



Inspirare Arts Foundation



“LIVING DYSTOPIAN”: POST-MILLENNIAL
PERCEPTIONS AND POST-PANDEMIC REALITIES

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ORGANIZED BY

INSPIRARE ARTS FOUNDATION

IN COLLABORATION
WITH

OSMANIA UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES

(22nd to 24th MARCH 2021)

Venue: - OUCIP AUDITORIUM

OSMANIA UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL OGRAMMES,
(OUCIP), OSMANIA UNIVERSITY CAMPUS
HYDERABAD, TELANGANA

SPEAKERS:
DOUGLAS LANIER
UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, USA

GERRI KIMBER
UNIVERSITY OF NORTHAMPTON, UK
CHAIRPERSON, KATHERINE MANSFIELD SOCIETY

JOHN FRANCIS McCOURT
UNIVERSITY OF MACERATA, ROME, ITALY

To be living now is to be living dystopian. It is a living, despite of living. Surviving the vorpal veer of the virus in the juvenescence of the year 2020 we were forced to come face-to-face with the reality of how dwindled our lives and its wake had become in the scheme of Things; and how much more miniscule the ripples set off by our deaths. Sitting disconcerted and numbed before the proactive television in the early months of the pandemic rush, feelings coursed through us like shadows on a sundial. From unbelief to fear, from horror to resignation, from righteous indignation to reductive theorizations: the flickering needle of human emotions gyrated like the speed gauge in a race-car.

Truly, everything that could, had, fallen apart. However, this falling apart had been a long time coming. The aim of this conference is to institute a study of this long, slow build-up of post-millennium anxiety, angst and atrophy and how it all shaped the tip of the world-wide pandemic thrust.

Governments had fallen out with the people. The people had fallen out with the rule of law. Medicine was at odds with civic policy and economies were sustained on a diet of corpses. Everywhere, it seemed the ceremony of democracy was being drowned.

The revival of dystopian literature and films in the last year has been an indication of the general desire for models to better understand the realities we are experiencing now. In intellectual and artistic spheres, events of the last year have caused an unprecedented ferment. The plethora of literary miscellanies and anthologies triggered by the COVID19 stands testimony. But, have we been too hasty in our perceptions, too impatient in our prognostications? – Has it only exposed the Achilles-heel of our post-millennial academism by foregrounding haste over perspective, and critical foreclosure over commitments to the minutiae of day-to-day existence. – Living dystopian has never been more colourful and disquieting.

We invite abstracts of not more than 150 words (for 10-15 minute papers to be delivered at the conference) from teachers and research

Scholars in the field of Humanities and Social sciences. are the following sub-themes:

- The Pandemic as a face of Post-Millennial Dystopia
- Dystopian readings of past literature
- Using dystopian literature like George Orwell's 1984, Yevgeny Zamyatin's We, Aldous Huxley's Brave New World, Sinclair Lewis's It Can't Happen Here, Octavia Butler's Parable of the Sower and Margaret Atwood's The Handmaid's Tale to frame the Pandemic experience
- Dystopian Metropolis – Joyce's Dublin, Dostoevsky's Petersburg, and Eliot's London...
- Comparative cultural models and Pandemic experiences in the European & Non-European past
- Films like Mad Max: Fury Road and the Post-Governmental penumbra
- Medicine, prejudice and freedom in the history of ideas
- Heartless Economies: The human reckoning of the tyranny of numbers
- The Pressure Gauges of Dystopia: Imagination or Statistics
- Disaster Films as the Edification of Governments
- The contrary pulls of such films like Hunger Games, The Divergent, The Giver, Outbreak, Contagion and 12 Monkeys on the public imagination as framing devices
- COVID19 anthologies of Prose & Verse

IMPORTANT DATES:

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS: 22nd February 2021

ACCEPTANCE OF ABSTRACTS: 25th February 2021

SUBMISSION OF FULL PAPERS: 17th March 2021

ALL ABSTRACTS & FULL PAPERS MUST BE SENT TO THE FOLLOWING EMAIL ADDRESS: inspirareindia2020@gmail.com

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