

**18th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
CONTEMPORARY NARRATIVES IN ENGLISH
RECENT APPROACHES TO THE POSTHUMAN:
CULTURAL REFLECTIONS ON THE
(POST-)HUMAN CONDITION**

PROGRAM

**MAY 15 - 17. 2023
University of Zaragoza**



@Posthumanconf23



MONDAY, MAY 15

9:00-9:30	Registration [Hall]
9:30-10:00	Opening Ceremony [Salón de actos]
10:00-11:15	Plenary lecture: [Salón de actos] <p style="text-align: center;">Sherryl Vint (University of California, Riverside) “Humanism as Prosthetic: Science Fiction as Ceremony” Chair: María Ferrández-Sanmiguel</p>
11:15-11:45	Coffee break
11:45-13:15	Parallel sessions
	<p>Session IA. “Challenges to the posthuman” [Room 1]</p> <p>Chair: Francisco Collado-Rodríguez</p> <p>Martín Urdiales-Shaw (University of Vigo, Spain). “From a Bioengineering Dystopia to the Pandemic Novel: Challenging the Posthuman in Gary Shteyngart’s <i>Super Sad True Love Story</i> and <i>Our Country Friends</i> (2022)”</p> <p>Richard Hardack (Independent scholar). “It’s Always Already Too Late for White Men: Personified Nature and Personified Corporation, from Melville to <i>Avatar</i>”</p> <p>Francisco Collado-Rodríguez (University of Zaragoza, Spain). “The Extension Devours its Maker: McLuhan, the AI’s Wants, and the Cyborg-zombie”</p>
	<p>Session IB. “Posthuman agencies” [Room 2]</p> <p>Chair: Iuliia Ibragimova</p> <p>Ruxandra Teodorescu (Friedrich-Alexander-University Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany). “Ancillary Agency: AI Moral Participation in Ann Leckie’s <i>Ancillary Justice</i>”</p> <p>Mona Hedayati (Concordia University, Canada and University of Antwerp, Belgium). “Intelligent Sensibility: Human-Machine Agencies Unraveled”</p> <p>Iuliia Ibragimova (Dublin City University, Ireland). “Drifting Away From the Human: The Human-Machine Combination of the Sentient Spaceship as a Challenge to Anthropocentrism”</p>
13:15-15:15	Lunch break
15:15-17:00	Parallel sessions
	<p>Session 2A. “Posthumanism and genre” [Room 1]</p> <p>Chair: María Abizanda Cardona</p> <p>Dan Horatiu Popescu (Partium Christian University, Romania). “(Pre)configurations of the Posthuman Body in the Batman Franchise”</p> <p>Manuel Santana (University of Salamanca, Spain). “Do Androids Dream with Electric Alpacas? The Influence of Philip K. Dick in Latin American 21st Century Speculative Fiction”</p> <p>María Abizanda Cardona (University of Zaragoza, Spain). “Beyond SF: Reading the Posthuman in Crime Fiction”</p>

	<p>Session 2B “Posthumanism and the environment” [Room 2]</p> <p>Chair: Carmen Hidalgo-Varo</p> <p>Juni Kvarving (University of Kent, UK). “Vandermeer’s Weird Doubles: Transforming the Human under Climate Emergency”</p> <p>Manuel Sousa-Oliveira (University of Porto, Portugal). “The Way it Is in The Stories’: Storytelling as a (Post-)Human Ethic in Margaret Atwood’s <i>MaddAddam</i> Trilogy”</p> <p>Ana Tejero Marín (University of Salamanca, Spain). “The First Big Spark of Planetary Mind’: Anthropocene Entanglements, Sustainability Transitions and Religious Connotations in Kim Stanley Robinson’s <i>The Ministry for the Future</i> (2020)”</p> <p>Carmen Hidalgo-Varo (University of Granada, Spain). “Warmth Is Only Ever a Transitory Commodity’: Climate Science Fiction in Jasper Fforde’s <i>Early Riser</i> (2018)”</p>
17:00-17:30	Coffee break
17:30-19:15	<p>Parallel sessions</p> <p>Session 3A. “Time and the posthuman” [Room 1]</p> <p>Chair: Maxim Shadurski</p> <p>Raquel Medina (Aston University, UK). “Wiñaypacha: The Eternity of Aging in the Peruvian Highlands”</p> <p>Katsura Sako (Keio University, Japan) & Maricel Oró-Piqueras (University of Lleida, Spain). “The Family, Generations and the Posthuman Future in <i>Years and Years</i>”</p> <p>Sarah Falcus (University of Huddersfield, UK). “Childhood, Generation and Futurity in Kazuo Ishiguro’s <i>Klara and the Sun</i>”</p> <p>Maxim Shadurski (Siedlce University, Poland). “The Timescape of an Android: Narrating the Human in Kazuo Ishiguro’s <i>Klara and the Sun</i>”</p> <p>Session 3B. “Posthuman subjectivities” [Room 2]</p> <p>Chair: Laura Larrodera Arcega</p> <p>Andrea Pitozzi (Università degli Studi di Bergamo, Italy). “Forms of the Post-human in Recent Works by Don DeLillo”</p> <p>Mashya Boon (Michigan State University, USA). “I are You; <i>Moon’s</i> Clonal Remarriage of the Self”</p> <p>György Kalmár (University of Debrecen, Hungary). “Posthumanism at the Margins: <i>Eden</i> and Recent Eastern European Visions of the Posthuman”</p> <p>Laura Larrodera Arcega (University of Zaragoza, Spain). “Indenture Rights for All: Challenging the Human Status Quo in Annalee Newitz’s <i>Autonomous</i>”</p>
20:00	<p>Wine reception.</p> <p>Restaurante Paraninfo Flor de Zaragoza (Paraninfo, Pl. de Basilio Paraíso, 4; Plus code: J4W7+R3 Zaragoza)</p>

TUESDAY, MAY 16

9:30-11:15	<p>Parallel sessions</p> <hr/> <p>Session 4A. “African and Indigenous posthumanism” [Room 1]</p> <p>Chair: Mónica Calvo-Pascual</p> <p>Mourad El Fahli (University Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah, Morocco). “The Posthuman Politics and Poetics of Contemporary Africanfuturist Fiction”</p> <p>Arunima Kundu (Friedrich Alexander University, Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany). “Mediating Otherness: The Afrofuturist Planetary Posthuman in <i>Black Panther</i>”</p> <p>Giulia Magro (University of Rome La Sapienza, Italy). “Reassembling Skins and Bones: Indigenous Posthumanism in Linda Hogan’s <i>Solar Storms</i>”</p> <p>Mónica Calvo-Pascual (University of Zaragoza, Spain). “Ethico-onto-epistem-ology and Embodied Memories in Rivers Solomon’s Fiction”</p> <hr/> <p>Session 4B. “Posthumanism and gender” [Room 2]</p> <p>Chair: Susana Onega Jaén</p> <p>Aline Ferreira (University of Aveiro, Portugal). “Made, Not Born: Reproductive Politics in Sarah Gailey’s <i>The Echo Wife</i>”</p> <p>Sara Martín Alegre (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain). “The Posthuman Patriarchal Villain as Absolute Future Threat: Winston Duarte in <i>The Expanse</i> Novel Series”</p> <p>Claudia Martori (Universitat de Barcelona, Spain). “Re-reading Frankenstein in the 21st Century: Jeanette Winterson’s <i>Frankissstein</i>”</p> <p>Susana Onega Jaén (University of Zaragoza, Spain). “‘World without end’: A Reading of Sarah Hall’s <i>The Carhullan Army</i> as a Feminist Environmental Postapocalyptic Fiction”</p>
11:15-11:45	Coffee break
11:45-13:00	<p>Plenary lecture: Salón de actos</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ivan Callus (Faculty of Arts, University of Malta)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“Posthumanism and Grace: Literary Pretexts for an Improbable Relation”</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chair: Esther Muñoz-González</p>
13:00-15:00	Lunch break
15:00-16:30	<p>Parallel sessions</p> <hr/> <p>Session 5A. “Representing the human and the non-human” [Room 1]</p> <p>Chair: Iwona Filipczak</p> <p>Luca Lunardi & Fabiano D’Este (Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle Venezie, Italy). “The Cinematic Animal: From Object of Vision in Mainstream American Cinema to Subject of Vision in Contemporary Cinematic Experiences”</p> <p>Katarzyna Nowak-McNeice (University of Wrocław, Poland). “The Posthuman Entanglement in Susan Straight’s Prose”</p> <p>Iwona Filipczak (University of Zielona Góra, Poland). “Sunaura Taylor and the Question of Posthumanism: Species Interdependence and Claiming Animality in Sanjay Nigam’s <i>Transplanted Man</i> and Indra Sinha’s <i>Animal’s People</i>”</p>

	<p>Session 5B. “Transhuman/posthuman technologies” [Room 2]</p> <p>Chair: Zsolt Györi</p> <p>Luise Erbenbraut (Independent Scholar). “Glitching the (Post-)Human: Virtual YouTubers’ Self-Representation Between Extended and Divided Self”</p> <p>Sayan Bhattacharyya (Yale University, USA). “Time via Neocybernetics in the Posthuman Dialectic of <i>The Overstory</i>”</p> <p>Zsolt Györi (University of Debrecen, Hungary). “Posthuman Perceptions: the ‘Vulture’s-Eye-View’ and the Ecology of Images in the Russian-Ukraine War”</p>
16:30-17:00	Coffee break
17:00-18:15	<p>Plenary lecture [Salón de actos]</p> <p>Miriam Fernández-Santiago (Department of English and German Philology, University of Granada)</p> <p>“Phenomenal”</p> <p>Chair: Francisco Collado-Rodríguez</p>
18:15-20:00	<p>Parallel sessions</p> <p>Session 6A. “Posthuman bodies” [Room 1]</p> <p>Chair: Ana Chapman</p> <p>Rocío Carrasco Carrasco (University of Huelva, Spain). “The Fragility of the (Post)human Body: <i>Altered Carbon</i> (Netflix 2018-2020)”</p> <p>Juan Ignacio Oliva Cruz (University of La Laguna, Spain). “The Posthuman (Anti)Hero’s Journey: An Ecomaterialist Debate”</p> <p>Anna McFarlane (University of Leeds, UK). “From the Posthumanism to the Transhumanism: The Peripheral, Gibson, and Amazon Prime”</p> <p>Ana Chapman (University of Málaga, Spain). “The Posthuman Subject in Joma West’s <i>Face</i> (2022): Embodiment, Embeddedness and Affect”</p> <p>Session 6B. “Posthuman kin-making” [Room 2]</p> <p>Chair: Amaya Fernández Menicucci</p> <p>Stephanie Rincón Ramos (Independent scholar). “Posthuman Kinship and Environmental Consciousness in Children’s Animated Series”</p> <p>Jülide Sezer (Utrecht University, Netherlands). “The Human and the Matter in Clarice Lispector’s Autofiction <i>Passion According to G.H.</i>”</p> <p>Amaya Fernández Menicucci (University of the Basque Country, Spain). “Posthuman (D)Evolution(s): Ontological and Biological Diversity in HBO’s <i>Raised By Wolves</i>”</p>
21:00	<p>Conference Dinner.</p> <p>Restaurante El Chalet (C/ Santa Teresa de Jesús, 25; Plus code: J4Q4+XG Zaragoza)</p>

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17

9:45-11:30	<p>Parallel sessions</p> <hr/> <p>Session 7A. "Human-nonhuman entanglements" [Room 1]</p> <p>Chair: María Jesús Martínez-Alfaro</p> <p>Maite Escudero-Álías (University of Zaragoza, Spain). "Skellig, Seabirds and Monks: Rethinking an Ontology of Entanglements in Emma Donoghue's <i>Haven</i> (2022)"</p> <p>Marta Bagüés Bautista (University of Zaragoza, Spain). "Facing the Other: Posthuman Grief in Ali Smith's <i>Winter</i> (2017)"</p> <p>Zsófia Novák (University of Debrecen, Hungary). "Vegetal Encounters – Nonhuman Agency and Colonizing Affect in <i>Annihilation</i> and 'Vaster than Empires and More Slow'"</p> <p>María Jesús Martínez-Alfaro (University of Zaragoza, Spain). "Dissolving Borderlands in A.S. Byatt's <i>Onto-Tales</i>"</p> <hr/> <p>Session 7B. "Trauma, memory and the posthuman" [Room 2]</p> <p>Chair: Sonia Baelo-Allué</p> <p>Cristina Arbués Caballé (University of Barcelona, Spain). "Attempts at Preemptively Avoiding Trauma through the Posthuman: Don DeLillo's <i>Zero K</i> (2016) and Kazuo Ishiguro's <i>Klara and the Sun</i> (2021)"</p> <p>Rubén Peinado-Abarrio (University of Zaragoza, Spain). "Nomadic Memory in Aleksandar Hemon's <i>My Parents: An Introduction / This Does Not Belong to You</i>"</p> <p>Sonia Baelo-Allué (University of Zaragoza, Spain). "When Trauma and the Posthuman Meet: Patricia Lockwood's <i>No One is Talking About This</i> (2021)"</p>
11:30-12:00	Coffee break
12:00-13:15	<p>Plenary lecture: [Salón de actos]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Kevin LaGrandeur (New York Institute of Technology)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"Brain-Computer Interface Projects: Literature, Reality, and Cultural Implications"</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chair: Carmen Laguarda-Bueno</p>
13:15- 15:15	Lunch break
15:15-17:00	<p>Parallel sessions</p> <hr/> <p>Session 8A. "Human-animal relations" [Room 1]</p> <p>Chair: Eugenia Ossana</p> <p>Daniel Ray (Australian National University, Australia). "'Otherwise Other': Becoming-animal and Monstrous Bodies in J. M. Coetzee's <i>Disgrace</i>"</p> <p>Borbála László (University of Debrecen, Hungary). "Anthrokynematic Triangle: The Transformative Relationship of Humans, Dogs and Paul Fierlinger's Animation Films"</p> <p>Imola Bülgözdí (University of Debrecen, Hungary). "The Relational Subject and the Dismantling of the Nature-Culture Binary in the Video Game <i>Fé</i>"</p> <p>Eugenia Ossana (University of Zaragoza, Spain). "Mosquitoes' Swarm Literary Voices and AI Hallucinations: Posthuman Intersections in <i>The Old Drift</i> by Namwali Serpell and <i>Nature Dreams</i> by Refik Anadol (2021)"</p>

	<p>Session 8B. “Posthuman living” [Room 2]</p> <p>Chair: Ana María Martín-Castillejos</p> <p>Liana Psarologaki (Buckinghamshire New University, UK). “Sensing As... From Quorum Sensing to Immersion – a Posthuman Symptomatology”</p> <p>Tomas Buitendijk (University College Dublin, Ireland). “New Directions for New Materialism and Speculative Realism: Towards an Empirical Footing”</p> <p>Veronika Sinyanskaya (University of Melbourne, Australia). “Overcoming Exceptionalism: Creative Agency of the Nonhuman and the Problem of Authorship”</p> <p>Ana María Martín-Castillejos (Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Spain). “Architecture as Myth in Ridley Scott’s <i>Blade Runner</i> (2019)”</p>
17:00-17:30	Coffee break
17:30-19:00	<p>Parallel sessions</p> <p>Session 9A. “Disaster narratives and the posthuman” [Room 1]</p> <p>Chair: Monika Sosnowska</p> <p>María Inmaculada Parra-Martínez (University of Murcia, Spain). “<i>The Last of Us</i>: Humans and Post-humans after a Real Pandemic”</p> <p>Rosa María Moreno-Redondo (Universitat de les Illes Balears, Spain). “(Post)humanist Cooperation in a Postnatural World: Mike Carey’s Speculative Fiction in the <i>Rampart</i> Trilogy”</p> <p>Monika Sosnowska (University of Łódź, Poland). “Posthumanist Lessons from Lear: The Importance of King Lear for ‘Our Unstable Environmental Now’ (Mentz, ‘Break Up the Anthropocene’)”</p> <p>Session 9B. “Posthuman otherness” [Room 2]</p> <p>Chair: Adriana Lobato Villarreal</p> <p>Laura García Soria (Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain). “The Alien and the Sublime: Posthuman Identities in <i>Annihilation</i>”</p> <p>Corinne Wooden (University of Melbourne, Australia). “Not Just Another Piece of Meat: Deconstructing Difference in <i>Monstres</i>”</p> <p>Adriana Lobato Villarreal (University of Zaragoza, Spain). “Reluctantly Human: A Study of Boundaries and Cyborgs in NK Jemisin’s <i>The Broken Earth</i>”</p>
19:00-19:30	Closing ceremony [Salón de actos]