

Moments of Futurity:  
From Present Conditions to Material(izing) Horizons

The 9th Annual Conference of the Marxist Reading Group

Featuring  
Fredric Jameson

March 29 - 31, 2007 at the University of Florida

Sponsors:  
The Department of English  
ACCENT, BOCC, CLASSC, SG, OBT  
and  
The Marxist Reading Group

<http://grove.ufl.edu/~gsg/bwwc/index.php?cf=5>  
<http://www.english.ufl.edu/mrg/>

## Thursday, March 29

10:00-10:30

Welcome, Coffee, and Bagels

10:30-12:00 (Dauer 219)

### **NEW REPRESENTATIONS**

Moderator: Todd Reynolds

- 1) Jonah Gropper (University of Florida): "Dionysus vs. The Crucified; Nietzsche, Bergson, Einstein, and the ethics of space and time"
- 2) Sarah White (The University of Southern Mississippi): "Sebald and Braudel: Future through the Eyes of History"
- 3) James Royal (University of Florida): "Buddhist Technology Made Me Cool, or How to Meditate for Better Credit"

LUNCH

1:00-2:30 (Dauer 219)

### **APPLIED POLITICS**

Moderator: Christopher Cowley

- 1) Shane Boyle (UC-Berkeley): "At the Global Divide: Presenting Life and Resistance on the Strait"
- 2) Stephanie Boluk (University of Florida): "Juche's Promise Lands: The Worker's Paradise and the Dream of Reunification"
- 3) Scott Nygren (University of Florida): "The Future as Labyrinth"

1:00-2:30 (Dauer 215)

### **SOCIAL ALLEGORIES**

Moderator: Patrick McHenry

- 1) Ishay Landa (TU Braunschweig): "'The Happiness of the Cow' from a Socialist Perspective"
- 2) Christian Haines (University of Minnesota): "Saving The Future From The Present: Thomas Pynchon's *Against The Day*, or Allegory in Times of Terror"
- 3) Stephanie Reich (University of Illinois-Chicago): "(Re)Imagining Past, Present and Future in Thomas Pynchon's *Mason & Dixon*"

2:45- 4:15 (Dauer 219)

### **FUTURES OF THE PAST AND ANTECEDENTS OF THE FUTURE**

Moderator: Robin Nuzum

- 1) Al-Yasha Ilhaam Williams (Spelman College): "The Future of the Past: Afrofuturism and Modernist Critique"
- 2) Adam Wood (Albany State University): "(Post)Postmodernity and Progress: Marxism, Ethics, and Thoughts of Tomorrow"
- 3) Gib Prettyman (Penn State-Fayette): "History and the Future in Marxist Readings of Kim Stanley Robinson"

## Thursday, March 29, continued

2:45- 4:15 (Dauer 215)

### **INTERVENTIONS AND NEGATIVE DIALECTICS IN FUTURE-TIME**

Moderator: Stephanie Boluk

- 1) Aaron Winslow (University of Massachusetts-Amherst): "'An already dawning tomorrow': Narrative, Futurity, and the Limits of Race in the Work of W.E.B. Du Bois"
- 2) Prentiss Clark (SUNY-Buffalo): "'(Inter)ruptures' and the Profession(s) of Lonely Explorers"
- 3) Jaya Kasibhatla (Vanderbilt University): "Citizen Deferred"

4:30-6:00 (Dauer 219)

### **TOUCHING UTOPIA: GODARD, URRY, ADORNO**

Moderator: Brian Todd Mann

- 1) Maureen Turim (University of Florida): "Utopia's Disillusionment: a look at Travel(s) in Utopia, Jean-Luc Godard"
- 2) Caroline Edwards (University of Nottingham): "Agency, Technology, Time: The Minor Utopias of John Urry and Michael Hardt and Antonio Negri"
- 3) Koonyong Kim (Duke University): "Music and a Minimal Space of Philosophical Darstellung: Adorno's Twelve-Tone Philosophy and Utopia"

BREAK

8:00—???

**Social Event:** Night at the Shamrock Pub (1017 W University Ave); "cash bar"-style

## Friday, March 30

8:00-8:30

Coffee and Bagels

8:45-10:15

### **DIAGNOSING THE FUTURE: MARXISM, PSYCHOANALYSIS, AND THE UTOPIAN IMPULSE**

(Dauer 219)

Moderator: Emily McCann

- 1) Kirk Boyle (University of Cincinnati): "The Future of Marxist Theory: Slavoj Žižek's Psychoanalytic Marxism"
- 2) John Woodward (Florida State University): "Interpreting the History of the Future: On the 'Political Unconscious,' Political Interpretation, and Utopia"
- 3) Matthew Feltman (University of Florida): "Creaturally Tricksters of the Real: Psycho-cinem-analytically (Re)Configuring the Future"

10:30-12:00

### **FUTURE HORIZONS: REPRESENTATIONS AND THE EVENT** (Dauer 219)

Moderator: Matt Snyder

- 1) Esra Atamer (SUNY-Binghamton): "The Event as the Counter-Actualization of Living Labor"
- 2) Kristine Danielson (Wayne State University): "Embodied Absence, Future Landscapes: The Photography of Boris Mikhailov"
- 3) Nils Plath (University of Osnabrueck): "On Future Arrivals of 'Container Drivers'"

10:30-12:00

### **MARXISM AND POP CULTURE: RAP, REALITY TELEVISION, AND ROCK & ROLL** (Dauer 215)

Moderator: Matthew Feltman

- 1) Carl Miller (University of Florida): "'Many Years from Now': Sgt. Pepper and the High Modernism of Rock 'n Roll"
- 2) Graham Potts (York University): "(Im)material Class: Reality Television and the Revision(ism) of Class"
- 3) Dan Thomas-Glass (University of California-Davis): "Furious Futurities: Theorizing the Collective in Grand Master Flash and Charles Bernstein"

LUNCH

1:00-2:30

### **CROWDED SPACES** (Dauer 219)

Moderator: Jordan Dominy

- 1) christopher simeone (University of Illinois): "'The Warm Thrill of Confusion': Crowds, Primitive Past, and Male Power in London's 'South of the Slot'"
- 2) Marc Leverette (Colorado State University): "The Global Village, the Public Sphere, and Communitarian Cosmopolitanism: Toward a Marxian Reconsideration"
- 3) Nicole LaRose (University of Houston-Downtown): "London as 'a city of bones': Maureen Duffy's Representation of Space, History, and Apocalypse"

## Friday, March 30, continued

2:45-4:15

### **Colonial History and Futurity** (Dauer 219)

Moderator: Laurel Czaikowski

- 1) Yiman Wang (UC-Santa Cruz): "The Negative Dialectic of Utopia—When One Person's Utopic Future Becomes Another Person's Ideological Past"
- 2) Lili Hsieh (University of Pennsylvania): "Wong Kar-Wai's 2046, or, the Dialectic of Transnational Temporality"
- 3) Julie Chun Kim (University of Florida): "Charles Brockden Brown's Histories of Colonial Violence"

4:30-6:00

### **IMAGINING THE DIALECTIC** (Dauer 219)

Moderator: Raúl Sánchez

- 1) Philip Armstrong (The Ohio State University): "The Precarious Future"
- 2) Robert Seguin (Independent): "The Future Lasts a Really Long Time"
- 3) Phillip Wegner (University Florida): "Greimas Avec Lacan; or, the Materializing Horizons of the Dialectic"

DINNER

8:00 (Keene Faculty Center)

### **Keynote Address by Fredric Jameson: "The Dialectic Today"**

Reception to follow at off-campus location

## Saturday, March 31

9:30-10:00

Coffee and Bagels

10:00-11:30

### **LABOR AND COMMODITIES** (Dauer 219)

Moderator: Heather Bigley

- 1) Irmak Ertuna, SUNY- Binghamton: "Enclosure of the Intellect: A Study on Intellectual Property"
- 2) Julian Holland (McMaster University): "A Golden Age for the Uneven Imaginary: Dialectical Negativity & the Unequal Distribution of Finance"
- 3) Robert Tally (Texas State University): "Futures Trading: Derivatives, Insecurities, and the Crises of Late Capital"

10:00-11:30

### **RE-READING MARXISM AND THE FUTURE** (Dauer 215)

Moderator: Michael Mayne

- 1) James McDougall (University of Florida): "Of Mao and Modernism: The Future of China's Past after May 4, 1919"
- 2) Baolin Dang (York University): "Natural History and the role of Memory in Marcuse and Adorno"
- 3) Galili Shahr (University of Florida): "Future and Memory: Walter Benjamin and the Counter-History"

LUNCH

1:00-2:30

### **FUTURES OF MARXISM** (Dauer 219)

Moderator: Eric Doise

- 1) Dragan Kujundzic (University of Florida): "vEmpire, and the Specters of Marx"
- 2) Joseph Keith (SUNY-Binghamton): "Race, National Progress, and the 'Future' of American Expansion after WWII: Gunnar Myrdal, Richard Wright and the Empire of American Pluralism"
- 3) Cesare Casarino (University of Minnesota): "Five Theses on the Life-Image; (or, Speculations towards a Marxian Concept of Biopolitical Aesthetics)"

1:00-2:30

### **POPULAR UTOPIAS** (Dauer 215)

Moderator: Josh Miller

- 1) Madhura Bandyopadhyay (University of Florida): "Parallel Spheres of Utopian Futures in Women's Popular Romance Fiction"
- 2) Iskandar Zulkarnain (Florida State University): "Dancing Pogo with the Culture Industry: Punk Movement in Indonesia"
- 3) Daniel Shea (University of Houston-Downtown): "News from Nowhere and the Politics of Popular Literature"

## Saturday, March 31, continued

2:45-4:15

### **IDEOLOGY AND ECONOMICS IN 19<sup>th</sup> -CENTURY TRANSATLANTIC FICTION** (Dauer 219)

Moderator: Judith Page

- 1) Ari Adipurwawidjana (University of Louisiana at Lafayette): "Narrative Structure, Interpretive Prestructure, and Economic Infrastructure: Textual Gaps in the Doyle's Sherlock Holmes Novels"
- 2) Hwei-ju Wang (University of Florida): "Limits of Realism or Failure of Historical Imagination: Ideological Closure in Henry James's *The Princess Casamassima*"
- 3) Pamela Gilbert (University of Florida): "Radical Victorian Poets and Millennial Narratives"

2:45-4:15

### **TECHNOLOGY AND FUTURITY: PROJECTS OF HISTORICIZATION** (Dauer 215)

Moderator: Aaron Kashtan

- 1) Jordan Dominy (University of Florida): "'It Beats the Shit Out of the U-Stor-It': The Future Spaces of Capitalism in Stephenson's *Snow Crash* and Nintendo's *Animal Crossing*"
- 2) John Garrison (Independent): "Naming as a Means to Historicize the Future in William Gibson's *Pattern Recognition*"
- 3) Aron Pease (University of Florida): "Empire of Software"

4:30-6:00

### **ROUNDTABLE: "COLLECTIVITY NOW?"**

Moderator: Pamela Gilbert

- 1) Sarika Chandra (Wayne State University)
- 2) Jonathan Flatley (Wayne State University)
- 3) Susan Hegeman (University of Florida)

8:00—???

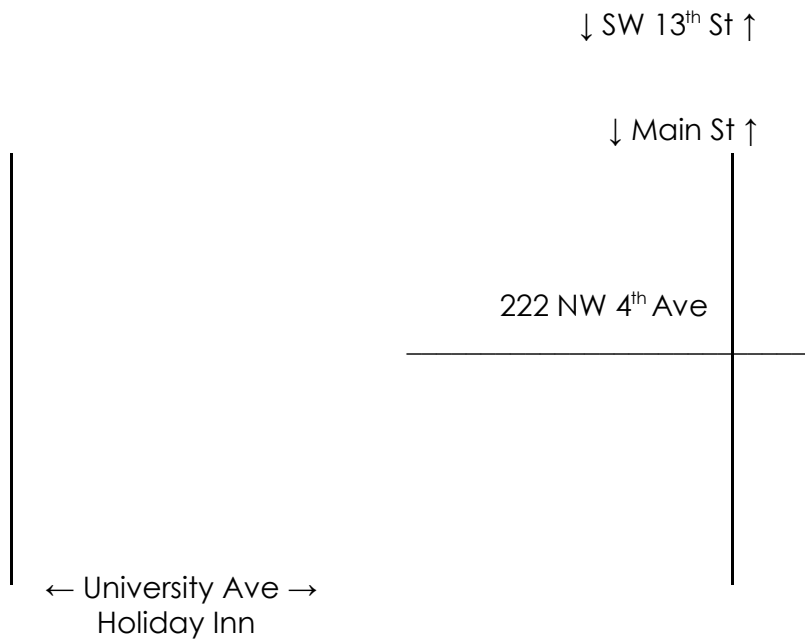
**Social Event** at MRG's supporters' house (map on back page); drinks provided

The Marxist Reading Group would like to give special thanks to the following people for their kind assistance and tireless support: John P. Leavey, Melissa Davis, Jane Dominguez, and Kenny Roberts from Orange and Blue Textbooks.

## Directions to Saturday's party\*

Address: 222 NW 4<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Phone: 352-336-0125

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U Florida

Shamrock Pub

From UF, or University Hotel/Holiday Inn

- Drive east on University Ave (toward downtown)
- Turn left/north at Main Street
- Turn left/west at NW 4<sup>th</sup> Ave (a stoplight and funeral home mark the intersection)
- Park wherever you can along the street, but be mindful of tow-away signs.

\* Not quite to scale.