

# POLITICS AND HORROR

7 – 8 May 2021

*All times listed at British Summer Time (UTC+1)/Edinburgh Time. To double-check your time zone conversion, you can use the following website: <https://www.thetimezoneconverter.com/>.  
Links to the conference presentations will be sent out via email 3 May 2021.*

Feel free to Tweet about the conference! Be sure to tag us @politicshorror and use the hashtag #pohocon21

## Day 1 – 7 May 2021

### 9:00 – 9:05 Welcome and Conference Organisation

- ❖ Madelyn Marie Schoonover, University of Stirling

### 9:05 – 10:05 Keynote: Decolonising Gothic

- ❖ Dr Rebecca Duncan
  - Linnaeus University, Centre for Concurrences in Colonial and Postcolonial Studies

### 10:05 – 10:15 Break

### 10:15 – 11:35 Panel 1: EcoGothic and the Othered Body

- ❖ *Cabbages and Kings: Plant Horror and the political response to climate change*
  - Lauren Barnett, Independent Researcher
- ❖ *Born on the Wrong Side of the Wall: Horror Imagery and the Construction of the Immigrant Other in Game of Thrones (2011-2019)*
  - Louise Coopey, University of Birmingham
- ❖ *Is Our Fate Sealed?: examining the treatment of Othered bodies during the twenty-first-century climate crisis and the consequence of Anthropocentric detachment in Naomi Booth's eco-horror novel, Sealed*
  - Kristy Strange, Independent Researcher
- ❖ Chair: Dr Rebecca Duncan

### 11:35 – 11:45 Break

### 11:45 – 1:05 Panel 2: Commodities and Objectification: Global Capital and the Occult

- ❖ *Satan is a Woman: Feminist Activism and the Occult in Britain 1995-2020*
  - Katie Liddane, Northumbria University
- ❖ *'Love in a chair': Industrialisation and Exploitation in Edogawa Rampo's 'The Human Chair' (1925)*
  - Leonie Rowland, Manchester Metropolitan University
- ❖ *'Horror Without End': Capitalism and Consumption in Bret Easton Ellis's American Psycho and Stephen Sondheim's Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*
  - Brontë Schlitz, Manchester Metropolitan University
- ❖ Chair: Madelyn Marie Schoonover, University of Stirling

## 1:05 – 2:05 Lunch

### 2:05 – 3:25 Panel 3: The Empire's Gaze: Racial Politics in Film and Print

- ❖ *The Fin De Siècle Gothic and Twenty-First Century Racial Politics: Dracula In Neo-Victorian Adaptation*
  - Theadora Jean, Royal Holloway, University of London
- ❖ *Eastern Time: Temporality and the Othering of Eastern Europe in Contemporary Horror Cinema*
  - Dr Barbara Plotz, London College of Communication
- ❖ *Fascism in Patrick McGrath's The Wardrobe Mistress: How Anti-Semitism Tries to Invade Post-War London*
  - Tatiana Farjado, University of the Basque Country
- ❖ Chair: Bethany Webster-Parmentier

## 3:25 – 3:35 Break

### 3:35 – 4:55 Panel 4: Indigenous Resistances and the Pan-American Imperial Machine

- ❖ *Voices, Visibility and Violence: Societal Apathy in Mariana Enriquez's Things We Lost in the Fire*
  - Hannah O'Flanagan, University of Lancaster
- ❖ *La Llorona as a symbol of protest*
  - Mariana Esquivel Suárez, Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada
- ❖ *'as long as there are dreamers left, there will never be want for a dream': Escaping the Horrors of Canada's Indian Act in Cherie Dimaline's The Marrow Thieves*
  - Bethany Webster-Parmentier, Europa-Universität Flensburg
- ❖ Chair: Valeria Villegas Lindvall

## 4:55 – 5:05 Break

### 5:05 – 6:05 Panel 5: Criticism in Focus: Necropolitics and the Undead

- ❖ *Ideologies of Zombie Cinema*
  - Dr Peter Dendle, Pennsylvania State University, Mont Alto
- ❖ *The Horror of Capitalism's Necropolitics – What is scarier than Biopower?*
  - Christian Schirmer, Philipps-Universität Marburg
- ❖ Chair: Dr Rebecca Duncan

## Day 2 – 8 May 2021

### 9:00 – 9:05 Welcome

- ❖ Madelyn Marie Schoonover, University of Stirling

### 9:05 – 10:05 Keynote: ‘Queer-Wolves and Wolf-Girlz and Were-Bears, Oh My!’: Queering the Wolf in New Queer Horror Film and TV

- ❖ Dr Darren Elliott-Smith
  - University of Stirling

### 10:05 – 10:15 Break

### 10:15 – 11:35 Panel 6: Nationalisms, Power, and the Gothic

- ❖ *Haunting Histories: Embodying Gothic sensibilities as a reaction to Greek history and politics*
  - Alkisti Chatzinikolaou, Independent Researcher
- ❖ *Horrorism in Jesmyn Ward’s Sing, Unburied, Sing*
  - Dr Sladja Blazan, Universität Würzburg
- ❖ *‘Think and Doubt and Hate’: Irvine Welsh’s Devolutionary Scottish Gothic*
  - Oliver Robinson-Sivyer, Independent Scholar
- ❖ Chair: Madelyn Marie Schoonover

### 11:35 – 11:45 Break

### 11:45 – 1:05 Panel 7: Social Media and Soundscapes: Political Horror in (Mixed) Media

- ❖ *Apocalypse, Beeped: Political Afterlives of Buffy the Vampire Slayer*
  - Kate Harvey, Independent Researcher
- ❖ *‘Eat the Rich’: Decadence, Decay, and the Political Anatomy of Gothic Luxury*
  - Maximilian Curtis, Trinity Hall, Cambridge
- ❖ *Vaporwave and Signalwave: A Theory of Political Crisis*
  - Dr Stuart Lindsay, University of Stirling
- ❖ Chair: Dr Darren Elliott-Smith

### 1:05 – 2:05 Lunch

### 2:05 – 3:25 Panel 8: Film and the Failures of North American Imperial Infrastructures

- ❖ *Cronenberg’s Scanners, Propaganda and the Medical Industrial Complex*
  - M. C. Zendejas, University of Massachusetts Amherst
- ❖ TITLE FORTHCOMING: Manifestations of Policing in 1980’s Horror Films
  - Dr Joseph Hendryx, Mount Mercy University
- ❖ *The Miracle is the Thing: Old Age in David Lynch’s Cinema*
  - Taylor Thornburg, Independent Researcher
- ❖ Chair: Dr Vicki Madden

### 3:25 – 3:35 Break

**3:35 – 4:35 Neoliberalism, Decolonialism, and the Academy: A Roundtable Discussion on the Current State and Possible Futures of Horror Studies**

- ❖ Dr Sam Hirst, Manchester Metropolitan University
- ❖ Valeria Villegas Lindvall, University of Gothenburg
- ❖ Dr Vicki Madden, University of Edinburgh
- ❖ Madelyn Marie Schoonover, University of Stirling
- ❖ Chair: Dr Rebecca Duncan

**4:35 – 4:40 Thank You and Closing Statements**