



## About the Contributors

### Cover Artist

**Griffin Ess** is a creator out of Boston, MA working as a freelance illustrator and providing creativity coaching to creators who are having trouble with their projects. You can find him at <http://GriffinEss.com>.

### Authors

**Jalondra A. Davis** is a Black feminist artist-intellectual, writing, researching and educating in Los Angeles, CA. She holds a Ph.D. in Ethnic Studies from University of California, Riverside and a Masters of Professional Writing from the University of Southern California. Her research focuses on Black political discourse in Black/African popular literatures and culture, with a focus on women, gender, and sexuality. Her current project "On Queens and Monsters: Science Fiction and the Black Political Imagination" looks at how Black women's speculative fiction engages both science fiction tropes and disciplinary narrative discourses surrounding black femininity. She is also the author of a coming-of-age novel entitled *Butterfly Jar*, about a Black girl growing and acting up during the 1992 Los Angeles uprisings. Jalondra currently teaches at California State University, Los Angeles.

**Amandine Faucheux** is a PhD candidate in English and Women's & Gender Studies at Louisiana State University, where she specializes in speculative fiction, queer feminism, and critical race theory. Her work has

appeared in the *Journal of Bisexuality and Science Fiction Studies*.

**Lidia Kniaż** is a doctoral student at Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, Poland. Her research interests include science fiction music videos, Afrofuturism, and sound design in film. She is a 2016 winner of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize in Poland's contest for the Best MA Thesis in American Studies. She is currently working on her dissertation on Afrofuturist music videos.

**Isiah Lavender III** is Associate Professor of English at Louisiana State University, where he researches and teaches courses in African American literature and science fiction. In addition to his book *Race in American Science Fiction* (2011) and edited collections *Black and Brown Planets: The Politics of Race in Science Fiction* (2014) and *Dis-Orienting Planets: Racial Representations of Asia in Science Fiction* (2017), his publications on science fiction include essays and reviews in journals such as *Extrapolation* and *Science Fiction Studies*. He has two more works under contract, a second monograph *Classics of Afrofuturism* and a co-edited collection with Lisa Yaszek entitled *Afrofuturism in Time and Space*.

**Melanie Marotta** holds a Ph.D. in English from Morgan State University (USA), where she is currently a Lecturer in the Department of English and Language Arts. She is originally from the province of Ontario in Canada, and her research focuses on science fiction, the American West, contemporary American Literature, and Ecocriticism.



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**Johan Munkholm** is a Master of Arts. He has studied Literature and Cultural Studies at the University of Copenhagen and Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

**Sarah Olutola** is a Nigerian Canadian graduate of the department of English and Cultural Studies at McMaster University. Her current research concerns representations of race in popular media culture, African cultural studies, post-colonialism and global capitalism. She has edited special issues and published articles in peer-reviewed journals such *Atlantis: Critical Studies in Gender, Culture and Social Justice*. She has also written novel-length fiction for independent and trade publishing houses for a global market.

**Dr. John Gordon Russell** is professor of cultural anthropology in the Faculty of Regional Studies at Gifu University (Japan). His research focuses on representations of race and otherness in Japanese and American popular culture. His publications include "Replicating the White Self and Other: Skin Color, Racelessness, Gynoids, and the Construction of Whiteness in Japan," "Darkies Never Dream: Race, Racism, and the Black Imagination in Science Fiction," and "Playing with Race/Authenticating Alterity; Authenticity, Mimesis, and Racial Performance in the Transnational Diaspora."

### Book Reviewers

**Tom Lubek** is an M.A. student at the University of York.

**Courtney Novosat** is a lecturer of English at Saint Vincent College.

**Paul Piatkowski** is currently in the doctoral program at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and instructs English courses at Forsyth Technical Community College.

### Editors

**Heather McHale** (Managing Editor) holds a Ph.D. in Literature from the University of Maryland (USA). She is a teacher and advisor for the University of Maryland's Institute of Applied Agriculture. Her current work in progress is a book about the television series *Doctor Who*; her research interests range from science fiction and detective fiction to Jane Austen and Anthony Trollope. She is also one of the co-editors of the MOSF's recent take-home exhibit, *Catalysts, Explorers, and Secret Keepers: Women of Science Fiction*.

**Aisha Matthews** (Assistant Managing Editor) is also the Director of Literary Programming for the MOSF's annual Escape Velocity conference. She is a doctoral student in English at Southern Methodist University, where she studies 20th and 21st Century American Literature, African-American Literature, Women's and Gender Studies, and Postmodern theory. Her personal research interests include science and speculative fictions, Afrofuturism, disability literature, young adult science fiction, and Potter studies.

**Bodhisattva Chattopadhyay** (Editor) holds a Ph.D. in Literature—with a focus on science



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fiction from the late 19th to mid-20th century Britain and Bengal—from the University of Oslo (Norway), where he is currently a postdoctoral fellow in the history of science (medicine). He employs science studies approaches to the study of science fiction, with an emphasis on medicine, health and race discourses.

**Thomas Connolly** (Editor) holds a Ph.D. from Maynooth University in Kildare, Ireland. His research examines the concept of the 'human' in Anglo-American sf using posthumanist and spatio-temporal theories. He completed both his BA in English and Mathematical Physics and his MA in twentieth-century Irish literature and cultural theory in Maynooth University, and was the recipient in 2012 of the John and Pat Hume Doctoral Scholarship.

**Jandy Hanna** (Editor) holds a Ph.D. in anthropology and anatomy and is a faculty member at West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine (USA), where she is also the chair of the biomedical sciences department. She is a comparative anatomist and functional morphologist by trade, and she recently completed a master's thesis in research bioethics on cognition in great apes as evidence for personhood.

**Barbara Jasny** (Editor) holds a Ph.D. from Rockefeller University (USA) and her career has been science-first, performing research in molecular biology and virology and then becoming a research Editor and Deputy Editor for Science magazine. She has communicated science through books, articles, posters, art

displays, virtual presentations, meetings, digital media, and podcasts.

**Melanie Marotta** (Editor) holds a Ph.D. in English from Morgan State University (USA), where she is currently a Lecturer in the Department of English and Language Arts. She is originally from the province of Ontario in Canada, and her research focuses on science fiction, the American West, contemporary American Literature, and Ecocriticism.