



**Performing Fantastika:  
An Interdisciplinary Conference  
April 28-29, 2017, Lancaster University**

The 4<sup>th</sup> annual Fantastika conference will focus on performative bodies in fantastika. This includes performance in theatrical plays and films, as well as an examination of the body itself. How is the body performed and perceived in fantastika texts? How do fantastika texts and our interaction with fantastika texts modulate our understanding of performative bodies?

We are pleased to announce Catherine Spooner, Eddie Robson, and Tajinder Hayer as our keynote speakers. Dr. Spooner is a Reader in Literature and Culture. She has published widely on Gothic in literature, film and popular culture with a particular emphasis on fashion, including the books *Fashioning Gothic Bodies*, *Contemporary Gothic* and, most recently, *Post-Millennial Gothic: Comedy, Romance and the Rise of Happy Gothic*, out early this year. Robson is a scriptwriter, novelist, and journalist. In his first novel, *Tomorrow Never Knows* (2015), Robson creates a bohemian city that hangs in the atmosphere of Jupiter. Robson has also written for *Doctor Who* radio and comics and is a regular writer for *2000AD*. Dr. Hayer is a lecturer in Creative Writing. His play *North Country* features a post-apocalyptic world set in Bradford. The play will be touring in 2017 and tickets can be purchased at:

<http://www.freedomstudios.co.uk/projects/north-country/> .

We welcome abstracts for 20 minute papers on fantastika as they occur in any medium and form. Some suggested topics are:

- theatrical or staged performances
- performance in films and visuals
- audience performance of the text through cosplay or fan fiction
- costuming, weapons, and other accoutrements to performance
- gender performativity
- the gendered body or the transgendered body
- disabled bodies
- performing identity, or identity as a mask

Due to the topic of "Performing Fantastika" we will also welcome proposals for creative-critical pieces provided that they are within the 20 minute time frame. We may also consider shorter pieces for poetry or short fiction readings.

**Please submit a 300 word abstract to [fantastikaconference@gmail.com](mailto:fantastikaconference@gmail.com) along with a 50 word bio note by March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017. Please note we have extended the deadline. Also note the change in conference dates to April of this year.**

Visit [www.fantastikajournal.com](http://www.fantastikajournal.com)

#fantastika2017