



TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY

# Science Fiction: Beyond Borders

June 9th, 2015 / Gilman 496

*"Why do you go away? So that you can come back. So that you can see the place you came from with new eyes and extra colors." –Terry Pratchett*

09:30: Gathering

10:00-10:30: **Welcome and Opening Remarks**  
Shawn Edrei (Tel-Aviv University)

10:30-12:00: **First Panel – Beyond Flesh: The Transhuman Question**  
Chair: Carmel L. Vaisman (Tel-Aviv University)

Anna Whelan (Tel-Aviv University)  
Her, Us, and the Transhuman

Slava Bart (Tel-Aviv University)  
The Dangers of Godlike Creativity: Futurist, Decadent, and Pagan Influences in Transhumanism

Anat Karolin (Tel-Aviv University)  
Androgynous Aliens and Gender Migrants: Experiments in Genderlessness in Ursula K. Le Guin's *The Left Hand of Darkness* and Greg Egan's *Distress*

Ulrike Goldblatt (Tel-Aviv University)  
Facing Your Dolly: Cloning in SF as Aid or Hindrance to Discussions of Morality and Ethics

12:00-13:00: Lunch Break

13:00-14:30: **Second Panel – Evils Within: SF and the Man/Monster Boundary**  
Chair: Elana Gomel (Tel-Aviv University)

Carmel L. Vaisman (Tel-Aviv University)  
Do Virtual Zombies Dream of Digital Vampires?

Moriel Ram (Israeli Institute of Technology)  
Fictionalizing the Fail of Science: Zombies, Ambivalence and Modernity

Kobi Kabalek (Hebrew University)  
Nazi Zombies and (Science-) Fictional Memory

Razi Zeidan (Tel-Aviv University)  
The Degeneration of Man in Science Fiction Literature

14:30-14:45: Coffee Break

14:45-16:15: **Third Panel – Around The World in 80 Seconds: Global SF**  
Chair: Shawn Edrei (Tel-Aviv University)

Irit Weinberg (Tel-Aviv University)  
In the World of Women and Women: Suzuki Izumi and Transgressive Utopian Dystopia

Avital Pilpel (Columbia University)  
The Philosophy of Israeli Science Fiction

Julia Bocharov (Tel-Aviv University)  
Labor Ethics and Gender in Soviet Science Fiction

Naomi Michalowicz (Tel-Aviv University)  
The Importance of Telling Lies: SF Ethics and the Original Sin in China Mieville's *Embassytown*

16:15-16:30: Coffee break

16:30-18:00: **Fourth Panel – Internet Killed The Video Star: Transmedia SF**  
Chair: Keith Harris

Michal Zechariah (Tel-Aviv University)  
Vampires: An Immortal Metaphor

Asaph Wagner (Tel-Aviv University)  
Hybrid Roleplaying Games

Heiko Schmid (Zurich University of the Arts)  
Addressing Alieness: Art History and the Idea of the Foreign

Keith Harris (Tel-Aviv University)  
From Extrapolation to Pastiche: Collapsed Wellsian Chronotopes in Japanese SF

18:00-18:15: Closing Remarks