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SCUOLA DI  
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DLCM DIPARTIMENTO  
DI LINGUE E CULTURE MODERNE

# POSTHUMAN FICTIONS: Rethinking 'the Human' in Contemporary Culture

**Thursday 19 September**  
**Biblioteca Universitaria, Via Balbi 40**

**10.00**  
Conference Opening

**10.30-11.30**  
*Keynote*

Peter Boxall (New College, Oxford, UK)  
'Phantom Limb'

**11.50-13.10**  
*Frameworks: Agency in the Posthuman Age*

Peter Childs (Birmingham Newman University, UK)  
Sebastian Groes (University of Wolverhampton, UK)  
Laura Colombino (Università di Genova, Italy)

**14.20-15.40**  
*The Future of Ethics and Care*

Mónica Calvo-Pascual (Universidad de Zaragoza, Spain)  
Vanessa Guignery (Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon, France)  
Rocío Carrasco (Universidad de Huelva, Spain)

**16.00-17.00**  
*Posthuman Psychopathology*

Francesca Luppino (Università di Torino, Italy)  
Robyn Johnson (Sam Houston State University, Texas, US)  
Sonia Baelo-Allué (Universidad de Zaragoza, Spain)

**Friday 20 September**  
**Aula Magna, Palazzo Balbi Cattaneo,  
Via Balbi 2**

**09.40-11.20**  
*Pregnant, Ageing and Comatose: Medical States  
of Posthuman Corporeality*

Ivan Stacy (Beijing Normal University, China)  
Salem Martinez (University of California, Los Angeles, US)  
Alex Goody (Oxford Brookes University, UK)  
Miglena Nikolchina (University of Sofia, Bulgaria)

**11.40-13.20**  
*Problematizing boundaries through genre  
and the environment*

Aki Kawamura (Aichi University, Japan)  
Slađana Stamenković (University of Novi Sad, Serbia)  
Sontje Schulenburg (Tübingen University, Germany)  
Caterina Re (Università di Genova, Italy)

**14.30- 15.30**  
Round table

**15.30-16.30**  
*Guided tour of the University Palaces  
with art historian Giacomo Montanari*

Academic Programme Committee:  
Laura Colombino, Sebastian Groes and Ivan Stacy

Organised by:  
Laura Colombino, Paola Nardi and Caterina Re

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## Programme

**19 September**

**Biblioteca Universitaria, Via Balbi 40**

10.00

Conference Opening

10.30-11.30

Peter Boxall (New College, Oxford, UK)

**'Phantom Limb'**

11.30-11.50

Coffee break

11.50-13.10

*Frameworks: Agency in the Posthuman Age*

Peter Childs (Birmingham Newman University, UK)

**'What Human Remains?: Slaves to the Algorithm'**

Sebastian Groes (University of Wolverhampton, UK)

**'Transactional Living and the Outsourcing of Humanity'**

Laura Colombino (Università di Genova, Italy)

**"'It was the best of times, it was the worst of times'": Human Agency and/in Crisis'**

13.10-14.20

Lunch

14.20-15.40

*The Future of Ethics and Care*

Mónica Calvo-Pascual (Universidad de Zaragoza, Spain)

**'Agency, Ethics and Posthumanity in Rivers Solomon's *Sorrowland*'**

Vanessa Guignery (Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon, France)

**'Can the Posthuman Speak? Voice, Agency and Care in Novels by Kazuo Ishiguro, Harry Parker and Namwali Serpell'**

Rocío Carrasco Carrasco (University of Huelva, Spain)

**'The Posthuman Subject and Affirmative Relations in Popular TV Series: *The Peripheral* (Prime Video 2022-)'**

15.40-16.00

Coffee break

16.00-17.00

*Posthuman Psychopathology*

Francesca Luppino (Università di Torino, Italy) **'*Sunt lacrimae rerum*. Android sadness, degenerate post-human narratives and the case of Douglas Adams' *Marvin*'**

Robyn Johnson (Sam Houston State University) **'Coding Heart and Soul: Exploring Existential Anxiety of AI in Yu Wo's *½ Prince*'**

Sonia Baelo-Allué (University of Zaragoza, Spain)  
**'A Narratology of the Posthuman Wound: The Posthuman Trauma Novel in 21st century US Fiction'**

19.30 Conference Dinner

**20 September**  
**Aula Magna, Palazzo Balbi Cattaneo, Via Balbi 2**

09.40-11.20  
*Pregnant, Ageing and Comatose: Medical States of Posthuman Corporeality*

Ivan Stacy (Beijing Normal University, China) – online  
**'Post-humanistic Worlds in Contemporary Chinese Science Fiction: Han Song's *Hospital*'**

Salem Martinez (University of California, Los Angeles) – online  
**'Nobody, Everybody. The Unresolved "Human" in Octavia Butler's Xenogenesis Trilogy'**

Alex Goody (Oxford Brookes University, UK)  
**'Geriatric Futurism and the Posthuman'**

Miglena Nikolchina (University of Sofia, Bulgaria)  
**'From Motherless Monsters to Pregnant Machines: Shifting Anxieties in Robot Tales'**

11.20-11.40  
Coffee break

11.40-13.20  
*Problematizing boundaries through genre and the environment*

Aki Kawamura (Aichi University, Japan)  
**'A Japanese Novel Already Hybridized with AI'**

Slađana Stamenković (University of Novi Sad, Serbia) – online  
**'Finally Getting Back to Normal: Posthuman versus Human Identities in *The Technocene* of Iain Reid's *Foe*'**

Sontje Schulenburg (Tübingen University, Germany)  
**'Posthuman Manifestations in the Novels by Kathe Koja'**

Caterina Re (Università di Genova, Italy)  
**'Rewriting Ecology: The Impact of Technology in Aitmatov's *Tavro Kassandry*'**

13.20- 14.30.  
Lunch

**14.30- 15.30**  
**Round table: Peter Boxall, Sebastian Groes and Miglena Nikolchina**

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