



April 2024 Bulletin

Hello friends and fiends – It's been a while since our last bulletin, I'm afraid that life got in the way a little, we hope that you are all well!

Welcome to the **April 2024 edition** of the BAFTSS Horror Studies Special Interest Group Bulletin – Below you will find your usual helping of horror studies news – including calls for papers, information about new publications, and details of upcoming events.

We aim to send out the SIG bulletin every few months and are hoping to release our next edition in mid-July 2024. **The deadline for inclusion in the next bulletin is 1 July 2024**, so be sure to send over any news of horror screen studies publications, events, CFPs etc. to s.mcmurdo2@herts.ac.uk by then.

Past editions of the bulletin now have an archival home on our website if you want a trip down memory lane or wish to see what has been going on in the horror studies world since 2020. The bulletin repository can be accessed here:

<https://baftsshorrort.weebly.com/bulletin-repository.html>

If you don't already follow our social media channels, then please do! It's where we post reminders and registration details for upcoming SIG events, and signal boost relevant work in the horror studies field.

We hope you have a good Spring - All the very best,

Laura and Shellie (SIG Co-convenors)

Website: <http://www.baftsshorrort.weebly.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/720961798739507>

Twitter/X: https://twitter.com/baftss_horror

HORROR SIG NEWS

RECENT EVENTS:

Since our last bulletin, we have hosted five more successful SIG Weekday Night Bite events!

Last October we teamed up with our pals in the Science Fiction and Fantasy SIG for ***Keep Watching the Skies: 30 Years of The X-Files***. This special event celebrated the 30th anniversary of one of the most important, innovative, and influential genre television series of all time, and the panel – which included Simon Brown, David Clarke, Bethan Jones, and Diane Rodgers – discussed the show’s legacy since it’s first broadcast in 1993.

We were then very proud to host the launch of Kieran Foster’s new monograph ***Hammer Goes to Hell: The House of Horror’s Unmade Films***. A roundtable discussion, chaired by Hannah Hamad and featuring Kieran, Melanie Williams, and Johnny Walker covered various aspects of the long history of Hammer, and was followed by a lively Q&A session with attendees.

We closed 2023 by welcoming back some SIG event regulars for a roundtable discussion of ***Doing Women’s (Global) Horror Film history: A panel on feminist retellings of history***, ahead of the MAI: Feminism and Visual Culture Dossier on the subject. This event featured several collaborators on the dossier, including editor Alison Peirse, moderator Valeria Villegas Lindvall, and panellists Beatriz Saldanha, Kate Robertson, Quan Zhang, Krista Calvo, Alice Haylett Bryan, and Ucheyamere Nkwam-Uwaoma, and we were lucky enough to get to see a selection of video essays from the dossier ahead of its release. This special issue of MAI is now available here: <https://maifeminism.com/issues/focus-issue-thirteen-doing-womens-global-horror-film-history/>

2024 kicked off with our third SIG symposium: ***Dead Media: Contemporary Horror and the Analogue***. This event brought together international scholars to explore this burgeoning strand of contemporary screen horror and discuss the inclusion of analogue aesthetics and technology over a variety of mediums, including film, television, video games, podcasts and more. It is our hope that this symposium will function as the first step in a wider project on “Dead Media” – so keep your eyes peeled for more information on that soon!

Finally, our Weekly Night Bites event for February was the fascinating ***British Genre Film Festivals: A Roundtable***. Chaired by Russ Hunter, panellists Nia Edwards-Behi, Chris Cooke, and Rob Nevitt provided their reflections on the changing status of genre film festivals in the UK, their dynamics and politics, and the challenges of both a Covid and post-Covid landscape.

If you missed out on any of the above events, never fear, as there is a full back catalogue of Weekday Night Bites available here:

<https://baftsshorrort.weebly.com/past-events.html>

Videos from Dead Media: Contemporary Horror and the Analogue can be found on a dedicated page here: <https://baftsshorrort.weebly.com/dead-media-contemporary-horror-and-the-analogue-symposium.html>

BAFTSS 2024 CONFERENCE

After a break from the annual BAFTSS Conference in 2023, our SIG panel for this year's conference was – **Hidden Horror Histories: Women's Labour in Genre Production, Performance, and Programming.**

Chaired by Bethan Jones, it included the following papers:

Nia Edwards-Behi, 'Horror Film Festivals: Unseen Labour'

Shellie McMurdo, 'Monsters, She Made: The Hidden Labour of Women in Horror's Special Effects History'

SIG ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our AGM for 2024 will be held online soon – This is open to all members of the BAFTSS SIG, and details will be sent out soon.

FORTHCOMING WEEKDAY NIGHT BITES (All free entry and held on Zoom)

We are currently confirming the dates for the last few events of the 2023-24 academic year, which include a Weekday Night Bite on the subject of silent horror and pedagogy, and another on sound and horror. Keep an eye on our social media channels for more details as we have them!

WEEKDAY NIGHT BITES – CALL FOR PITCHES!

We will be planning the Weekly Night Bites schedule for 2024-25 over the summer, and we are looking for your pitches for potential events! Weekday Night Bites events can take the form of roundtable discussions, book launches, workshops, research presentations – whatever works for you. You can have a watch of previous events on our website here: <https://baftsshorrort.weebly.com/past-events.html>

Part of our role as a Special Interest Group is to facilitate connections and discussions between members, and to foster a network of postgraduate, early career, and established researchers in the field. We aim to spark collaborations and a collegial atmosphere, promote new and cutting-edge work, and to promote and support equality, diversity, and inclusivity within the horror studies community. A full list of our SIG aims can be found on our website (or alternatively on the official BAFTSS website) – our events are arranged in line with these.

So, if you have an idea for a Weekday Night Bite event, please get in touch! Through

our Facebook, Twitter, or through direct email contact with one of the SIG convenors (Laura Mee (l.mee2@herts.ac.uk) or Shellie McMurdo (s.mcmurdo2@herts.ac.uk))

OUR BOOK SERIES!

Affiliated with the BAFTSS Horror Studies Special Interest Group, Hidden Horror Histories is a new book series from Liverpool University Press which aims to uncover underexplored areas of screen horror.

We currently have several upcoming books contracted to the series, which include:

Stacey Abbott and Lorna Jowett – *Women Creators of TV Horror*

Derek Johnson (ed.) *Nigel Kneale & Horror*

Lindsay Hallam – *Revenge in Australian Horror Cinema*

Erin Giannini – *Teen Screams: A Genealogy of Horror's Influence on Teen Media*

See below for more details and a link to our current CFP – If you are interested in contributing to the series, please do get in contact with the series editors to discuss your initial ideas:

Kate Egan (kate.egan@northumbria.ac.uk) Laura Mee (l.mee2@herts.ac.uk)

Shellie McMurdo (s.mcmurdo2@herts.ac.uk)

RECENT AND FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

Steve Jones (2024) *The Metamodern Slasher Film*. Edinburgh University Press

- The inaugural publication of the new 21st Century Horror series from, Edinburgh University Press!
- Further information: <https://edinburghuniversitypress.com/book-the-metamodern-slasher-film.html>

(2024) *Horriifying Children: Hauntology and the Legacy of Children's Television*. Bloomsbury Academic.

- Edited by Lauren Stephenson, Robert Edgar, and John Marland
- Further information: <https://www.bloomsbury.com/us/horriifying-children-9781501390548/>

(2024) *Filtered Reality: The Progenitors and Evolution of Found Footage Horror*. House of Leaves Publishing.

- Edited by Rebecca Booth and Valeska Griffiths
- Further information: <https://www.holpublishing.com/aboutfr>

(2024) *Heroic Girls as Figures of Resistance and Futurity in Popular Culture*. Routledge.

- Edited by Simon Bacon
- Further information: <https://www.routledge.com/Heroic-Girls-as-Figures-of-Resistance-and-Futurity-in-Popular-Culture/Bacon/p/book/9781032054919>

(2024) *Gothic Nostalgia: The Uses of Toxic Memory in 21st Century Popular*

Culture. Palgrave Macmillan.

- Edited by Simon Bacon and Katarzyna Bronk-Bacon
- Further information: <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-031-43852-3>

Oliver Kenny (2023) *Transgressive Art Films: Extremity, Ethics and Controversial Images of Sex and Violence*. Edinburgh University Press.

- Further information: <https://edinburghuniversitypress.com/book-transgressive-art-films.html>

(2023) *The Palgrave Handbook of the Vampire*. Palgrave Macmillan.

- Edited by Simon Bacon
- Further information: <https://link.springer.com/referencework/10.1007/978-3-030-82301-6>

JOURNAL ARTICLES

MAI 13: 'Doing Women's Global Horror Film History' Dossier

- Available here: <https://maifeminism.com/issues/focus-issue-thirteen-doing-womens-global-horror-film-history/>
- Catch up on our related Weekday Night Bite event: <https://baftsshorrort.weebly.com/past-events.html>

Post- Apocalyptic Waste. *Revenant Journal*. Issue 10

- Available here: <https://www.revenantjournal.com/>

Krista Collier-Jarvis (2023) "'Danger: Children at Play": Uncanny Play in Stephen King's Pet Sematary. *Humanities*. 12(5).

- Available here: <https://www.mdpi.com/2076-0787/12/5/90>

Øystein Førre (2023) 'Horror movies and the social unconscious'. *Group Analysis*, 0(0).

- Available here: <https://doi.org/10.1177/05333164231167546>

CALLS FOR PAPERS

ARTICLES

The Power of Horror Compels You: Exploring Historic and Modern Iterations of Horror.

- Articles for publication in *Scaffold: The Journal for the Institute of Comparative Studies of Literature, Art, and Culture*.
- Contact: Scaffoldjournal@gmail.com
- Abstracts of 300-500 words and a brief author bio by 29 April 2024.
- Notifications of acceptance: Early May 2024
- Full articles due for review: 5 August 2024.
- Further information: <https://call-for-papers.sas.upenn.edu/cfp/2024/02/28/the-power-of-horror-compels-you-exploring-historic-and-modern-iterations-of-horror>

CHAPTERS

Horror Capital: Class, Material, and Production Analyses of Horror Entertainment.

- Contact: William Chavez and Valeria Dani
- Contact email: horrorcapitalvolume@gmail.com
- Abstract (500 words) and short author bio by 17 May 2024
- If accepted, essays of 6,000 – 8,000 words (inc. references) are expected by: 13 December 2024
- Further information: <https://call-for-papers.sas.upenn.edu/cfp/2024/03/02/call-for-chapters-edited-volume-horror-capital-class-material-and-production-analyses>

The (Un)Dead Travel Fast: Critical Readings of Travel, Transport, and the Journeying Vampire.

- Contact: Simon Bacon (baconetti@gmail.com)
- Abstract deadline: 31 July 2024
- If accepted, essays can be expected to be between 5,000 and 6,000 words and will need to be delivered by mid/late 2025.
- This edited collection will be published under the new Vampire Studies: New Perspectives on the Undead series from Peter Lang (further details on this below)
- For full CFP, please contact above.

FORTHCOMING POINTS OF INTEREST

EVENTS

"Dreams or nightmares? Madness or sanity? I don't know which is which" – The Representation of Mental Health in the Horror Genre

- 25th April 2024
- Keynote: Matt Glasby
- Screening of *Harold's Going Stiff* (Keith Wright, 2011) followed by live Q&A conducted by *Fortean Times* columnist Bob Fischer
- Further information and registration: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/nightmare-24-conference-tickets-862251857517>

Horror Studies Now

- 30-31st May 2024
- Northumbria University
- Keep an eye on their social media channels for further information: <https://twitter.com/HorrorStudies>

Ongoing – Romancing the Gothic

- Free online classes and watchalongs
- Further information: <http://www.romancingthegothic.com>
- Upcoming events: <https://romancingthegothic.com/calendar-of-events/>
- Eventbrite page (for more information about upcoming events and to register): <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/romancing-the-gothic-30996677463>

OTHER INFORMATION OF INTEREST

Interview with Adam Lowenstein by Max Bledstein for the *New Review of Film and Television Studies*

- Available here: <https://nrftsjournal.org/horror-film-and-otherness/>

The Power of Pod Compels You

- A new horror-based podcast featuring SIG member Bruna Foletto Lucas and Lisa Guerts
- New episode every two weeks – available on Spotify, Google Podcasts, iHeartRadio, Alexa and more
- Twitter: @powerofpod
- Further information: <https://www.buzzsprout.com/1797482>

RELEVANT BOOK SERIES!

Hidden Horror Histories – Liverpool University Press

- Series editors: Kate Egan, Shellie McMurdo, Laura Mee
- A series focusing on creative individuals in horror screen media throughout the genre's history which places particular emphasis on the contributions of horror creatives which have not been covered extensively in scholarship to date.
- **Further information and full CFP:** <https://baftsshorrort.weebly.com/book-series.html>

21st Century Horror – Edinburgh University Press

- Series editors: Alice Haylett Bryan, Craig Ian Mann, Thomas Joseph Watson
- A series of monographs and edited collections dedicated to the study of contemporary horror media – expanding the work established by the Fear 2000 conference series.
- **Further information and full CFP:** <https://edinburghuniversitypress.com/series-21st-century-horror>

Horror Studies – University of Wales Press

- Series editor: Xavier Aldana Reyes
- Dedicated to the study of the genre in its various manifestations – from fiction to cinema and television, magazines to comics, and extending to other forms of narrative texts such as video games and music.
- **Further information and full CFP:** <https://www.uwp.co.uk/series/category/horror-studies/>

Vampire Studies: New Perspectives on the Undead – Peter Lang

- Series editor: Simon Bacon
- A new series exploring the ongoing evolution of vampires and the undead in the broadest sense – including the supernatural, super-human and non-human, and across cultures, histories and media.
- **Further information and full CFP:** <https://www.peterlang.com/series/vsu>