

**The Posthuman, the Human, and the Non-Human: New Narratives and
Critical Perspectives in Korean Studies**

2023 Korean Literature Association Annual Meeting

University of Southern California, Los Angeles

November 10-11, 2023

11/10 Friday **Doheny Memorial Library, Friends of the Library Lecture Hall,
Room 240**

9:20-9:30 am Opening Remarks by Sunyoung Park, KLA President

9:30-10:10 am Keynote Speech by Sherryl Vint, “Post-Anthropos: After the Human Era”

10:20-12:20 pm **Panel I. Reading Through the Non-Human**

I Jonathan Kief (UNC Chapel Hill), “Crossings: National Division, the Limits of the Human, and the Critique of Money in Yu Chuhyōn’s Postwar Fiction”

Chan Yong Bu (Harvard U), “Posthumanist Ruin Gazing: Questioning the Monumentalization of the Developmentalist Era in *A Dream of Iron*”

Soonyoung Lee (Bard College), “Ghostly Matters in New Millennium Korean Literature: The Afterlife as an Inquiry into the Human Condition”

Bruce Fulton (U of British Columbia), “Voices from Beyond the Pale: Posthumous Narratives by Women Writers from the New Millennium”

Discussants: Jae Won Edward Chung (Rutgers U) and Jaewuk Kim (U of Southern California)

12:20-1:30 pm **Lunch Break and Exhibition Tour**

Visit **the Korean Science Fiction and Fantasy Collection Exhibition**
(East Asian Library, First Floor of Doheny Library)

1:30-3:00 pm **Panel II. Posthuman Imaginations in 1960-1970s Korean SF**

Young A. Jung (George Mason U), “Affective Machines, Affectless Humans: The Posthuman Conditions in *Perfect Society* and Its Contradictions”

Sukyung Jang (Mokwon U), “The Imagination of Humans and Non-Humans in 1960s Korean Science Fiction: Han Nak-won’s *Space Bug Omega*”

Ae-soon Choi (Keimyung U), “A Comparative Study of Posthuman Beings in 1970s and 2020s South Korean Science Fiction: Kim Cheong-gi’s *Robot Taekwon V* and Chun Seonran’s *A Thousand Blue*”

Discussant: Sunyoung Park (U of Southern California)

3:00-3:20 pm **Coffee Break**

3:20-4:50 pm Panel III. Climate Disaster and Other Apocalypses in History and Popular Culture

Hyun Suk Park (UCLA), “Human and Non-Human Relations in Climate Disasters of Late Seventeenth-Century Chosŏn”

We Jung Yi (Vanderbilt U), “A Learning from Zombie Apocalypse in the New Normal”

Dae-Won Noh (Jeju U), “From the Anthropocene to the Novacene?: Artificial Intelligence in Korean Apocalyptic Cli-Fi Narratives”

Discussant: Albert L. Park (Claremont McKenna College)

5:10-6:30 pm KLA Book Manuscript Workshop, Taper Hall, Room 371

Peter Moody (Korea U), *Mobilizing Musicians and the Making of North Korea (1945-1991)*

Discussants: Immanuel Kim (George Washington U) and Pil Ho Kim (Ohio State U)

7:00 pm Dinner Reception at Thai by Trio near the Campus**11/11 Saturday Ronald Tutor Campus Center, The Forum, Room 450****9:10-9:30 am LTI Korea Information Session with Q&A**

Chanwoo Park, Manager of LTIK Academic Administration

9:30-11:30 am Panel IV. Posthuman Bodies and Alternate Temporalities in Women’s Speculative Fiction

Kimberly Chung (McGill U), “Microbial Invasions: The Horror of Feminine Nature”

Kevin Shadel (UC Berkeley), “Evolutionary Suicide: Sexual Violence and Gastronomical Abstinence in *301*, *302* and *The Vegetarian*”

Monica W. Cho (UC Irvine), “Chthulucenic Imaginations in Contemporary Korean Women’s Literature”

Seoyeon Lee (U of Southern California), “Becoming Human: Posthuman Bodies and Non-Normative Coexistence in Korean and Chinese Women’s Speculative Fiction”

Discussants: Kelly Jeong (UC Riverside) and Jina Kim (U of Oregon)

11:30-11:50 am Coffee Break**11:50-1:50 pm Panel V. Virtuality and Embodiment in Sonic Culture**

Rita Rongyi Lin (Northwestern U), “Invisible Skin: K-Pop and Vernacular Blackness in Global Circulation”

Wonseok Lee (Washington U) “K-Pop's Posthuman Expandability: A Comparative Analysis of Virtual K-pop Groups”

Yeojin Kim (Binghamton), “AI K-Pop Star: Rethinking Post-Imperial Korean-ness Through the Emergence of the Post-Human in Korean Pop Culture”

Jeong-In Lee (U of Texas), “Sonic Ecologies and Memories of the DMZ Sound Art Project”
Discussant: Pil Ho Kim (Ohio State U) and Kerim Yasar (U of Southern California)

1:50-3:00 pm **Lunch Break and Campus Tour**

3:00-4:50 pm **Capstone Panel. Bridging the Humanities and the Sciences in South Korea**

Bora Chung (SF Writers Union), “The Rather Confusing Case of SF in South Korea: Policy, Social Customs, and Feminism”

Sungook Hong (Seoul National U), “Science and Technology Studies, Posthumanism, and ‘STS SF’ in Contemporary South Korea”

Discussants: Albert L. Park (Claremont McKenna College) and Sunyoung Park (U of Southern California)

5:00-5:30 pm **Book Signing** by Bora Chung for *Cursed Bunny* and Bruce Fulton for *The Penguin Book of Korean Short Stories*

5:30-5:40 pm **Closing Remarks** by Pil Ho Kim, Host of the 2024 KLA Meeting

7:00 pm **Post-Conference Dinner at the Dragon Restaurant in Koreatown**