair's Reynolds' <i>Revelation Space</i> Is Being Built: Revealing What the Story Does Not Say" | Janin Tscheschel (University of Bonn, Germany)<br>"A World Within Us: Denis Villeneuve's <i>Arrival</i> Opens an Outer Space of New Experience" |
| Paweł Pyrka (SWPS University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Poland)<br>"Critical Rules: Worldbuilding, Character Immersion, and Storytelling That Matters in Tabletop Roleplaying Games in the Digital Age" | Katherine E. Bishop (Miyazaki College, Japan)<br>"Liminal Letters: Corresponding Worlds"  |  | Sarah K. Stanley (Independent, United Kingdom)<br>"Building the Multiverse in Paris and Berlin, 1920–2500"                                      |

11–11.30 a.m.: Morning Break

11.30 a.m.–1 p.m.: Panels D (Department of American Studies, Attemsgasse 25)

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| D1: THERE AND BACK AGAIN: THE SHARED WORLDBUILDING EXPERIENCES OF VIDEO GAMERS AND GAME DESIGNERS  | D2: BEYOND PETROMODERNITY: ALTERNATIVE ENERGY FUTURES I   | D3: SF FROM THE FORMER EASTERN BLOC II  | D4: SCIENCE FICTION BECOMES REAL(ITY)   |
| Chair: Peter Kuling  | Chair: Graeme Macdonald   | Chair: Sylvia Spruck Wrigley  | Chair: Paul Graham Raven  |
| Cassandra Silver (University of Toronto, Canada)<br>"Disturb the Remains: Co-Authoring an Archive in Video Games"  | Rhys Williams (University of Glasgow, United Kingdom)<br>"Making Worlds for the End of the World"   | Natalia Chumarova (University of Paris-Sorbonne, France)<br>"Ivan Efremov's Fictional World as an Example of the Soviet Science-Fictional Imagination"            | Rhodri Davies (Birkbeck College, University of London, United Kingdom)<br>"Hard Science Faith: SF in Postwar New Religious Movements"                   |
| Eriņç Salor & Simone Stergioula (Amsterdam University College, The Netherlands)<br>"Becoming Legends: Shared Worldbuilding and Community Interaction in <i>Destiny</i> " | Amy Butt (Independent, United Kingdom)<br>"The Fabric of the City: Scarcity and Sustainability"   | Chris Hall (University of Kansas, United States of America)<br>"Tarkovsky's <i>Solaris</i> : Settling the Otherworldly Self"                                      | Miranda Iossifidis (Newcastle University, United Kingdom)<br>"Prison Abolition, Utopianism, and Science Fiction"  |
| Roxanne Chartrand & Pascale Thériault (University of Montreal, Canada)<br>"Beyond Fiction: Performing the Videoludic Cyberqueer Identity"                                | Francis Gene-Rowe (Royal Holloway, University of London, United Kingdom)<br>"Just How Can We Tell Alternatives to Petroreality? <i>Kaladesh</i> : An Instructive Failure" | Artem Zubov (Lomonosov Moscow State University, Russia)<br>"Constructing the Cultural Imaginary: Factory Workers Reading Science Fiction in Late Imperial Russia" | Mojca Kregel (University of Ljubljana, Slovenia)<br>"The Periphery of the Future; or, the Future of Periphery: William Gibson's <i>The Peripheral</i> " |

1-3 p.m.

Lunch Break

3-4.30 p.m.:

Panels E (Department of American Studies, Attemsgasse 25)

| E1: GREENING SCIENCE FICTION   | E2: UTOPIAN WORLDS  | E3: IMAGINING NON-BINARY FUTURES   | E4: ONTOLOGIES AND EPISTEMOLOGIES I   | E5: INDIGENOUS COSMOLOGIES  |
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| Chair: Paweł Frelik  | Chair: Sean Guynes-Vishniac   | Chair: Simon Whybrew   | Chair: Dietmar Meinel   | Chair: Kristina Baudemann   |
| Jordan Meyerl (University of Massachusetts-Boston, United States of America)<br>"Mute No More: Sentient Plant Life as an Ecocritical Critique" (SKYPE) | Eric Danis (Simon Fraser University, Canada)<br>"The Science-Fictional Enclave: Worldbuilding and Utopia"   | Indiana Seresin (University of Cambridge, United Kingdom)<br>"Intimacy, Light, and Worldbuilding: Encounters in Samuel R. Delany's <i>The Motion of Light in Water</i> " | Elena-Brindusa Nicolaescu (University of Bucharest, Romania)<br>"World(ing) Transitions in Haruki Murakami's <i>1Q84</i> and Boualem Sansal's <i>2084: The End of the World</i> " (SKYPE) | John Rieder (University of Hawai'i-Manoa, United States of America)<br>"The War of the Worlds in Albert Wendt's <i>Adventures of Veld</i> "                   |
| Beata Gubacsi (University of Liverpool, United Kingdom)<br>"Anxieties of Annihilation and HumAnimal Futures in Jeff VanderMeer's Worldbuilding"        | Leimar Garcia-Siino (Atlantic University College, Puerto Rico)<br>"Building Utopia: Examining <i>Star Trek's</i> Utopia Through Its Forms of Entertainment" | Simon Whybrew (University of Graz, Austria)<br>"Transitioning into the Future? Affects of Trans-Becoming in Contemporary SF Short Stories"                               | Alexander Popov & Vladimir Poleganov (Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski, Bulgaria)<br>"How Readers World: The Poetics and Ontology of World Creation as Negotiation"                  | Ania Paluch (Carleton University, Canada)<br>"Métis Futurism: Rosalie Favell and Métis in Space Set their Phasers to Decolonize the Science Fiction Universe" |
| Sarah Lohmann (Durham University, United Kingdom)<br>"A Utopia Without Us: Ecofeminism, the Anthropocene and the Paradox of the Non-Human Utopia"      | Iren Boyarkina (University of Rome, Italy)<br>"The New Worlds in the Science Fiction Novels of Wells, Tolstoi, and Bulgakov"                                | Elisabeth Schneider (University of Graz, Austria)<br>A Queering That Is None: Intersexuality in Robert A. Heinlein's 'All You Zombies'"                                  | Karolina Lebek (University of Silesia, Poland)<br>"Sound as a Principle of World-Building in Anna Smail's Novel <i>The Chimes</i> "   | Kristina Baudemann (University of Flensburg, Germany)<br>"(Un)Worlding Colonialism: Indigenous Futurisms and the Unsettling of SF in Virtual Reality"         |

4.30–5 p.m.: Coffee Break

5–6.30 p.m.: Cheryl Morgan (Independent Scholar and Hugo Award-Winning Publisher, United Kingdom):  
 “Systems of Sex and Gender” (Department of English Studies, Heinrichstraße 36)

7 p.m.: Film Screening *1. April 2000* (1952; Austrian sf movie, with English subtitles; Murinsel)

## DECEMBER 8, 2018

9–11 a.m.: Panels F (Department of American Studies, Attemsgasse 25)

| F1: AFROFUTURISM  | F2: REGENERATIVE PLAY<br>(ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION)   | F3: HUMANS AND/AS<br>ARTIFICIAL CREATURES   | F4: POST-/TRANS-/NONHUMAN<br>WORLDS  | F5: ROGUES TWO   |
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| Chair: Aparajita Nanda  | Chair: Gerald Farca  | Chair: Damian Podlesny  | Chair: Christian Ludwig  | Chair: Mareike Spychala  |
| Andrew Shepard (Stanford University, United States of America)<br>“The History of Lions: Charles Saunders’ <i>Imaro</i> and the Revisionist Lost Race Tale” (SKYPE) | Joost Raessens (Utrecht University, The Netherlands)<br>“ <i>Collapsus</i> , or, How to Make Players become Ecological Citizens” | Gwenhalyng Engélibert (University of Western Brittany, France)<br>“‘They don’t work as good as people’: Robots and Humans in Richard Matheson’s Short Stories”            | Aparajita Nanda (University of California-Berkeley, United States of America)<br>“Transnational Worldbuilding: Creolized Futures in Octavia Butler’s <i>Lilith’s Brood</i> ” | Gerold Haynaly (Independent, Austria)<br>“ <i>Perry Rhodan</i> : The Most Successful Science Fiction Book Series Ever Written”   |
| M. Giulia Fabi (University of Ferrara, Italy)<br>“Worlding Plantations with Armies of Slaves: Frederick Douglass’ and Martin R. Delany’s Speculative Fictions”      | Paweł Frelik (University of Warsaw, Poland)<br>“Regenerative Modding”  | Eftychia Misailidou (Independent, Greece)<br>“Rejecting Reality: What the Nonhuman Hosts of <i>Westworld</i> Teach Us about the Eternal Quest for Self-Discovery” (SKYPE) | Öznur Cengiz (Canakkale Onsekiz Mart University, Turkey)<br>“The Conflict between Technology and Oppression: Hillary Jordan’s <i>When She Woke</i> ”                         | Loredana Mihani (University of Graz, Austria)<br>“That ‘most severe evil’: The Quest for Knowledge at the Peril of Social Estrangement in Mary Shelley’s <i>Frankenstein</i> ” |

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| Hugh O'Connell (University of Massachusetts-Boston, United States of America)<br>"The Dialectics of African-Futurism between SF Worldbuilding and Neoliberal Development"       | Gerald Farca (University of Augsburg, Germany)<br>"Building a Sustainable Future in Outer Space: <i>Mass Effect: Andromeda</i> as Critical Ecotopia"                         | Lisa Meinecke (University of Munich, Germany)<br>"My Own Humanity: (Post)Humanist Worldings in the <i>Star Trek</i> Universe"              | Miriam Köberl (University of Klagenfurt, Austria)<br>"Crossing the Boundary: Between the Human and the Alien in Sid Meier's <i>Alpha Centauri</i> " | Nikola Novakovic (Independent, Croatia)<br>"When the switch is closed': The Subversiveness of SF Tropes in the Works of Thomas Pynchon" |
| Sean Guynes-Vishniac (Michigan State University, United States of America)<br>"Afrofuturism's Specter: Alternate History, Racial Capitalism, and Nisi Shawl's <i>Everfail</i> " | Alexander Lehner (University of Augsburg, Germany)<br>"Regenerative Play and Empathy: <i>Prey</i> as an Example of and Reflection on the Aesthetic Potential of Video Games" | Jasmine Sharma (Indian Institute of Technology, India)<br>"Women as Technological Bodies in Margaret Atwood's <i>The Heart Goes Last</i> " | Pelin Kümbet (Kocaeli University, Turkey)<br>"Transhumanist Worldbuilding in Richard Morgan's <i>Altered Carbon</i> "                               | Victor Kennedy (University of Maribor, Slovenia)<br>"The Icons of Science Fiction as Depicted in Animated Cartoons"                     |

11–11.30 a.m.: Morning Break (Main Building, Universitätsplatz 3)

11.30 a.m.–1 p.m.: Gerry Canavan (Marquette University, United States of America):  
"Worlding Crisis, Crisising Worlds" (Main Building, Universitätsplatz 3)

1–2 p.m.: Luncheon (Main Building, Universitätsplatz 3) → **ticketed**

2–3.30 p.m.: Special Presentation by the Austrian Space Forum (Main Building, Universitätsplatz 3)  
Günter Kargl (Austrian Academy of Sciences & University of Graz), Monika Lendl (Austrian Academy of Sciences), Willibald Stumptner (Graz University of Technology), and Stephan M. Weiss (University of Klagenfurt)  
"Distant Worlds: Science Meets Fiction"

3.30–4 p.m.: Coffee Break (Department of American Studies, Attemsgasse 25)



4–5.30 p.m.: Panels G (Department of American Studies, Attemsgasse 25)

| G1: <i>STAR TREK</i> II: BEFORE <i>DISCOVERY</i>   | G2: BEYOND PETROMODERNITY: ALTERNATIVE ENERGY FUTURES II  | G3: AGE AND AGING  | G4: ONTOLOGIES AND EPISTEMOLOGIES II   | G5: FROM THE MIDDLE TO THE FAR EAST: ASIAN SCIENCE FICTION  |
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| Chair: Sabrina Mittermeier   | Chair: Francis Gene-Rowe  | Chair: Roberta Maierhofer  | Chair: Katherine E. Bishop   | Chair: Manuela Neuwirth   |
| E. Leigh McKagen (Virginia Tech University, United States of America)<br>"Imperial Worlding: Adventure Narratives, Empire, and Brave New Worlds in <i>Star Trek: Voyager</i> " | Paul Graham Raven (University of Sheffield, United Kingdom) & Johannes Stripple (Lund University, Sweden)<br>"Let's put fossil fuels behind us': Toward the Instrumentalization of Science Fiction as a Sandbox for Social Science" | Roberta Maierhofer (University of Graz, Austria)<br>"The Real and the Imagined: Speculations on Age and Aging as a Human Condition"                          | Grant Dempsey (University of Western Ontario, Canada)<br>"Science Fiction and (Extra)Naturalism: Notes on the Ontological Complexity of SF and Its Worlds" | Loic Aloisio (Aix-Marseille University, France)<br>"Worlding Chinese SF: Science Fiction Universes as a Mirror of Society Developing at Breakneck Speed"                                  |
| Ricarda Krenn (University of Graz, Austria)<br>"Everybody Comes to Quark's: Looking at <i>Star Trek: Deep Space Nine</i> through the Lens of <i>Casablanca</i> "               | Graeme Macdonald (University of Warwick, United Kingdom)<br>"Monsters in the Forecourt: SF's Gas Stations as Future Energyscapes"   | Katie Stone (Birkbeck College, University of London, United Kingdom)<br>"Through the Eyes of a Child: Novelty and Age in Octavia Butler's <i>Fledgling</i> " | Chris Pak (Swansea University, United Kingdom)<br>"Modeling What Could Be: Science Fiction's Environmental Futures"  | Agnieszka Podruczna (University of Silesia, Poland)<br>"Sites of Contamination, Sites of Containment: Liminal Spaces and Practices of Resistance in Larissa Lai's <i>Salt Fish Girl</i> " |
| Agnieszka Urbanczyk (Jagiellonian University, Poland)  | Patrycja Sokołowska (University of Silesia, Poland)   | Sylvia Spruck Wrigley (Independent, Estonia)   | Peter Goggin (Arizona State University, United States of America)  | <del>Zahra Jannessari Ladani (University of Isfahan, Iran)</del>  |

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| "World Re-Building: Eschatological Thought in the Science Fiction Genre as Exemplified by <i>Star Trek</i> " | "I Can Feel a Great Age Ending: An Ecocritical Reading of the <i>Dishonored</i> Series" | "Pushing Grandma Out the Airlock: The Representation of Older Women in Science Fiction" | "Mars: Power, Place, and the Building and Unbuilding of Worlds" | " <del>Iraj Fazel Bakhsheshi's Worlding Architectonics</del> " |
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5.45 p.m.: Conference Roundup (Department of American Studies, Attems-gasse 25)

6.30 p.m.: Farewell Dinner (place tba) → ticketed