

# HORROR & ENCHANTMENT

AN INTERDISCIPLINARY SYMPOSIUM

## FEATURING:

Josiah Blackmore, *Harvard*  
Clifton Crais, *Emory*  
Harry Garuba, *Capetown*  
Helen Hills, *York (UK)*  
Megan Holmes, *Michigan*  
Kris Lane, *Tulane*  
Paul Christopher Johnson, *Michigan*  
Anne Lester, *Johns Hopkins*  
Jeff Malpas, *Tasmania*  
Kenneth Mills, *Michigan*  
Marcy Norton, *Pennsylvania*  
Katrina B. Olds, *San Francisco*  
Helmut Puff, *Michigan*  
Ato Quayson, *Stanford*  
Heidi Victoria Scott, *Massachusetts, Amherst*  
Sylvia Sellers-García, *Boston College*  
Dale Shuger, *Tulane*  
Zeb Tortorici, *New York*

We are fascinated by what we fear. Misery appalls and magnetises. Creation means possibility but also beckons dissolution and catastrophe. Change – perhaps most radically projected as “conversion” – is at once an exhilarating and menacing prospect. When meanings are destabilised and predictabilities lost, experiences of opportunity and of awe jostle with feelings of anxiety and insignificance. Even love casts its shadows, turning what is intimate and familiar into the province of comfort but also dread. Revered ancestors become ghosts, dear neighbours witches. There is desire in absence, monster in treasure, chaos in awe.

A distinguished, international selection of scholars from across the humanities and social sciences gathers in Ann Arbor to explore the entwinement of horror and enchantment – amidst the intrusions and disturbances that characterised the medieval and early modern worlds – in an array of the post-colonial settings and cultural imaginations they helped to set in motion – and in a recognition of the fact that to investigate the coincidence of horror and enchantment in the past is also to inquire into ourselves, and into the volatilities and predicaments of our own times

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Free and open to the public  
Pre-circulated papers for  
registered attendees

For more information and  
to register:  
[https://events.umich.edu/  
event/65467](https://events.umich.edu/event/65467)

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