

# LITERATURE, CULTURE AND THE **FANTASTIC**: CHALLENGES OF THE FIN DE SIÈCLE(S)

International Interdisciplinary Conference  
17th and 18th February 2012, Rijeka, Croatia



# Literature, Culture and the Fantastic: Challenges of the Fin de Siècle(s)

International Interdisciplinary Conference  
17th and 18th February 2012, Rijeka, Croatia

**Conference hosting institutions:**  
**Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Rijeka**  
**English Department, Section for Literature**

**Conference organizer: Irena Grubica**  
e-mails: <igrubica@gmail.com>, <igrubica@ffri.hr>

## **Conference Organizing Committee:**

Irena Grubica, University of Rijeka, Croatia, president  
Dr Zdeněk Beran, Charles University Prague, Czech Republic, vice-president  
Dr Claire Bazin, University of Paris Ouest Nanterre la Défense, France  
Dr Francesca Saggini, Tuscia University, Italy  
Dr Tamás Bényei, University of Debrecen, Hungary  
Dr Željka Švrlljuga, University of Bergen, Norway

During the conference the editorial meeting for the book *The Fantastic in the Fin de Siècle*, ed. by I. Grubica & Z. Beran, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, took place. A few selected papers from the conference not included in the book will be published in a special journal issue of *Literaria Pragensia*, ed. by I. Grubica & Z. Beran.

**The conference was supported by:**

**The Open Society Foundations**  
**The Foundation of the University of Rijeka**  
**British Council**  
**British Embassy Zagreb**  
**The City of Rijeka**  
**Primorje-Gorski Kotar County**  
**Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Rijeka**



We would also like to thank Chevening Alumni Croatia for their logistic support.

Venue(s):

**Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences**

Sveučilišna avenija 4, Rijeka

**Rijeka City Hall**, Korzo 16, Rijeka

**Friday, 17 February 2011**

**8.00--8.30 Registration (Rijeka City Hall Entrance, Korzo 16)**

**Rijeka City Hall**

**8.30-9.00 Conference Opening and Welcome Addresses**

The City of Rijeka Welcome Address

Professor Predrag Šustar, dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

**Fantastic Short Story Competition Award Announcement (The University of Rijeka project 'Kultivator', supported by The City of Rijeka)**

Professor Snježana Prijic Samaržija, Vice-rector for Teaching and Student Affairs, University of Rijeka  
**Committee on Literary and Creative Writing Issues:**

Professor Tom Hubbard, novelist and poet, Scotland, UK

Dr Zdeněk Beran, translator, Czech Translators' Association, Prague

Irena Grubica, Croatian Writers' Association, Istrian Branch, the organizer of the student competition

**Rijeka City Hall Cafeteria**

9.00 –9.15 Coffee Break

**Rijeka City Hall**

9.15-10.10 **Plenary lecture I:** Professor Stefano-Maria EVANGELISTA; University of Oxford, United Kingdom

Title: Ghostly Returns: Spectral Classicism in the English Fin de Siècle

(Chair: Irena Grubica)

**10.30 Bus leaves for the University Campus** (The bus stop is next to the Croatian National Theatre "Ivana Pl. Zajca", Rijeka)

**Venue: Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Sveučilišna avenija 4**

**006 Multimedia Room, Ground Floor**

11.00 **Welcome Address**, Professor Nevenka Ožanić, University of Rijeka Vice-rector for Science

11.00 – 12.00 **Plenary Lecture II / Scientific Colloquium:** Professor Tom HUBBARD, Professeur invité, Université Stendhal-Grenoble 3, France; Honorary Visiting Fellow, Institute of Governance, University of Edinburgh; Visiting Scholar, Elphinstone Institute, University of Aberdeen

Title: The Scottish Fin-de-Siècle: A Case Study in Comparative Aesthetics

**12.00--12.30 Coffee Break and Exhibition opening**

**12.30-13.45 Parallel Panel Sessions I and II**

**12.30-13.45 Panel I – Room 206, Second Floor**

**Chair: Nóra SELLEI, University of Debrecen, Hungary**

**Aoife LEAHY, National Association of English Studies, Ireland**

**Panel II – Room 207, Second Floor**

**Chair: Stipe GRGAS, University of Zagreb, Croatia**

**Tamás BÉNYEI, University of Debrecen, Hungary**

Dorothy L. Sayers: Anthologer of Fantastic Literature  
**Anda BUKVIĆ, University of Zagreb, Croatia**  
 Women's Brands of Fairy Tales Around 1800:  
 Benedikte Naubert's *New German Tales* (1789–1792)  
**Margret HOLT, University of Klagenfurt, Austria**  
 Supernatural Beings: Angels, Ghosts and Demons in  
 Children's Books of the 19th Century (with particular  
 consideration of George MacDonald's *At the back of the North  
 Wind*)  
**Rodrigo FONTES TORRES, The Amergin  
 University Institute of Research in Irish  
 Studies, University of A Coruña (UDC)**  
*'A fiery pulse of sin, a splendid shame': Aesthetic  
 Aspects and Troublesome Relationships in Wilde's  
 Tales*

Ghosts in the Age of Spectrality: The Irrelevance of  
 Ghosts and Late Victorian Ghost Stories  
**Maria BEVILLE, Aarhus University, Denmark**  
 The Thing in the Mist: An Analysis of Fantastic Form  
 in the Cinematic  
 Representation of the Unnameable  
**Sophie MANTRANT, University of Strasbourg,  
 France**  
 «Sacrament of evil»: Arthur Machen's Supernatural  
 Tales of the Nineties

**13.45-14.30 Launch Break (Buffet Lunch, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences 2<sup>nd</sup> floor)**

**14.30-15.30 Parallel Panel Sessions I and II**

**14.30-15.30 Panel I - Room 206, Second Floor**

**Chair: Željka ŠVRLJUGA, University of Bergen, Norway**

**Anne Holden RØNNING, University of Bergen, Norway.**

Searching for the Fantastic in Australia (the paper will be read by the panel Chair)

**Iva POLAK, University of Zagreb, Croatia**

19<sup>th</sup>-Century Lemurian Fantasies in the Australian Outback

**Nina MUŽDEKA, Arijana LUBURIĆ-CVIJANOVIĆ and Nataša KARANFILOVIĆ, University of Novi Sad, Serbia**

Magical Realism in Postcolonial Fiction: Examples of David Dabydeen, Salman Rushdie and Peter Carey

**Panel II – Room 207, Second Floor**

**Chair: Stefano-Maria EVANGELISTA, University of Oxford, United Kingdom**

**Alison O'MALLEY-YOUNGER, University of Sunderland, United Kingdom**

A Walk on the Wilde Side: Dorian Gray a Faustian Flâneur for the *Fin de Siècle*

**Elisa BIZZOTTO, IUAV University of Venice, Italy**

The Fantastic as a Means of Fin-de-Siècle Aesthetic Expression and Inquiry: Theorizing the 'Aesthetic Fantastic'

**Elena PINYAEVA Moscow State University for the Humanities named after M.A. Sholokhov, Russia**

Faustian Motifs and Transformations of the Modern Myths in the Fictions of Oscar Wilde and Vernon Lee

**Petra MRDULJAŠ, University of Zagreb, Croatia**

The Sublimity of Terror, the Terror of the Sublime: J.R.R. Tolkien and H.P. Lovecraft as Two Poles of the 20<sup>th</sup> - century Fantasy

**15.45-18.30 Tour of Rijeka and Opatija**

**15.45 Bus leaves from the University Campus\*** (\* The bus stop is next to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences building. *Instructions:* When you exit the building, turn to your right, and keep walking 2-3 min. You will see the bus stop on your right hand side)

16.00-17.00 **Opatija sightseeing, a stroll along the "Lungomare"**

17.00 –18.00 **Hotel Millenium Opatija- Tea and cakes**

## 20.15 Chevening/OSF Alumni Gathering (Rijeka City Hall)

**20.30 Chevening Alumni Reception, Rijeka City Hall – Korzo 16 (all conference participants are invited)**

**Saturday, 18 February 2011**

**Venue: Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Slavka Krautzeka bb, Rijeka**

### **006 Multimedia Room, Ground Floor**

8.30-9.30 **Plenary lecture III:** Professor Tatjana JUKIĆ; University of Zagreb, Croatia  
Title: Sherlock Holmes and the Biopolitics of the Fantastic  
(Chair: Irena Grubica)

### **9.30 –9.45 Coffee Break**

### **006 Multimedia Room, Ground Floor**

9.45-10.45 **Plenary lecture IV:** Philip HEALY; University of Oxford, United Kingdom  
Title: Bram Stoker's *Dracula*: A Host of Reservations  
(Chair: Zdeněk Beran)

### **10.45--11.15 Coffee Break**

### **11.15-12.30 Parallel Panel Sessions I, II**

#### **11.15-12.30 Panel I – Room 206, Second Floor**

**Chair: Joseph MOLITORISZ, University of Rijeka, Croatia**

**Natalia KALOH VID, Faculty of Arts, University of Maribor, Slovenia**

Fantastic Realism in Mikhail Bulgakov's *Master and Margarita*: a Method of Struggle Against the Totalitarian State

**Vladislava GORDIĆ PETKOVIĆ, Ivana ĐURIĆ PAUNOVIĆ, University of Novi Sad, Serbia**

The Wordscape of the Devil and the Vampire: The Fantastic, Cultural Memory and Identity in *Fear and Servant* by Mirjana Novaković and *Constantine's Crossing* by Dejan Stojiljković

**Marcella ROMEO, University of Palermo, Italy**  
De-Constructing Late Victorian Identity: Supernatural Elements Voicing and Exorcising the Crisis in Kipling's 'The Mark on The Beast', Conan Doyle's 'Lot no. 409', Wells' 'The Truth about Peycraft'

**Francesca VITALI, University of Verona, Italy**  
The Fantastic Novel as a Mirror of Scientific Thought: Bram Stoker's *The Jewel of Seven Stars*

#### **Panel II – Room 207, Second Floor**

**Chair: Tamás BÉNYEI, University of Debrecen, Hungary**

**Stipe GRGAS, University of Zagreb, Croatia**  
Financial Capital and the Fantastic: an Americanist Perspective

**Sanja RUNTIĆ, Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek, Croatia**

Native American *Tracks* of the Fantastic  
**Željka ŠVRLJUGA, University of Bergen, Norway**  
Gilman's Fantastic Cryptonymy: The Case of "The Giant Wistaria"

**Antonija PRIMORAC, Jelena MIJATOVIĆ, University of Split, Croatia (the paper will be read by Dorjana SIROLA)**

Madness and the fantastic in Charlotte Perkins Gilman's "The Yellow Wallpaper" and Sheridan Le Fanu's "Green Tea"

### **12.30-16.00 Launch Break**

### **12.50 Bus leaves from the University Campus to the City Centre**

\*A tourist guide will meet you at the bus stop for a guided tour of Rijeka. Departure is from the bus stop next to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences building.

## 12.50 –14.00 Guided Tour of Rijeka

**14.00 –15.10 Lunch** (\* We would appreciate if you could select your lunch menu in advance and inform the students at the registration desk about your choice by Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> Feb, 11.00 o'clock, at the latest, so that we can send to the Restaurant the number of guests and their menus. All menus are enclosed in your conference package. Please note that this lunch is not covered by your conference fee and should be paid separately. Suggested restaurants: Pizzeria Bracera/Resturant Zlatna Školjka, Kružna 12, Rijeka)

**15.30 Bus leaves for the University Campus** (The bus stop is next to the Croatian National Theatre "Ivana Pl. Zajca", Rijeka)

**15.30 Bus leaves for the University Campus** (The bus stop is next to the Croatian National Theatre "Ivana Pl. Zajca", Rijeka)

## 16.00-17.15 Parallel Panel Sessions I and II

### 16.00-17.15 Panel I – Room 206, Second Floor

**Chair: Zdeněk BERAN, Charles University Prague, Czech Republic**

**Aleksandar MIJATOVIĆ, University of Rijeka, Croatia**

*Incident of the Letter: The Double in Maupassant's Horla and Stevenson's Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*

**Michal PEPRNÍK, Palacký University, Olomouc, Czech Republic**

R. L. Stevenson and the Fin-de-Siècle Pre-modernist Narrative Mosaic

**Ljubica MATEK, J. J. Strossmayer University of Osijek, Croatia**

The City and the Highway: The Spatialization of the Double in the *Fin de siècle(s)*

### Panel II – Room 207, Second Floor

**Chair(s): Elvio Baccarini, Irena Grubica, University of Rijeka, Croatia**

**Iris VIDMAR, University of Rijeka, Croatia**  
Beautiful and Sublime in Gothic and Fantastic Literature: A Kantian Perspective

**Boran BERČIĆ, University of Rijeka, Croatia**  
Personal Identity: *Star Trek* and *Solaris*

**Tatjana PERUŠKO, University of Zagreb, Croatia**

What We Talk About When We Talk About the Fantastic? Reconsidering Genealogical Distinctions

## 17.15-17.30 Coffee Break

## 17.30-18.45 Parallel Panel Sessions I, II and III

17.30-18.45 Panel I – Room 206, Second Floor	Panel II – Room 207, Second Floor	Panel III – Multimedia Room 006, Ground Floor
<p><b>Chair: Tatjana JUKIĆ, University of Zagreb, Croatia</b></p> <p><b>Nóra SÉLLEI, University of Debrecen, Hungary</b> (Mis)match-Making: Gothic Horror, Science Fiction, Fantasy and Family Romance in Violet Hunt's 'The Prayer'</p> <p><b>Anna Enrichetta SOCCIO, University "G. d'Annunzio", Italy</b> Houses, Hauntings and the Supernatural in Charlotte Riddell's Short Stories</p> <p><b>Emma DOMÍNGUEZ-RUÉ, University of Lleida, Spain</b> My Angry Selves: Ellen Glasgow's <i>The Past</i>, Gothic Doublings and Women's Sense of Otherness</p> <p><b>Charis XINARI, European University Cyprus, Cyprus</b> The pure child of the New Age: Revisting the New Woman in the Postfeminist Era</p>	<p><b>Chair: Michal PEPRNÍK, Palacký University, Olomouc, Czech Republic</b></p> <p><b>Zdeněk BERAN, Charles University Prague, Czech Republic</b> To the Genesis of Late Nineteenth-Century Vampire Stories as a Specific Form of the Fantastic</p> <p><b>Bojana VUJIN, University of Novi Sad, Serbia</b> From Fiendish Bloodsuckers to Sparkling Heart-Throbs: Vampires Then and Now</p> <p><b>Marko LUKIĆ, Karla LEBHAFT, University of Zadar, Croatia</b> Faces of Fear – Aesthetics of Horror and the Representation of the Monstrous</p>	<p><b>Chair: Elisa BIZZOTTO, IUAV University of Venice, Italy</b></p> <p><b>Éva ANTAL, Eszterhazy Karoly College, Hungary</b> The 'Spectral Presence' of the Fantastic in Wells's and Bellamy's <i>Fugitive Science Fiction</i></p> <p><b>Maria Antonietta STRUZZIERO, Independent Scholar, Italy</b> Subversive Abjection and Sublimity in Jeanette Winterson's Representation of the Fantastic: A Study of <i>The Passion</i> and <i>Sexing the Cherry</i></p> <p><b>Klára KOLINSKÁ, Metropolitan University Prague, Czech Republic</b> "Beauties but faintly visible:" Cryptographic Fantasies of James de Mille</p> <p><b>Robert FINNIGAN, University of Sunderland, United Kingdom</b> Finding Sanctuary amongst the Sidhe and Symbolism: W.B. Yeats and the Irish Fin de Siècle</p> <p><b>Irena GRUBICA, University of Rijeka, Croatia</b> Contested Pasts and the Politics of Memory: Irish Gothic Fiction Revisited</p>

### 19.00-19.15 Closing remarks (Multimedia Room 006, Ground Floor)

### 19.15 – 19.45 Editorial meeting (Multimedia Room 006, Ground Floor) / Concert (Entrance Hall)

**19.45 Organized transport to the restaurant (Cameo Taxi) \*** Departure from the bus stop is next to the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences building.

### 20.00 Conference Dinner - Tarsa Restoran



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