Monday, June 12

5.30 pm - Opening session
Keynote lecture – Chair: Guido Mazzoni
Thomas Pavel (University of Chicago), Being in Touch with Fictional Characters

8 pm - Welcome dinner at the Osteria dei Mercanti (piazzetta Sopra i Ponti, 9)

Tuesday, June 13

9:00 am - PANEL 1 – Chair: Jens Kugele
Mikkel-Theis Paulsen, “Si yo tuviera oro, no le comiera, aunque me diera mil vidas” – New World Gold in Early Modern Spanish and English drama
Edward Djordjevic, Taking Nothing Seriously: Gulliver’s Travels and the Paradoxes of Utopia
Kacper Radny, (Im)possible world: Communal Imagination and its Imagined Environment

11:00 am - PANEL 2 – Chair: Ângela Fernandes
Tianran Zhang, Vehicle as Heterotopia: Modernities and Women’s Identities in Mrs Dalloway and Sealed off
Lavinia Mannelli, Possible New Women. The Question of the Futurist Woman from History to Utopia
Tim Gupwell, “We live in a multiple universe”: other dimensions in D.H. Lawrence’s Non-fiction

LUNCH ON CAMPUS

2:30 pm - Keynote lecture – Chair: Simona Micali
Maria Boletsis (Leiden University & University of Amsterdam), Weird Futures: The Weird Turn and Future Thinking

4:50 pm - Guided tour to Medieval Arezzo (piazza San Francesco)
Wednesday, June 14

9:00 am - PANEL 3 – Chair: Martin Prochazka
Isabella Kalte, *Imagining the Other Side: Caribbean Neo-slave Narratives as Heterotopic History*
Ndubuisi Martins Aniemeka, *Animist Realism and Possible Worlds: Re-reading off Ben Okri’s The Famished Road*
Telma Carvalho, *Two moments in chinese Sci-fi: works of Tong Enzheng and Zheng Wenguang before and after the Cultural Revolution*

11:00 am - PANEL 4 – Chair: Pablo Valdivia
Cristina Garcia Miguel, *Magical Realism and the Reconstitution of Fractured Worlds: Kafka on the Shore, narrative psychotherapy, and healing*
Agnethe Bennedsgaard, *Liberating alienation across borders*
Martina Altalef, *Esse cabelo, by Djaímila Pereira de Almeida: Capillary Autofiction, Reparation and Possible Futures*

LUNCH ON CAMPUS

2:30 pm - Keynote lecture – Chair: Luca Baratta
Emily Baker (University College London), *Culture, Inequality and Queer Ecology: Constellations, Tentacles and Cyborgs in Contemporary Speculative Fiction*

4:30 pm - PANEL 5 - Chair: Letizia Cirillo
Juulia Jaulimo, *Possible Impossibilities: Fictional Worlds and Time-Travel Narratives*
Buket Boz, *Women of the Nocturnal Other Worlds: Night, Speculative Imagination and Solidarity in Margaret Atwood’s The Handmaid’s Tale and Haruki Murakami’s After Dark*
Yiorgos Podaropoulos, *An elsewhere devoid of elsewhere thinking: Allotopia instead of heterotopia in Sotiris Dimitriou’s The Silence of the Dry Weed*

Thursday, June 15

9:00 am - PANEL 6 – Chair: Anneleen Masschelein
Michela Davo, *Junkspace and literature*
Candace Goodrich, *How a Geocritical Study of Redwoods Country during the Timber Wars Illustrates the Modal Realities of the Environmental Crisis*
Théo Maligeay, *Ideal cities: from Arcosanti, Arizona to Alviso, Ecotopia*

11:00 am - PANEL 7 – Chair: Heta Pyrhönen
Nicola Giansiracusa, *Mendelev as the Muse: Science and Renarration in Primo Levi’s Il sistema periodico*
Bogdan Groza, *Developments of an anthropocentric future in Philip K. Dick’s dystopias*
Jonathan Barnes, *‘Nova corpora’: Ovidian metamorphosis and its EcoGothic reception*

LUNCH ON CAMPUS
3:00 pm - Masterclasses
Tiziana de Rogatis (University for Foreigners of Siena), *Heterotopia, Trauma and Storyworld in The Handmaid’s Tale*
Florian Mussgnug (University College London), *The Last Possible World? Anthropocene, Apocalypse, Affect*
Karen-Margrethe Simonsen (University of Aarhus), *Afrofuturism: Reshaping Imperial Pasts for the Future. On Anachronisms and Transhistorical Dynamics*

Friday, June 16

9:00 am - Hermes Business Meeting – Sala Leopoldo di Lorena

11:30 am - PANEL 8 – Chair: Ellen Sapega
David Lea, *The post-literary era: transmedia and interaction as a paradigm of digital reality - Janicza Bravo’s @Zola*
Eric Wistrom, *‘Glocal’ literary agency and prosthetic community in Facebook’s Petite Cendrillon amoureuse du Prince du Ghetto*
Teun Joshua Brandt, *The Holobiontic Figure: Narrative Complexities of Multispecies Characters in Joan Slonczewski’s Brain Plague*

LUNCH ON CAMPUS

14:30 pm - PANEL 9 – chair: Florian Mussgnug
Aslihan Yucel, *A New World in the Shadow of the Old: Neo-Capitalism in Fallout 3*
Cristina Ogando, *The worlds of tomorrow. Video games as speculation about the future that awaits us*
Johannes Valentin Korff, *World Shapes Stigma: The interplay between World-Building and Ethnic Stigma in Role-Playing Games*

16:30 pm - Final remarks

Hermes 2023 Staff
Luca Baratta, Alessandra Carbone, Michela Davo, Bogdan Groza, Lavinia Mannelli, Simona Micali, Niccolò Scaffai

Hermes 2023 Faculty
Fernando Cabo, Ângela Fernandes, Jean-Michel Ganteau, Jens Kugele, Anneleen Masschelein, Simona Micali, Florian Mussgnug, Martin Prochazka, Heta Pyrhönen, Ellen Sapega, Karen-Margrethe Simonsen, Pablo Valdivia