

Demanding the Impossible: The Third Australian Conference on Utopia, Dystopia and Science Fiction

Draft Program

DAY 1, December 5

8:30 am – 8:55 am Registration

8:55 am – 9 am Opening by Prof. Rae Francis, Dean of Arts, Monash University

9 am – 10 am, H3 Lecture Theatre

Keynote Address – Chair:

Tom Moylan – *Making the Present Impossible: On the Vocation of Utopian Science Fiction*

10 am – 10:30 am Break

10:30 am – 12 pm

SCG03, Chair:

Verity Burgmann – *Utopian Socialism: the Australian Experience*

A. B. Carretero & Carmen Morales – *Dialogic Philosophy, Participative Communication and Utopia*

R.J. Imre & B. Patterson – *Interstellar Relations: The Westphalian Planet-State*

SCG04, Chair:

Paul Cheung – *Of Cats, Coincidence and Continuity: Utopias with Chinese Characteristics?*

Kong Xinren – *A Belief Lies in Future: Recent Chinese History Science Fiction*

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SCG05, Chair:

Louise Katz – *No Man's Land and Everyman's Land: The Ideal Meets the Real in Israel/Palestine*

Craig Johnson – *Cities from Scratch*

Roberto González-Casanovas – *Aztec Sacrifice as Dystopia in Colonial vs. Postcolonial Discourse: Cultural Politics in Competing Mythologies of Conquest*

12 pm – 1 pm Launch of *Colloquy* special issue on SF & Lunch

1 pm – 2:30 pm

SCG03, Chair:

Hester Joyce – *Lost hope: Pakeha (white settler) anxieties in The Quiet Earth and The Navigator*

Peter Marks – *Screening the Future: Surveillance and Utopian Projections*

Jaroslav Kušnír – *Game, Fantasy and Sci-Fiction in Damian Broderick's novel Godplayers*

SCG04, Chair:

Mahrokh Hosseini – *Elements of Fantasy in Margaret Atwood's The Handmaid's Tale vs. Science Fiction*

Chris Palmer – *Ambiguous, Unsettled and Unconvincing Dystopias in Recent Fiction*

Simon Sellars – *Zones of Transit: J.G. Ballard's Pacific Utopias*

SCG05, Chair:

Lucian Chaffey – *Chaodysey and annihilation: Farscape's wormholes and black holes*

Chien-fu Hsueh – *A Route in-between: The Functions of Travel in Thomas More's Utopia*

Evie Kendal – *How the Author is alive and kicking in Utopian "social-science-fiction"*

2:30 pm – 3 pm Break

3 pm – 4 pm
SCG03, Chair:

David Jack – *Scared Old World: Allegories of Catastrophe in Huxley's Brave New World*

Thomas Ford – *Demands and Impossibility: Bureaucracy and Utopia*

SCG04, Chair:

Christopher Yorke – *Utopia and the Death of Virtue*

Matthew Chrulew – *Heterotopian Science Fiction: Nature and Technology*

SCG05, Chair:

R. Cunneen – *Difficulties with Reading Utopias: The Case of M.B. Eldershaw's Tomorrow*

Kalinda Ashton – *History and Amnesia in Amanda Lohrey's The Reading Group*

4pm – 4:30 pm Break

4: 30 pm – 6 pm
SG01, Comparative Utopias Workshop

Lyman Tower Sargent – *What would a truly comparative utopian scholarship require?*

Jacqueline Dutton – *Comparative Mythology*

Roberto González-Casanovas – *Utopian and Dystopian Typologies of Arawaks vs. Caribs: Relativising Cannibals in Colonial Myth and Postcolonial Critique*

DAY 2, December 6

8:30 am – 9 am Registration

9 am – 10 am, H3 Lecture Theatre
Keynote Address – Chair:

Terry Eagleton – *Utopia and the New Testament*

10 am – 10:30 am Break

10:30 am – 12 pm

SCG03, Chair:

Will Douglas – *The Discontinuity of Possibility and our Hopes for the Future in Last and First Men*

Matthew Ryan – *The Dystopian rendering of Ideology and Utopia in Cormac McCarthy's The Road*

Chris Palagy – *Circumventing Dystopia: The Grand Inquisitor Fails*

SCG04, Chair:

Michael Kulbicki – *Iain M Banks, Utopia, and Critical Hope*

David Farnell – *The Morality of Preemptive Regime Change in Iain M. Banks' The Player of Games*

Dougal McNeill – *James Kelman: Utopias of Form*

SCG05, Chair:

Claire Henry – *Madame X and Girl King on the High Seas of Lesbian Separatist Utopia*

Linda Wight – *Feminist Utopia or Masculinist Dystopia?*

Helen Merrick – *Doing science differently? Visions of feminist scientists*

12 pm – 1 pm Lunch

1 pm – 2:30 pm

SCG03, Chair:

Raymond A Younis – *The Wheel of Time/Places of Refuge / (Utopian Imaginaries East and West)*

Krishna Barua – *"The oceanic circle": Mahatma Gandhi's and his Ram rajya*

Geoffrey Berry – *Ecocentric mythopoeia and the absolute aegis of adaptation*

SCG04, Chair:

Leonard Wilcox – *Don DeLillo's Dystopia: Postmodern Capitalism in Cosmopolis*

Wei-Yun Yang – *Re-imagination of Galactic Empires: Doris Lessing's Shikasta and The Sirian Experiments*

Zachary Kendal – *The Dystopia of Urth: The Myth of Pandora in Gene Wolfe's Book of the New Sun*

SCG05, Chair:

Thomas Reuter – *Arriving in the Future: The Utopia of Here and Now*

Stefan R. Siebel – *Basic Income: An Economic Utopia and its Reality Around the World*

Ben Hoh – *"What if the World was Made of Wood?": The apocalyptic utopianism of blogging geopolitical trauma*

2:30 pm – 3 pm Break

3 pm – 4 pm

SCG03, Chair:

Luke Howie – *Images and the Monster Within*

Alec Charles – *The flight from*

SCG04, Chair:

H. Gardner & S. Schmidt – *Autopias*

Hyijin Lee – *Pythagorean*

SCG05, Chair:

Joan Roelofs – *The Considerant Manifesto*

Dimitris Vardoulakis – *Uto-*

*history: British television's
most enduring fantasy*

*utopianism and numerol-
ogy*

*pia and Suicide in Aris Al-
exandrou* The Mission Box

4pm – 4:30 pm Break

4: 30 pm – 6 pm

SG01, Comparative Utopias Workshop

Rob Baum – *Gender dystopia in the Far/Middle East: An Artful Experimen*

Angela Yiu – *Utopian Schemes in Japan from the 1910s to 1930s*

Christopher Yorke – *Utopia ex nihilo: Ando Shoeki and the Heresy of Physiocracy in Edo-Era Japan*

DAY 3, December 7

8:30 am – 9 am Registration

9 am – 10 am, H3 Lecture Theatre
Keynote Address – Chair:

Lucy Sussex – *A Tour Guide in Utopia*

10 am – 10:30 am Break

10:30 am – 12 pm

SCG03, Chair:

Julia Vassilieva – *On Imagination, Energy and Excess: The Lasting Legacy of Eisenstein's Utopias*

Rachel Torbett – *The Silence Afterwards: Lyotard with Haneke's "Le Temps du Loup"*

Claire Perkins – *Your Friends and Neighbours: Recent Suburban Utopias*

SCG04, Chair:

Kate Rigby – *Apocalypse Now: Whither Utopianism in the Midst of Catastrophe?*

David Fonteyn – *Tourmaline: A meditation on Thanatos, Eros and Fertility*

Chris Coughran – *Ecology, Eutopia, and the Everted Sphere of the Future*

SCG05, Chair:

Darren Jorgensen – *Utopia as Failed Revolution: Ursula Le Guin and Louis Marin after 1968*

Jacqueline Dutton – *The Worst Place in the World: French Women's Writing on Australia in 2007*

Bill Metcalf – *The Encyclopedia of Australian Utopian Communalism*

12 pm – 1 pm Lunch

1 pm – 2:30 pm

SCG03, Chair:

Julie Kelso – 'Radical Heterosexuality' in the Song of Songs: Meditating on the Impossibility of the Love that Cannot Speak Its Name

Sarah Curtis – *Evangelical Utopianism as a Hysterical Symptom*

Blair McDonald – *Finitude's War: Returning to the Question*

SCG04, Chair:

Simon Robb – 'What do you think, children are psychics?'

Pip Stokes – *Care of Place*

Robyn Walton – *Wyndham Lewis, Frank Lloyd Wright: Re-imagining Baghdad and London*

SCG05, Chair:

Rudolphus Teeuwen – *Losing the War, Winning Utopia: Christian Friedrich Weiser and Germany, 1918*

A. Milner & R. Savage – *Pulped Dreams: Utopia and American Pulp Science Fiction*

Oleksandr Golozubov – *From Abbey Telem to Animal Farm: spectrum of the comic forms in the European Utopia*

2:30 pm – 3 pm Break

3 pm – 4 pm

SG01, Comparative Utopias Workshop

Darren Jorgensen – *The Dreamtime as a Modern Utopia*

Hester Joyce – *New Zealand Cinema and Expressions of Utopia*

4 pm – 4:30 pm Break

4:30 pm – 5:30 pm, H3 Lecture Theatre
Keynote Address – Chair: Andrew Milner

Lyman Tower Sargent – *Australia as Dystopia and Eutopia*