

## WELCOME

WELCOME to the 2024 annual conference of the Science Fiction Research Association. This year's conference seeks to discuss all kinds of transitions as the thematic, narrative, formal, historical, and philosophical driving force behind Science Fiction. With only very few exceptions, this conference is fully hybrid: the panels and keynotes are accessible to the on-site audience in the designated rooms and to the remote audience via Zoom, unless indicated otherwise. This overview of the conference schedule and a book of abstracts is available for public download on our conference website: <https://www.sfra2024.ut.ee/program/>.

"Transitions" takes place simultaneously with Tartu International Literary Festival Prima Vista, whose 2024 edition, titled "Futures Better and Worse", is organized in collaboration with European Capital of Culture Tartu 2024. Several scholars from the SFRA are also contributing to the events at the festival, and you are kindly invited to visit as many of them as you like for evening entertainment. More information on the festival can be found here:

<https://kirjandusfestival.tartu.ee/en/>

and on our conference website here:

<https://www.sfra2024.ut.ee/entertainment/>.

Coffee breaks and lunches are provided throughout this conference. We hope you enjoy your time in Tartu!

Jaak Tomberg & Lisanna Lajal  
Conference Organizers

## ORGANIZERS

The conference is hosted by the Institute of Cultural Research and the Institute of Foreign Languages and Cultures of the University of Tartu, and the Research Group of Contemporary Estonian Culture.

Main organizers: Jaak Tomberg and Lisanna Lajal  
Co-organizers: Ralli Marling, Francesca Arnavas, Mattia Bellini, Marzia Beltrami

## CREDITS

Conference Website: [sfra2024.ut.ee](https://www.sfra2024.ut.ee)

Conference Email: [sfra2024@ut.ee](mailto:sfra2024@ut.ee)

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Conference partners: International Literary Festival Prima Vista, European Capital of Culture Tartu 2024.

The organizers would like to thank: Erik Alalooga, Tormi Ariva, Gerry Canavan, Geret Filippov, Paweł Frelik, Svea Kaseorg, Rahel Ariel Kaur, Marge Kons, Sigrid Koppel, Saara Lotta Linno, Morten Made, Tim Murphy, Hugh C. O'Connell, Keren Omry, Piret Pöldver, Elsa Triin Raidla, Aivi Reimand, Katrin Ruus, Kristi Ruus, Martin Rästa, Katrinka Josephine Savimägi, Ingrid Udeküll, Sven Vabar, Mii Valgma, Ida Yoshinaga, Vahur Üprus

## VENUES

### Conference Venues:

Faculty of Arts and Humanities  
Jakobi 2  
51005 Tartu

Institute of Foreign Languages and Cultures  
Lossi 3  
51003 Tartu

### Banquet Venue:

University of Tartu Museum  
Lossi 25  
51003 Tartu

10:00–13:00

SFRA EVENTS/ KEYNOTES
Registration

11:00–12:30

SFRA EVENTS/ KEYNOTES <sup>1</sup>
SFRA early-career scholar event: Application Anecdotes and Alternative Career Paths in SF/F
Moderator: Sarah Lohmann
Stefanie K. Dunning, Sarah Hamblin, Sarah Lohmann, Sang-Keun Yoo

13:00-13:30

SFRA EVENTS/ KEYNOTES
Welcoming words

13.30-15:00

SFRA EVENTS/ KEYNOTES <sup>2</sup>
Keynote Speech 1: <b>Bogi Takács Perelmutter</b>
Chair: David M. Higgins

15:00-15:30

COFFEE BREAK

JAKOBI 2-226

LOSSI 3-328

LOSSI 3-319

LOSSI 3-325

LOSSI 3-326

15:30-17:00

ENVIRONMENTAL SF <sup>3</sup>
ANIMAL AGENCIES
Chair: Karoline Huber
Conrad Scott* Anna Maria Grzybowska* Amy Cutler

CoFUTURISMS <sup>4</sup>
INDIGENOUS & LATINX FUTURISMS
Chair: Patrick Brock
Ida Yoshinaga & Kenrick Kamiya-Yoshida,* Aylin Walder, Taryne Jade Taylor,* Rubén R. Mendoza

SF GENERAL <sup>5</sup>
ROUNDTABLE: TRANSFORMATIONS & FANTASTIC EXPERIMENTS IN <i>POOR THINGS</i>
Chair: Francesca Arnavas
Francesca Arnavas, Marzia Beltrami,* Silvia Kurr, Mattia Bellini

SF GENERAL <sup>6</sup>
LOOPS & PARALLELS
Chair: Ildiko Limpár
Jasmin della Guardia & Koji Tachibana* Megan Stephens

GENDERED & QUEER SF <sup>7</sup>
REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS
Chair: R. B. Lemberg Perelmutter
Mel Kennard, Sarah Nolan-Brueck

18:00-19:00

ÜLIKOOI 18

EXHIBITION <sup>8</sup>

CURATOR TOUR TO THE EXHIBITION  
*TRANSFORMING LITERARY PLACES*

Francesca Arnavas & Mattia Bellini  
(University of Tartu)

JAKOBI 2-226

LOSSI 3-328

LOSSI 3-319

LOSSI 3-325

LOSSI 3-326

9:00-10:30

ENVIRONMENTAL SF <sup>9</sup>
SF'S ENVIRONMENTAL AFFORDANCES
Chair: Amy Cutler
Karoline Huber, Mark Bould, Susanne Roesner

SOCIAL CHANGE <sup>10</sup>
POSTHUMAN ENTANGLEMENTS
Chair: Aidan Diamond
David J. Cross, Benjamin Horn, Heather McKnight

SF GENERAL <sup>11</sup>
NEURODIVERGENT INSIGHTS
Chair: Rachel Anderson
Anna Kurowicka, Emily Aguilar,* Terra Mae Gasque*

CoFUTURISMS <sup>12</sup>
CoFUTURISMS & ECONOMIC CRITIQUES
Chair: Samuel Chirtel
Michelle Louise Clarke, Regina Kanyu Wang*

SF GENERAL <sup>13</sup>
HUMAN-MACHINE INTERFACE
Chair: Eero Suoranta
Paul Pragash & Prasanth Arokia Samy* Ruiying Zhang* Han Xiao*

10:30-11:00

COFFEE BREAK

11:00-12:30

CoFUTURISMS <sup>14</sup>
WHAT'S IN A NAME: FROM AFROFUTURISM TO PRIETOPUNK
Chair: Patrick Brock
Erick J. Mota, Anibal Hernández Medina,* Yasmin Portales-Machado, Lu Ain-Zaila*

SF GENERAL <sup>15</sup>
WORLD-BUILDING
Chair: Ciarán Kavanagh
Simon Spiegel, Veera Mäkelä, Llew Watkins

SF GENERAL <sup>16</sup>
SF AND SCIENCE
Chair: Hugh C. O'Connell
Simona Bartolotta, Sheryl N. Hamilton, Danielle Spencer*

SF GENERAL <sup>17</sup>
PAST IMAGINARIES
Chair: Oliver Rowe
Alari Allik, Marta Korbel,* Huang Yafei*

SF GENERAL <sup>18</sup>
CHALLENGING REALITIES
Chair: Noah Terrell
Alan N. Shapiro, Essi Varis, Lyu Guangzhao



12:30-13:30

LUNCH BREAK

13:30-15:00

<b>SOCIAL CHANGE</b> 19
(POST)CAPITALIST REALISM
Chair: Francis Gene-Rowe
Jo Lindsay Walton,* Sarah Hamblin, Tiff Graham*

<b>GENDERED &amp; QUEER SF</b> 20
FILMIC GENDERS
Chair: Olga Gajek
Carolina de Oliveira Silva,* Luiza Lusvarghi, Jędrzej Burszta

<b>SF GENERAL</b> 21
SCIENCE & RELIGION
Chair: Tiina-Erika Friedenthal
Tara B. M. Smith, Arshiya Cahal* & Simran Gindwani,* Cat Ashton

<b>ENVIRONMENTAL SF</b> 22
SF FRAMINGS OF THE ANTHOPOCENE
Chair: Christopher Leslie
Christopher Leslie, Daniel Matallana

15:00-15:30

COFFEE BREAK

15:30-17:00

<b>SFRA EVENTS/ KEYNOTES</b> 23
SFRA business meeting

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LOSSI 3-328

LOSSI 3-319

LOSSI 3-325

LOSSI 3-326

9:00-10:30

<b>SOCIAL CHANGE</b> 24
SPECULATION & THE CRISIS OF THE PRESENT
Chair: Jerry Määttä
Gabriel Burrow, Lauren Crawford*, John Rieder

<b>CoFUTURISMS</b> 25
AFROFUTURISM AND AFRICANFUTURISM
Chair: Rubén R. Mendoza
Andrew Erickson, Julia Gatermann, David Shackleton*

<b>GENDERED &amp; QUEER SF</b> 26
GENDER IN COLD WAR FICTION
Chair: Raili Marling
Judith Rauscher, Chiara Viceconti, R.B. Lemberg Perelmutter

<b>SF GENERAL</b> 27
TIME & TEMPORALITY
Chair: Hugh C. O'Connell
Daniel Koechlin, Lidia María Cuadrado Payeras*

10:30-11:00

COFFEE BREAK

11:00-12:30

<b>SFRA EVENTS/ KEYNOTES</b> 28
Keynote Speech 2: <b>Meelis Friedenthal</b>
Chair: Jaak Tomberg

12:30-13:30

LUNCH BREAK



JAKOBI 2-226

LOSSI 3-328

LOSSI 3-319

LOSSI 3-325

LOSSI 3-326

13:30-15:00

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CoFUTURISMS</b> 29</p>
<p>ROUNDTABLE: CoFUTURISMS &amp; SCIENCE FICTION STUDIES</p>
<p>Moderators: Grace L. Dillon,* Taryne Jade Taylor*</p>
<p>Sheetala Bhat,* Patrick Brock, Gina Cole, Dustin Crowley,* Jalondra A. Davis,* Matthew David Goodwin,* Regina Kanyu Wang,* Kenrick Kamiya-Yoshida,* Blaire Morseau,* Graham J. Murphy,* Catherine S. Ramirez*</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>GENDERED &amp; QUEER SF</b> 30</p>
<p>ALTERNATIVE FORMS OF GENDERED POWER</p>
<p>Chair: Agnieszka Urbańczyk</p>
<p>Jeana DelRosso,* Joanna Kaniewska, Tanya Clark*</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SOCIAL CHANGE</b> 31</p>
<p>INTERVENTIONS IN REALITY</p>
<p>Chair: Moritz Ingwersen</p>
<p>Filip Hauer &amp; Gabriela Štvrťňová, Neil Gerlach</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SF GENERAL</b> 32</p>
<p>SPECULATION AND/ IN HISTORY</p>
<p>Chair: Jacob Emery</p>
<p>Giulia Iannuzzi,* Anastasia Klimchynskaya, Noah Terrell</p>

15:00-15:30

COFFEE BREAK

15:30-17:00

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SOCIAL CHANGE</b> 33</p>
<p>LUDIC SPECULATIONS</p>
<p>Chair: Chris Pak</p>
<p>Erica Masserano &amp; Francis Gene-Rowe, David Shipko, Paweł Frelik</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CoFUTURISMS</b> 34</p>
<p>OUT OF FRAME: THE GLOBAL SOUTH IN SF COMICS</p>
<p>Chair: Marco Petrelli, Umberto Rossi</p>
<p>Mattia Arioli, Patrick Brock, Marco Petrelli, Umberto Rossi</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ENVIRONMENTAL SF</b> 35</p>
<p>POLITICAL ALTERNATIVES</p>
<p>Chair: Agnieszka Kotwasińska</p>
<p>Charlie Toogood, Klaudia Paola Zalewska, Sarah Lohmann</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>GENDERED &amp; QUEER SF</b> 36</p>
<p>NEGOTIATING TRAUMA</p>
<p>Chair: R.B. Lemberg Perelmutter</p>
<p>Beatriz Hermida Ramos, Olga Gajec</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SF GENERAL</b> 37</p>
<p>ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCIES</p>
<p>Chair: Alan Shapiro</p>
<p>Curtis Runstedler, Mengxing Fu,* Tong Boxuan*</p>

8:00-8:50

LOSSI 3 LOBBY

COFFEE WITH CORY <sup>38</sup>

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WORKERS' LABOR RIGHTS

Cory Doctorow

Moderator: Hugh C. O'Connell

9:00-10:30

JAKOBI 2-226

SOCIAL CHANGE <sup>39</sup>

IS ANOTHER ECONOMY  
POSSIBLE?  
SPECULATING ON  
THE END OF CAPITALISM

Chair: Edward Larkin

Sherryl Vint,\*  
Ali Riza Taşkale,  
Edward Larkin

LOSSI 3-328

GENDERED  
& QUEER SF <sup>40</sup>

TRANSCORPOREALITY  
& POSTHUMANISM

Chair: Miasol  
Eguíbar-Holgado

Faeze Rezaii,  
Siqi Li,\*  
Tânia Cerqueira\*

LOSSI 3-319

ENVIRONMENTAL SF <sup>41</sup>

VEGETAL  
METAMORPHOSES

Chair: Silver Rattasepp

Agnieszka Kotwasińska,  
Maxine Gee

LOSSI 3-325

SF GENERAL <sup>42</sup>

SF AND/IN TRANSITION

Chair: Chiara Viceconti

Eero Suoranta,  
Andrus Org,  
Ciarán Kavanagh

LOSSI 3-326

10:30-11:00

COFFEE BREAK

11:00-12:30

GENDERED  
& QUEER SF <sup>43</sup>

GENDER TRANSITIONS  
& SOLIDARITIES

Chair: Jędrzej Burszta

David M. Higgins,  
Agnieszka Urbańczyk,  
Miasol Eguíbar-Holgado

SF GENERAL <sup>44</sup>

BREAKING PRINT  
FORM BOUNDARIES

Chair: Keren Omry

Oskari Rantala,  
Bar Leshem,\*  
Sabina Fazli

ENVIRONMENTAL SF <sup>45</sup>

COMMUNITIES  
& CONNECTIONS

Chair: Charlie Toogood

Ewa Wisniewska,\*  
Yuezhou Tan\*

SF GENERAL <sup>46</sup>

POSTHUMAN CYBORGS

Chair: Pawel Frelik

Rachel Anderson,  
Kinga Földvály

SF GENERAL <sup>47</sup>

AESTHETIC  
ENGAGEMENTS

Chair: Alan Shapiro

Jacob Emery,  
Jan Topolski,  
Christina Lord

Day continues



12:30-13:30

LUNCH BREAK

13:30-15:00

**SFRA EVENTS/  
KEYNOTES** 48

DEI ROUNDTABLE:  
TRANSITIONS  
AND TRANSFORMATIONS

Moderator: Bogi Takács  
Perelmutter

Terra Mae Gasque,\* Ildikó  
Limpár, Ibtisam Ahmed,\*  
Ida Yoshinaga\*

15:00-15:30

COFFEE BREAK

15:30-17:00

**CoFUTURISMS** 49

ROUNDTABLE: PUTTING  
CRITICAL DEFINITIONS  
OF WORLD SCIENCE  
FICTION INTO  
EVERYDAY PRACTICE

Moderator:  
Ida Yoshinaga\*

Sonja Fritzsche,  
Allanah Hunt,\*  
Guangzhao Lyu,  
Reem Mansour,\*  
Blaire Morseau,\*  
Cynthia Shin

**SF GENERAL** 50

SCREEN FORMS

Chair: Luiza Lusvarghi

Ildiko Limpár,  
Sang-Keun Yoo,  
Jane Topping\*

**SF GENERAL** 51

SPECULATION,  
INTERVENTION,  
RENEGOTIATION:  
SF & ITS MEANS  
OF IMAGINATION

Chair: Esko Suoranta

Elise Kraatila,  
Esko Suoranta,  
Markus Laukkanen

**SOCIAL CHANGE** 52

CHALLENGING  
EXPANSIONISM

Chair: Raili Marling

Kristin Noone,  
Stephen Bruce,\*  
Frank I. Mueller\* &  
Anke Schwarz\*

**SF GENERAL** 53

FRANCHISE  
AFFORDANCES

Chair: Simon Spiegel

Jari Käkälä,  
Justice Hagan,  
Sylvia Wrigley

19:00-23:00

LOSSI 25

SFRA EVENTS/ KEYNOTES 54

SFRA Conference Banquet (University of Tartu Museum)

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LOSSI 3-326

9:00-10:30

SOCIAL CHANGE 55
DEALING WITH DESTRUCTION
Chair: David Shipko
Zea Miller, Jerry Määttä, Keren Omry

CoFUTURISMS 56
AFROFUTURISM'S GLOBAL CONNECTIONS
Chair: Andrew Erickson
Samuel Chirtel, Sumeyra Buran*, Li Guangyi*

ENVIRONMENTAL SF 57
IMAGINATION, STORYTELLING & RESPONSIBILITY
Chair: Beatriz Hermida Ramos
Jaime Babb*, Aidan Diamond, Essi Vatile

SF GENERAL 58
STYLISTIC INVESTIGATIONS
Chair: Kinga Földváry
Elizabeth Oakes, Yuheng Ko*, Xia Zijian

10:30-11:00

COFFEE BREAK

11:00-12:30

SF GENERAL 59
WEIRD BLACK STUDIES
Chair: Alison Sperling
A Conversation with Alison Sperling, Stefanie Dunning & andré carrington *

SOCIAL CHANGE 60
ACTIVIST INTERVENTIONS
Chair: Sang-Keun Yoo
Camilla Brudin Borg*, Pavla Veselá*, Moritz Ingwersen

GENDERED & QUEER SF 61
QUESTIONING GENDER ROLES
Chair: Judith Rauscher
James H. Thrall*, Ibtisam Ahmed*



12:30-13:30

LUNCH BREAK

13:30-15:00

**SF GENERAL** <sup>62</sup>

BEYOND PREDICTION:  
A ROUNDTABLE  
ON SPECULATIVE  
DIVINATION

Amy Cutler,  
Francis Gene-Rowe,  
David M. Higgins,  
Rebekah Sheldon,  
Llew Watkins,  
Samuel Chirtel

**SOCIAL CHANGE** <sup>63</sup>

ALTERNATIVE HISTORIES  
& MATERIALITIES

Chair: Gabriel Burrow

Kenneth Hanshew,  
Oliver Rowe,  
Alan Lovegreen

**ENVIRONMENTAL SF** <sup>64</sup>

UTOPIAN  
(ECO)TECHNOLOGIES

Chair: Sheryl N. Hamilton

Timothy S. Miller,\*  
Chris Pak,  
Camille Byrne\*

15:00-15:30

COFFEE BREAK

15:30-17:00

**LOSSI 3 LOBBY**

**SPECIAL GUESTS PANEL** <sup>65</sup>

REVOLUTIONS AND REVOLUTIONARY  
FACTIONS IN VIDEO GAMES

A Conversation between  
Olga Moskvina and George Ziets