



4th International Conference *His Master's Voice*
Utopias, Dystopias, and Ecotopias
23rd-26th March 2017
Villa Decius in Kraków (Poland)

*Human society, they claimed, was a sort of monster,
its main by-products being corpses and rubble*
Margaret Atwood, *Oryx and Crake*

I Conference overview

Utopian and dystopian narratives have been inviting prospective thinking since their very inception—and even today, when nationalistic historicism seems to be awoken yet again, they continue to urge, as Donna Harroway once did, for planning our brave new world as the one "becoming with" others: human races, animal species, or even extraterrestrial beings. Long-lasting Western paradigm, which has been confronting the human with the animal, the anthropocentrically perceived monster (*moneo, monere*), seems to be nowadays re-evaluated from the perspective of ecocriticism, animal studies, ecology, or environmentalism. And, at the very same time, a variety of fantastic narratives has been cultivated in this intellectual tradition, challenging our dualistic overview of the world as—and encouraging to stop thinking of it in terms of a binary opposition between nature and culture.

- representations of utopias, dystopias, and eco(dys)topias in: literature; cinema and television; video games; graphic novels; animations & anime; art; architecture; music; transmedial narratives; popular culture; and others.
- ecopolitical, ecosophical, and ecocritical approaches to utopia & dystopia;
- ecological turn: from ecotopias and ecodystopias to biodystopias;
- utopianism & ecocriticism;
- new critical approaches in ecological, utopian & dystopian studies: from environmentalism to ecofeminism and animal studies;
- ecological New Weird: utopias & dystopias from biopunk to climate fiction
- ecotopias by Ernest Callenbach, Margaret Atwood, Kim Stanley Robinson, John Crowley, Paolo Bacigalupi and others.
- current research in utopian studies and utopianism;

- utopia, dystopia, and eco(dys)topia retold, reimagined, remediated or renarrated;
- other research topics in utopian, dystopian, and ecotopian studies.

II Registration, submissions & fees

The conference language is English and Polish (although we do encourage English presentations). To register for the conference, one should send in an editable format (.doc, .docx.) 600-words abstracts featuring (1) the title of presentation, (2) a concise bio-note, (3) current affiliation, and (4) all necessary contact information (official email address & phone number) at **hismastersvoiceconference@gmail.com** by **January 15th 2017**. Please do entitle the document with aforementioned information, following the pattern: "Name, Title of your presentation". Successful applicants will be notified within two weeks after the deadline and given additional two-three weeks for submitting the registration fee. Attendees are also encouraged to send us full panel proposals composed of (1) abstracts from a minimum number of 4 delegates, (2) up to 600 words description of the panel, (3) a suggested title of the panel and, most importantly, (4) email addresses of all delegates included in the proposed panel. The conference fee is **150€ (130€ for students and PhD candidates)** and includes 3 lunches, wine reception, coffee breaks, and other conference essentials.

III Keynote speaker

Gregory Claeys (Royal Holloway University of London), chair of the Utopian Studies Society (Europe).

IV Publication

The conference will be followed by a peer-reviewed monograph, published by Facta Ficta Research Centre and licenced under Creative Commons 4.0 as an e-book in multi-format stored in a globally accessible repository (CeON Center for Open Science) and / or in peer-reviewed special editions of renowned scholarly journals.

V More info

Further details regarding the venue, suggested accommodation and transportation will be continuously updated at the website <http://www.hismastersvoice.org>. Organisers do welcome all questions and requests at hismastersvoiceconference@gmail.com.

We look forward to seeing you in Kraków!

The Organising Committee

Prof. Zbigniew Pasek, PhD • Danuta Glondys, PhD • Ksenia Olkusz, PhD • Michał Kłosiński, PhD • Krzysztof M. Maj, MA • Sven Dwulecki, MA