CALL FOR PAPERS

CFP: Worshipping the Monstrous: The Supernatural Screen
An area of multiple panels for the 2016 Film & History Conference:
Gods and Heretics: Figures of Power and Subversion in Film and Television
October 26-October 30, 2016
The Milwaukee Hilton
Milwaukee, WI (USA)

DEADLINE for abstracts: June 1, 2016

AREA: Worshipping the Monstrous: The Supernatural Screen

This area examines notions of the monstrous, monstrosity, and the supernatural as they relate to on-screen representations, thematic inferences, narrative structures, or even production practices throughout the history of filmmaking. How do we better understand the implications of these histories, patterns, or aberrations? What is being signified or challenged, made visible or concealed, through our constructions of the monstrous?

Papers might focus on the screen manifestations of particular monster types, notions of monstrosity or the supernatural as they extend across genres, historical periods, a director’s work, a specific filmmaking system, a specific “film” form, or how the monstrous exists at the intersections of disciplines, representations, or structures.

Topics might include:

• In what ways does each era get the (cinematic or televisual) monster it deserves?

• What constitutes monstrosity or the supernatural when it comes to filmic representations?

• How do we read or engage with representations of specific “monsters” or supernatural beings?

• How might the relationship between audience and spectator, unusual screening practices, “event” cinema, or VR be considered monstrous or supernatural?

• How does “monstrosity” change relationships between screens and audiences? Narratives and worldviews?

• How or why do we reclaim monsters, monstrosity, or the supernatural, and to what ends?

• How do monsters and the supernatural blur lines, create liminal spaces, beings, or understandings, or disrupt traditions or constructions of power?
Proposals for complete panels (three related presentations) are also welcome, but they must include an abstract and contact information, including an e-mail address, for each presenter. For updates and registration information about the upcoming meeting, see the *Film & History* website (www.filmandhistory.org).

Please e-mail your 200-word proposal by 1 June 2016 to the area chair:

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