



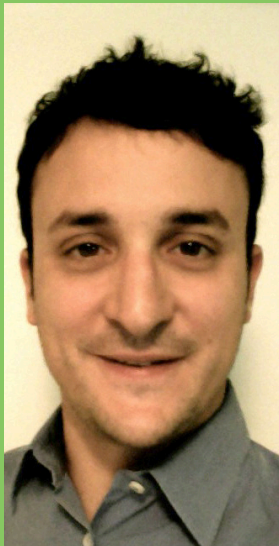
HUMANITIES INSTITUTE AT STONY BROOK PRESENTS



Faculty Lunchtime Lecture Spring 2017

Wednesday, April 5, 2017 from 1–2:30 pm, 1008 Humanities

Simone Brioni, *Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature* Italian Postcolonial Science Fiction: Ubaldo Ragona and Sidney Salkow's *The Last Man on Earth* (1964)



This paper analyzes Ubaldo Ragona and Sidney Salkow's *The Last Man on Earth* (1964), and it shows that the representation of the zombie/vampire in this movie captures a moment of transition and the ambiguous status of Italy as a neo- and postcolonial nation, but also as a country with strong political and economic ties with the United States.

Simone Brioni is Assistant Professor at the Department of Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature, Stony Brook University. Using postcolonial theory, his work analyses the literary and cinematographic representation of migrations and Italian colonialism. His articles have been published in edited volumes and peer-reviewed journals including *Altretalia*, *Cinergie*, *Écritures*, *Incontri*, *Science Fiction Studies*, *Studi Culturali*, and *The Journal of Italian Cinema and Media Studies*. His most recent publication is the monograph *The Somali Within: Language, Race and Belonging in 'Minor' Italian Literature* (Oxford: Legenda, 2015).

Ritchie Calvin, *Women's Gender & Sexuality Studies* Nevermind the Gap: The Short Fiction of Judith Merrill



While Judith Merrill was, perhaps, best known for her editing and criticism, she contributed a substantial body of short science fiction. One of the features of Merrill's short fiction is her commitment to break down norms, barriers, and boundaries. Calvin will examine four areas or ways in which Merrill challenges the boundaries or barriers between ideas, including science, nation, gender, and literary tradition.

Ritch Calvin is Associate Professor in Women's Gender & Sexuality Studies. His is the author of *Feminist Science Fiction and Feminist Epistemology: Four Modes (Studies in Global Science Fiction)*. His work has appeared in several journals including *Science Fiction Studies*, *Extrapolation*, *Femspec*, and *Utopian Studies*. His edited volumes include: *Gilmore Girls and the Politics of Identity: Essays on Family and Feminism in the Television Series*; *SF 101: A Guide to Teaching and Studying Science Fiction* and *The Merrill Theory of Lit'ry Criticism: Judith Merrill's Nonfiction* (with Judith Merrill).

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The Humanities Institute at Stony Brook was established in 1987 to promote interdisciplinary research and collaboration across the university. Through conferences, lectures, seminars, workshops, exhibitions, film series, and performances, HISB draws on and stimulates new knowledge at the cutting edge of intellectual life.