

Dear ACS members

Here are some new conference announcements ... By the way, my best wishes to you all for this new (Western) year starting today!

Julio

3rd Global Conference Beauty

Sunday 15th September - Tuesday 17th September 2013
Mansfield College, Oxford, United Kingdom

Call for Presentations

'The first real problem I faced in my life was that of beauty,' wrote the poet-playwright-novelist Yukio Mishima, in Temple of the Golden Pavilion as he pondered beauty's relevance, meanings, and the spell it cast over him. Beauty is complicated by the word beauty itself. Limited or overloaded, beauty has been celebrated as essential or denounced as irrelevant. The existence of beauty has been challenged, called a search for Eldorado. Some find no beauty in life, a recurring motif in subcultures, music lyrics, and the notes left by suicides. Others dismiss that perspective, arguing that common sense, experience, and multidisciplinary research reveal the reality and centrality of beauty in our lives. But what exactly is beauty? Speculations about the nature of beauty are various and contradictory. Some philosophers have argued that it will remain a mystery. Other theorists have held less modest beliefs, arguing that beauty expresses a basic spiritual reality, has universal physical properties, or is an experience and construction of mind and culture. The beauty 'project' will explore, assess, and map a number of key core themes.

These will include:

1. Understanding Beauty

- Defining beauty
- Theorising beauty
- Power of beauty
- History of beauty
- Politics of beauty
- Culture of beauty
- Religion of beauty
- Beauty Myths

2. Experiences of and Representations of Beauty

- Pursuit of beauty
- Expressions of beauty
- Appearance of beauty
- Making beauty
- Documenting beauty
- Emotion and beauty
- Beauty and seduction
- Representing beauty in art, literature and popular culture

3. Beauty and Nature

- Beauty and the natural world
- Beauty and the Sublime
- Beauty and desire
- Science and mathematics of beauty
- Medical aspects of beauty

4. Beauty, Culture, and Identity

- Beauty subcultures
- Beauty and social stratification: gender, sexuality, class, race, ethnicity, age, etc.
- Beauty collectors
- Beauty specialists
- Beauty disciples
- Enhancing the body beautiful: cosmetics, tattoos, piercings, surgical interventions, and other forms of body modification

5. The Business of Beauty

- Beauty and consumer culture
- Beauty and cultural capital
- Beauty professions and trades
- Beauty cities
- Beauty marketing and forecasting
- Professional beauties (models, actors, celebrities, beauty pageants etc.)
- Fashion and beauty
- Glamour and beauty

6. Diminishing the Beautiful

- Beauty and transgression
- Beauty and ugliness
- Beauty and aging
- Defiling the beautiful
- Destroying the beautiful
- Beauty and death
- Beauty and decay

Presentations will be accepted which deal with related areas and themes. The Steering Group particularly welcomes the submission of pre-formed panel proposals.

What to Send:

300 word abstracts should be submitted by Friday 22nd March 2013. If an abstract is accepted for the conference, a full draft paper should be submitted by Friday 21st June 2013. Abstracts should be submitted simultaneously to both Organising Chairs; abstracts may be in Word, WordPerfect, or RTF formats with the following information and in this order:

a) author(s), b) affiliation, c) email address, d) title of abstract, e) body of abstract, f) up to 10 keywords
E-mails should be entitled: Beauty3 Abstract Submission.

Please Note: In this email please attach TWO versions of your abstract as follows:

- 1) One with title and body of abstract only (no identification of the author—this version will be for our blind peer review process).
- 2) The other with the following information about the author(s): affiliation, email, title of abstract, title and body of abstract

Please use plain text (Times Roman 12) and abstain from using footnotes and any special formatting, characters or emphasis (such as bold, italics or underline). We acknowledge receipt and answer to all paper proposals submitted. If you do not receive a reply from us in a week you should assume we did not receive your proposal; it might be lost in cyberspace! We suggest, then, to look for an alternative electronic route or resend.

Organising Chairs

Jacque Lynn Foltyn: jfoltyn@nu.edu

Rob Fisher: beau3@inter-disciplinary.net

The conference is part of the Critical Issues series of research projects. The aim of the conference is to bring together people from different areas and interests to share ideas and explore various discussions which are innovative and exciting. All papers accepted for and presented at this conference are eligible for publication in an ISBN eBook. Selected papers may be invited to go forward for development into a themed

ISBN hard copy volume.

For further details of the conference, please visit:

<http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/critical-issues/ethos/beauty/call-for-papers/>

4th Global Conference Space and Place

Monday 9th September - Thursday 12th September 2013
Mansfield College, Oxford, United Kingdom

Call for Presentations

Questions of space and place affect the very way in which we experience and recreate the world. Wars are fought over both real and imagined spaces; boundaries are erected against the "Other" constructing a lived landscape of division and disenfranchisement; while ideology constructs a national identity based upon the dialectics of inclusion and exclusion. The construction of space and place is also a fundamental aspect of the creative arts either through the art of reconstruction of a known space or in establishing a relationship between the audience and the performance. Politics, power and knowledge are also fundamental components of space as is the relationship between visibility and invisibility. This new inter- and multi-disciplinary conference project seeks to explore these and other topics and open up a dialogue about the politics and practices of space and place. We seek submissions from a range of disciplines including archaeology, architecture, urban geography, the visual and creative arts, philosophy and politics and also actively encourage practitioners and non-academics with an interest in the topic to participate.

We welcome traditional papers, preformed panels of papers, workshop proposals and other forms of performance - recognising that different disciplines express themselves in different mediums. Submissions are sought on any aspect of space and place, including the following:

1. Theorising Space and Place

- Philosophies and space and place
- Surveillance, sight and the panoptic structures and spaces of contemporary life
- Space and place as realms of becoming
- Rhizomatics and/or postmodernist constructions of space as a "meshwork of paths" (Ingold: 2008)
- The relationship between spatiality and temporality/space as a temporal-spatial event (Massey: 2005)
- The language and semiotics of space and place

2. The situation and location of Identities

- Gendered spaces including the tension between domestic and public spheres
- Work spaces and hierarchies of power
- Geographies and archaeologies of space including Orientalism and Occidentalism
- Ethnic spaces/ethnicity and space
- Disabled spaces/places
- Queer places and spaces
- Alterity and its relationship to the production of space and place
- Spatialities in Rural areas of nature
- Queer Ruralities
- Dangerous Nature vs. Civilisation

3. The Contestation of Existing Spaces and Places

- Contemporary local and global political insurgencies and the politics of occupation in urban spaces and places, including the Occupy movement, the Arab Spring, the London Riots and the incursion by M23 into the DRC.
- The economic, political, social and cultural contestation of urban space and its effect upon the production of place
- The politics and ideology of constructions and discourses of space and place including the construction of

gated communities as a response to real/imagined terrorism, class politics, or ethnic and cultural heterogeneity.

- The relationship between power, knowledge and the construction of place and space
- Territorial wars, both real and imagined.
- The relationship between the global and the local and their relationship to space and place
- Barriers, obstructions and disenfranchisement in the construction of lived spaces
- Space and place from colonisation to globalisation
- Real and imagined maps/cartographies of place
- Transnational and translocal spaces and places

4. Representations of place and space

- Embodied/disembodied spaces
- Lived spaces and the places of the architecture of identity
- Haunted spaces/places and non-spaces
- Set design the construction of space and the representation of place in film, television and theatre
- Authenticity and the reproduction/representation of place in the creative arts
- Technology and developments in the representation of space and place including new media technologies and 3D technologies of viewing
- Future cities/futurology and the future of urban space and place
- Representations of the urban and the city in the media and creative arts
- The spaces and places of and within digital gaming and digital games

5. Networks of Mobility and the Relationship to Movement and Space

- The spaces of flows
- Mobility, movement, and their effects upon the production and ontology of space and place
- Non-spaces and their relationship to mobility and movement
- The space of Immobile mobiles (Urry, Castells) and their effects upon the nature of place
- The places of mobility

What to Send:

300 word abstracts should be submitted by Friday 22nd March 2013. If an abstract is accepted for the conference, a full draft paper should be submitted by Friday 21st June 2013. 300 word abstracts should be submitted to the Organising Chairs; abstracts may be in Word, WordPerfect, or RTF formats, following this order:

a) author(s), b) affiliation, c) email address, d) title of abstract, e) body of abstract, f) up to 10 keywords
E-mails should be entitled: SP4 Abstract Submission

Please use plain text (Times Roman 12) and abstain from using footnotes and any special formatting, characters or emphasis (such as bold, italics or underline). We acknowledge receipt and answer all paper proposals submitted. If you do not receive a reply from us in a week you should assume we did not receive your proposal; it might be lost in cyberspace! We suggest, then, to look for an alternative electronic route or resend.

Organising Chairs:

Matt Melia: mjmeliasp3@gmail.com

Rob Fisher: sp4@inter-disciplinary.net

The conference is part of the 'Ethos' series of research projects, which in turn belong to the Critical Issues programmes of ID.Net. It aims to bring together people from different areas and interests to share ideas and explore various discussions which are innovative and challenging. All papers accepted for and presented at the conference will be published in an ISBN eBook. Selected papers may be invited to go forward for development into 20-25 page chapters for publication in a themed dialogic ISBN hard copy volume.

For further details of the conference, please visit:

<http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/critical-issues/ethos/space-and-place/call-for-papers/>

7th Global Conference
Fear, Horror and Terror

Thursday 5th September - Saturday 7th September 2013
Mansfield College, Oxford, United Kingdom

Call for Presentations

This inter-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary conference seeks to examine and explore issues which lie at the interface of fear, horror and terror. In particular the project is interested in investigating the various contexts of fear, horror and terror, and assessing issues surrounding the artistic, cinematic, literary, moral, social, (geo) political, philosophical, psychological and religious significance of them, both individually and together. We seek to explore the role and consequences of fear, horror and terror and how society, people or groups manage and control fear, horror or terror.

We invite proposals on any area related to the conference purpose and encourage creative and challenging presentations. In addition to academic analysis, we welcome the submission of case studies or other approaches from those involved with its practice, such as people in religious orders, therapists, victims of events which have been provoked by experiences of fear, horror and terror - for example, lawyers or others involved with law enforcement, medical practitioners, or fiction authors whose work aims to evoke these reactions.

Presentations, papers, reports, work-in-progress and workshops are invited on issues related to any of the following themes:

1. About Fear, Horror and Terror

- Definitions, interdisciplinary studies, cross cultural comparisons
- Comparison with other emotions/experiences
- Institutions, constructions, and deconstructions of fear, horror and terror
- Theories for studying fear, horror or terror: social, political, sociological, literary, architecture, legal, scientific, artists, philosophical and any others

2. The Contexts of Fear, Horror and Terror

- case studies
- professions dealing with the Fear, Horror and Terror (Therapists, Clergy, Lawyers, Law enforcement etc.)
- creating and experiencing fear, horror and terror
- the properties, language, meaning or significance of fear, horror and terror

3. At the Interface of Fear, Horror and Terror

- the role of fear, horror and terror
- emotional releases (pleasant or negative) achieved by fear, horror and terror
- techniques, marketing, consumption and management of fear, horror and terror
- recreational or aesthetic fear, horror and terror
- the temperature, sound, smell, sight or feel of fear, horror and terror
- silence as a strategic subversion of the operation of fear, horror and terror
- fear, horror and terror and the visible/invisible
- work, law, government policy, accounting or human resources and fear, horror or terror

4. Representations of Fear, Horror and Terror and:

- the imagination or the sublime
- art, cinema, theatre, media and the creative arts
- survival horror video games
- literature (including children's stories)
- the other
- hope and despair
- relations to anxiety, disgust, dread, loathing
- hope and the future
- the sublime

5. Relationships with Fear, Horror and Terror:

- use of space, tools, architecture, outer space and rural/urban settings
- militarisation, control and fear
- rituals, ceremonies, performances and fear, horror and terror in everyday life or fiction/art
- weapons, engineering and technology

Papers will be accepted which deal with related areas and themes.

What to Send:

300 word abstracts should be submitted by Friday 22nd March 2013. If an abstract is accepted for the conference, a full draft paper should be submitted by Friday 21st June 2013. 300 word abstracts should be submitted simultaneously to both Organising Chairs; abstracts may be in Word, WordPerfect, or RTF formats with the following information and in this order:

a) author(s), b) affiliation, c) email address, d) title of abstract, e) body of abstract, f) up to 10 keywords
E-mails should be entitled: FHT7 Abstract Submission

Please use plain text (Times Roman 12) and abstain from using any special formatting, characters or emphasis (such as bold, italics or underline). We acknowledge receipt and answer to all paper proposals submitted. If you do not receive a reply from us in a week you should assume we did not receive your proposal; it might be lost in cyberspace! We suggest, then, to look for an alternative electronic route or resend.

Organising Chairs

Shona Hill & Shilinka Smith: shs@inter-disciplinary.net

Rob Fisher: fht7@inter-disciplinary.net

The conference is part of the 'At the Interface' series of research projects. The aim of the conference is to bring together people from different areas and interests to share ideas and explore various discussions which are innovative and exciting. All papers accepted for and presented at this conference are eligible for publication in an ISBN eBook. Selected papers may be invited to go forward for development into a themed ISBN hard copy volume.

For further details of the conference, please visit:

<http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/at-the-interface/evil/fear-horror-terror/call-for-papers/>

4th Roger Williams University Conference on Religion and the State

Conference

12th to 14th April 2013

Bristol, Rhode Island, United States of America

Website: <http://www.h-net.org/announce/show.cgi?ID=197783>

Contact person: Dr. Sargon George Donabed and Dr. Matthew S. Hedstrom

We welcome submissions addressing matters of religion and the state from any and all regions of the world with particular focus on the 19th and 20th centuries.

Christian Faith and the University

Conference

26th to 28th September 2013
Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Website: <http://www.christianfaithandtheuniversity.ca>

Contact person: Eric Parker

Christian Faith and the University is a three-day conference exploring the relationship between Christian faith and higher education from the Reformation to the 21st century.

Deadline for abstracts/proposals: 31st January 2013

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"leap and the net will appear"