

HORROR STUDIES



BAFTSS

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

April 2021

Hello, and welcome to the April 2021 edition of the BAFTSS Horror Studies Special Interest Group Bulletin!

Below you will find highlights of the BAFTSS 2021 Conference and news of some exciting developments for the SIG off the back of our Annual General Meeting, along with your usual digest of recent publications, current calls for papers (conferences and journals/books), and other information/events that may be of interest.

The bulletin is sent out on a bi-monthly basis, with the next one being sent out in June. If you have any recent publications, upcoming events, or anything you would like to signal boost within the field of horror studies, please do get in touch.

The deadline for sending us information you would like included in the next bulletin is the 4th of June.

Thanks!

Kate, Laura, and Shellie.

Twitter: @BAFTSS_Horror

BAFTSS CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

We saw some fantastic horror-related research at BAFTSS 2021 which demonstrated the continued significance of research on the genre in film, television and screen studies. On day one, the panel 'Pain and Feminist Thought' featured Tugce Kutlu on supernatural body horror (Tugce's paper "I am not Carrie": Rebellious Female Bodies of Supernatural Body Horror" has been picked up for publication by Egemia, a Turkish academic journal), Oliver Kenny on violent bodily transformation in *Raw*, and Hazel Bayar on pleasure and suffering in *In My Skin* and *Cutting Moments*. In the 'Disability' panel Alison Wilde analysed disabled identities in *American Horror Story* and Ethan Lyon discussed Cronenberg and therapeutic practices. Later, Dominic Lash presented on Kiyoshi Kurosawa's *Cure* and Ben Tyrer on the 'shudder-image' in *Hannibal*. On day two, Kerstin Borchhardt explored pregnancy body horror in *Alien*, and Xavier Mendik and Ernest Mathijs discussed their documentary *The Quiet Revolution* ahead of our upcoming event on the film.

Our first Horror Studies SIG panel 'Reclaiming Bodies, Voices and Experiences: Feminist Perspectives on the Horror Genre through Theory and Practice' was a big success and very well attended – thank you to our panellists Amy Harris, Alison Peirse and Gabi Zogall for three excellent video essays and a really insightful discussion about the themes of their research and the process of making their videos. Thanks too to Kate Egan for being a great chair, and to everyone who joined the panel for their questions and contributions.

There was some big BAFTSS news regarding two of our founding members: Alison Peirse won the BAFTSS Publication Award for Best Edited Collection for her fantastic book *Women Make Horror: Filmmaking, Feminism, Genre* (Rutgers UP, 2020) (if you missed the book launch we hosted in September, you can find a full recording on our website <https://baftsshorrors.webs.com/events>), and Sorcha Ní Fhlainn took up her new role as the chair of BAFTSS. Congratulations to you, Alison and Sorcha!

HORROR SIG DEVELOPMENTS/AGM HIGHLIGHTS

Our first Annual General Meeting was held on the 9th of April, and here is a brief summary of the points that were discussed:

- Review of the year:
 - We received some really positive feedback for the SIG activities in the past year
 - Weekday Night Bites events have been well attended and have brought the horror scholar community together. We intend to continue the Weekday Night Bites events after the pandemic (that's a sentence I didn't think I would ever write), as we feel it has allowed our members to make connections all over the UK and beyond.
 - We expect to post a poll in September on our Facebook group to see if Wednesday is still the evening that suits most people for the Weekday Night Bites events
 - Although we have a full schedule of events for the rest of the academic year (more below on that), we still have an open call for event pitches,

please do get in touch with one of the SIG convenors if you would like to propose an event.

- Early Career Researchers
 - Following the success of their Weekday Night Bites event in February, SIG founding members Rhys Jones and Ami Nisa are currently working on developing a safe, inclusive space for early career researchers to have discussions that will be affiliated with the SIG. For more details, please email Rhys (rhys.jones2@liverpool.ac.uk) and watch this space and our social media feeds for more information as it becomes available!

- Book Series
 - We are currently developing a book series for proposal to Liverpool University Press (Auteur). Books can be monographs or edited collections with a focus on creative individuals within horror throughout the genre's history, with a particular focus on those whose contributions to the genre have not been covered extensively in horror scholarship to date.
 - Books could focus on (but are not limited to) key horror directors, stars, actors, composers/sound designers, screenwriters, special effects and make up artists, cinematographers, producers or editors
 - The series could also include focused studies of under-represented groups – so for example Black creatives in horror, women horror producers, and so on.
 - We are currently asking for expressions of interest in the series, which should be emailed to one of the SIG convenors (Kate Egan – kate.egan@northumbria.ac.uk / Laura Mee – l.mee2@herts.ac.uk / Shellie McMurdo s.mcmurdo2@herts.ac.uk)

PAST EVENTS

Just a reminder that videos of past events can be found on our website:
<https://baftsshorrortv.com/events>

UPCOMING SIG EVENTS

21st April @ 6.30pm BST – The Quiet Revolution: State, Society and the Canadian Horror Film: Panel Discussion.

- With free screening available from 14/04/21
- Registration and further information for this event is available here:
<https://forms.office.com/r/Pr9h8FL8d5>

26th May @ 6.00pm BST – Twenty-First-Century Gothic: A Retrospective

- Editors: Xavier Aldana Reyes (Manchester Metropolitan University, UK) and Maisha Webster (Indiana University, US)
- Chair: Sorcha Ní Fhlainn (Manchester Metropolitan University, UK)
- Contributors include:

- Enrique Ajuria Ibarra (Universidad de las Américas Puebla, Mexico)
- Sharae Deckard (University College Dublin, Ireland)
- Anya Heise-von der Lippe (University of Tübingen, Germany)
- Sarah Illott (Manchester Metropolitan University, UK)
- Murray Leeder (University of Manitoba, Canada)
- Please visit our twitter (@BAFTSS_Horror), Facebook group, or website for more details!

30th June @ 7.00pm BST – Bringing Female Horror Authorship to the Forefront

- Organised by: Bruna Foletto Lucas (Kingston University, UK)
- Chair: Alison Peirse (University of Leeds, UK)
- Contributors:
 - Valeria Villegas Lindval (University of Gothenburg, Sweden)
 - Shellie McMurdo (University of Hertfordshire, UK)
 - Katarzyna Paszkiewicz (University of Barcelona, Spain)
 - Martha Shearer (University College Dublin, Ireland)
- Please visit our twitter (@BAFTSS_Horror), Facebook group, or website for more details!

WEEKDAY NIGHT BITES – CALL FOR PITCHES!

Weekday Night Bites is a monthly series of scholarly events on screen horror, and although we are now fully booked for the academic year, we are looking for your pitches for 2021 - 2022 – these can take the form of roundtable discussions, launches, workshops, research presentations – whatever works for you.

You can have a watch of previous events on our website:

September 2020 – Women Make Horror - Book launch and discussion

October 2020 – Ghostwatch roundtable discussion

November 2020 – Night of the Nasties roundtable discussion

January 2021 – New Blood - Book launch and discussion

February 2021 – Politics of Horror: A Postgraduate Workshop

March 2021 – Post-Horror - Book launch and discussion

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 – 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 (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

David Church (2021) *Post-Horror: Art, Genre and Cultural Elevation*, Edinburgh University Press.

- Watch the SIG book launch event here: <https://baftsshorrortwebsites.com/events>
- Further information: <https://edinburghuniversitypress.com/book-post-horror.html>

Xavier Aldana Reyes and Maisha Webster (eds.) *Twenty-First-Century Gothic*, Edinburgh University Press.

- New paperback release
- Join us to celebrate at our event in May!
- Further information: <https://edinburghuniversitypress.com/book-twenty-first-century-gothic.html>

Farshid Kazemi, *A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night*, Auteur/Liverpool University Press.

- Available for pre-order now from the Liverpool University Press website
- Alongside ALL series titles, you can get a 30% discount using checkout code: auteur30
- Further information: <https://www.liverpooluniversitypress.co.uk/series/series-15364/?n=&x=2&start=1>

Stacey Abbott and Lorna Jowett (eds) *Global TV Horror*, University of Wales Press.

- Featuring chapters by several SIG members
- Further information: <https://www.uwp.co.uk/book/global-tv-horror/>

Eddie Falvey, Jonathan Wroot, and Joe Hickenbottom (eds.) *New Blood: Critical Approaches to Contemporary Horror*, University of Wales Press

- Part of the University of Wales Horror Studies Series
- Watch the SIG book launch event here: <https://baftsshorrortwebsites.com/events>
- Contains chapters by SIG members
- Further information: <https://www.uwp.co.uk/book/new-blood/>

CALLS FOR PAPERS

CONFERENCES

The Slasher Studies Summer Camp

- Online
- Conference dates: 13 – 14th August 2021
- Keynotes: Vera Dika and Steve Jones

- Abstracts (max 250 words) and a short bio to Daniel Sheppard (Daniel.sheppard@bcu.ac.uk) and Wickham Clayton (wickscrip@hot.com)
- Submission deadline: 30th April 2021
- **Further information:** <https://slasherstudies.weebly.com/>

Fear 2000: Horror Unbound

- Online
- Conference dates: 10-12 September 2021
- Keynote: Tom Watson
- Further Keynote speakers to follow
- For individual papers, please send an abstract (max. 300 words) and bio (max. 75 words) to Craig Ian Mann (c.mann@shu.ac.uk) and Chris Cooke (c.cooke@shu.ac.uk)
- Proposals for 80 minute panels comprising three speakers are also welcome
- Submission deadline: 31 May 2021
- **Further information:** <https://blogs.shu.ac.uk/fear2000/cfp2021/>

The Mouse's Monsters: Monsters and the Monstrous in the Worlds of Disney

- Online
- For the 2021 Conference of the Northeast Popular Culture/American Culture Association
- Conference dates: 21 – 23 October 2021
- Submission deadline: 1st August 2021
- Contact: Michael A. Torregrossa (popular.preternaturaliana@gmail.com) and Priscilla Hobbs (p.hobbs-penn@snhu.edu)
- **Further information:** <https://networks.h-net.org/node/73374/announcements/7507375/mouse%E2%80%99s-monsters-monsters-and-monstrous-worlds-disney-nepca>

JOURNAL ARTICLES

Special Issue: Jordan Peele – Supernatural Studies

- 500 word abstract to cburke2@stetson.edu and supernaturalstudies@gmail.com
- The subject line should read “Jordan Peele Issue: [abbreviated title]”
- Completed manuscripts will be due 15 September 2021
- Proposals for 500-1000 word reviews of scholarly work or media pertaining to Peele or to speculative fiction (literature) and black horror ore broadly are also welcomed. (see link for further details).
- Abstract deadline: 30th April 2021
- **Further information:** <https://call-for-papers.sas.upenn.edu/cfp/2020/09/21/supernatural-studies-seeks-contributors-to-special-journal-issue-on-jordan-peele>

Special Issue – 1980s Horror Film Culture – Horror Studies

- Contact: S.Ni-fhlainn@mmu.ac.uk
- Submissions due: 17th January 2022
- Decisions and/or requests for revisions: by 7th March 2022
- Revisions due: 2 May 2022
- Manuscript into press: late June 2022
- Published: Autumn 2022
- **Further information:** <https://networks.h-net.org/node/73374/announcements/7461263/horror-studies-call-articles-horror-culture-1980s>

CHAPTERS

Cryptids and Contagion: Pandemics, Panic and the Monsters of Anxiety

- Abstracts (300 words) or expressions of interest
- Contact: Simon Bacon (baconetti@googlemail.com)
- Final essay (6,000 -7,000 words)
- Final essay deadline: 2023
- Abstract deadline: 30th April 2021
- **Further information:** <https://simonjbacon.wordpress.com/2021/01/11/cfps-cryptids-and-contagion-pandemics-panic-and-the-monsters-of-anxiety/>

Japanese Horror, Lexington Press

- Looking for: submission of complete articles of up to 7,000 words or abstracts for proposed chapters up to 500 words.
- Submission deadline: 1st May
- Contact: Fernando Pagnoni Berns (citeron05@yahoo.com)
- **Further information:** <https://call-for-papers.sas.upenn.edu/cfp/2021/03/15/last-call-for-chapters-japanese-horror>

Difficult Death: Challenging Cultural Representations of Death, Dying and the Dead in Media and Culture

- Abstract (300 words) and brief bio (150 words)
- Contact: difficultdeadbook@gmail.com
- Abstract deadline: 1 May 2021
- **Further information:** <https://call-for-papers.sas.upenn.edu/cfp/2021/02/04/difficult-death-challenging-cultural-representations-of-death-dying-and-the-dead-in>

Nightmare Before Christmas (Key Films/Filmmakers in Animation series, Bloomsbury)

- Questions and informal discussion can be directed to any of the three co-editors, Filipa Antunes (a.antunes@uea.ac.uk) Brittany Eldridge

(Brittany.eldridge.18@ucl.ac.uk) and Rebecca Williams
(Rebecca.williams@southwales.ac.uk)

- Formal proposals (under 300 words) and a short bio should be emailed to Rebecca Williams
- Deadline: 3 May 2021.
- **Further information:** <https://fanstudies.org/2021/01/28/cfp-nightmare-before-christmas-key-films-filmmakers-in-animation-series-bloomsbury/>

Back from the Future: Critical Essays on Modern Monsters in Historical Narratives

- Abstracts (300 words)
- Contact: Simon Bacon (baconetti@googlemail.com)
- Deadline: 31st May 2021
- **Further information:** <https://simonjbacon.wordpress.com/2020/11/27/cfps-back-from-the-future-critical-essays-on-modern-monsters-in-historical-narratives/>

From Animus to Zombie: Further Perspectives on Gender, Supernatural Beings, and the Liminality of Death.

- Contact Rebecca Gibson (rgibson.archaeo@gmail.com) and James M. VanderVeen (jmvander@iusb.edu)
- Abstracts of 500-700 words and a 150-200 word biography
- Finished chapter to be 5,000 – 8,000 words.
- Full chapters: December 2021.
- Deadline for abstract: 1 June 2021
- Acceptance: 1 July 2021

Lunar Horror/Lunar Gothic

- Contact: Elana Gomel (egomel@tauex.tau.ac.il) and Simon Bacon (baconetti@googlemail.com)
- 300 word abstract and bio
- Submission date: 31st August 2021
- Final essays of 6,000 words will be due October 31st, 2023.

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES OF INTEREST/ EVENTS/INFORMATION OF INTEREST

CONFERENCES/EVENTS

'Rethinking the horrific child through children's cinema'

- A talk by Catherine Lester, who will be presenting research from her forthcoming monograph *Horror Films for Children: Fear and Pleasure in American Cinema*
- 28th April at 4pm BST
- **Details and registration:** <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/media-film-and-music-seminar-series-dr-catherine-lester-tickets-148359281605>

Cults, Cthulhus, and Klansmen: The (Hi)stories within Lovecraft Country

- Centre for the History of the Gothic (University of Sheffield)
- 20th May 2021
- 12.00pm – 6.00pm
- **Details and registration:** <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/cults-cthulhus-and-klansmen-the-histories-within-lovecraft-country-tickets-150739709529>

Screening Stephen King Symposium

- Hosted by Rebecca Janicker in the School of Film, Media and Communication (University of Portsmouth)
- 21st May 2021
- 9.30am – 5.00pm
- **Details and registration:** <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/screening-stephen-king-symposium-tickets-148623903095>

Theorizing Zombiism 2: Undead Again

- Conference dates: 29th – 31st July 2021
- **Further information:** <https://www.gu.se/en/event/theorizing-zombiism-2>

INFORMATION OF INTEREST:

The Combined Academic Publishers are offering BAFTSS members 25% off a selection of titles.

- Discount code: CSM21BAHS
- Offer running until: 30th June 2021
- **Further information:** <https://combinedacademic.co.uk/baftss-horror-studies-sig/>

The 3rd Cine-Excess Digital film release

- This is now live on Amazon Prime Video UK and can be found through the link below.
- Fornacis: Director's Cut joins Blake Lake and Leakage, which are also available on Amazon Prime as part of the Cine-Excess Digital Film Channel
- **Link:**
https://www.amazon.co.uk/gp/video/detail/B091HHCKC9/ref=share_ios_movie

The Miskatonic Institute of Horror Studies

- Events are not geo-locked so can be accessed anywhere in the world
- **Please see the full program and ticketing details here:**
<https://www.miskatonicinstitute.com/2020/09/miskatonic-institute-of-horror-studies-moves-to-online-format-for-fall-semester/>

Critical conversations in horror studies, Lehigh University Press.

- Publishing cutting-edge research that is accessible to both general and academic audiences, this series takes on important critical conversations about horror. The series offers a broad scope of scholarly inquiry. Not only do its books examine a range of media including film, television and literature, but its publications also consider a variety of historical eras extending into the contemporary moment and reaching as far back as the origins of horror itself
- Manuscripts should be focused around a specific topic, the importance of which should be made very clear
- Range from 50,000 to 90,000 words
- **Further information:** <https://lupress.cas.lehigh.edu/content/flyer-critical-conversations-horror-studies>

And now the screaming Starts

- A horror based podcast featuring SIG founding member, Stella Gaynor
- <https://andnowmovie.wordpress.com/about/>