

Mutants, Monsters

and Marvels

Anomalous Human and Non-Human Bodies in Literature and the Arts

JUNE 30 to JULY 1st 2025
online conference

Organized by João Paulo Guimarães, Ana Carolina Meireles,
Ezra Beatriz Félix, Isadora Cavalcanti & Shayla Barros



PROGRAM JUNE 30TH



10H30 | Opening Remarks

10H45 – 12H05 | Panel 1

Salomé Honório [ICS - University of Lisbon], “Morlock Nations: Mutant Fantasies, and the Libidinal Politics of Trans/Black (In)Humanity

Rubab Batool [HSE Moscow], “Disrupting Normativity: Posthumanism, Affect and Queer Monstrosity in *Joyland*”

Maria Eduarda Dias [FLUP - University of Porto], “Law of Leprosy: Analogies of the Flesh”

Chair Rubab Batool

12H05 | Lunch break

14H00 – 15H00 | **Keynote Address Maria Esther Maciel | Chair Márcia Neves**

Break | 10 minutes

15H10 – 16H30 | Panel 2

Hee Sook Lee Niinioja [Independent Scholar - Helsinki], “A Historical Transition from the 12th Century’s Romanesque Monstrous Animals for Monks’ Minds to Contemporary Heritage Objects for Tourists’ Eyes”

Valeriia Kablukova [HSE Moscow], “Human ‘Anomalies’ on Display: From Enlightenment Kunstkamera to Body Worlds and the Ethics of Anatomical Spectacle”

Christy Tidwell [South Dakota School of Mines & Technology], “Bad, Botched, and Speculative Taxidermy: How Animal Bodies are Made Monstrous”

Chair Hee Sook Lee Niinioja

Break | 5 minutes

16H35 – 17H55 | Panel 3

Lauro Precioso [Independent Scholar and Artist - Minho & Oslo],

“Non-normative Time in Ecocrip Studio Practices”

Rita Mota [FLUP - University of Porto], “Identity, Materiality, and Biopolitics in

When the Sick Rule the World by Dodie Bellamy”

Bonnie Cross [Valencia College], “My Monstrous Mind: How Neuronarratives

Address the Impacts of Alzheimer’s Disease and Re-Assert Selfhood”

Chair Ana Bessa Carvalho

Break | 5 minutes

18H00 – 19H40 | Panel 4

Jack Hunter [University of Wales: Trinity Saint David], “Of Monsters, Minds

and Miscommunication: Reflections on Encounters with ‘Real’ Monsters”

Victor Jofilsan [FLUP - University of Porto], “‘A água entra pelo discurso’: Notas

sobre Corpos Aquosos em *Maina Mendes* de Maria Velho da Costa”

Emilè Kalvelyté [University of Gothenburg], “Fungal Monsters in Ecohorror”

Zita Farkas/Anita Purcell Sjolund [Dalarna University], “The Marvel of Hybrid

Fungal-Human Monsters in *The Girl with All the Gifts* and *The Last of Us*”

Chair Maria Eduarda Dias

END PANELS FOR THE DAY



PROGRAM JULY 1ST



10H45 – 12H05 | Panel 5

Panos Kompatsiris [HSE University, Moscow], “Kill It Whenever You See It: Monster Fish in Southern Crete”

Raquel Souza [FLUP - CETAPS], “Becoming Beast: Hibrid Imagery and the Violence of Identity in *Hannibal*”

Ana Bessa Carvalho [ELACH - University of Minho], “On Dogs and Owls: Representations of Motherhood and Interspecies Encounters in Contemporary Fiction”

Chair Ana Carolina Meireles

Break | 5 minutes

12H05 - 13H35 | Panel 6

Surabhi Baijal [Ambedkar University, Delhi], “Fluid Forms, Monstrous Femininities: Reading Ganga, Melusine, and Medea Across Myth and Matter”

Maria Leonor Figueiredo [Independent Scholar], “Don’t you swear at me, you little shit! Maternidade no Cinema de Terror”

Yana Panferova [HSE Moscow], “The ‘monster’ Madam Koi Koi in a Netflix series: Discursive representation of a Nigerian Urban Folklore”

Chair Panos Kompatsiris

13H35 | Lunch

14H30 – 16H10 | Panel 7

Emre Keser [University of California, Santa Cruz], “Monsters of the Modern”

Willow Phil [Ateneo de Manila University/ University of the Philippines - Diliman], “The Sexbot Cometh: Reading *Companion* (2025) as an Allegory to Trans*-becoming”

Lars R. “Jones” Vadjina [University of Tübingen], “Synthetic Souls: AI as Monster, Mirror, and Moral Dilemma in Speculative Fiction”

Inês Caldas [FLUP - University of Porto], “*Blade Runner*: A Vitória do Original e a Angústia da Cópia”

Chair Ana Bessa Carvalho

Break | 5 minutes

16H15 – 17H35 | Panel 8

Jasmin Endo Tran [FLUP - University of Porto], “Weak Monsters: Comedy, the Uncanny, and the Liminal in Literature and Film”

Jade Nogueira [FLUP - University of Porto], “Metamorfoses Carnavalescas na Animação Japonesa”

Shannon N. Conley [James Madison University, Harrisonburg], “Masking the Monstrous at the End of the World: Survival, Performance, and the Making of the Other”

Chair Jade Nogueira

Break | 25 minutes

18H00 | Closing session with Keynote Speaker Jeffrey Jerome Cohen

Chair Emily May Armstrong

