

POLÁNYI CENTRE SYMPOSIUM

***Social Sciences, Natural Sciences, Science Fiction:***

***Coping with a Complex Future***

**April 6, 2019 (Saturday, Zwinger)**



Coping with a complex world buffeted by interacting global climate change and socio-political uncertainty is a daunting task that requires cooperation between social and natural science. Such cooperation has proven difficult to achieve in practice. A major impediment to cooperation among various natural and social scientists is the phenomenon known as epistemological trespassing. Science fiction is a literary genre in which epistemological trespassing is not only allowed, it is encouraged and sometimes even demanded. This conference explores the potential for positive outcomes resulting from interactions between social and natural scientists, mediated by writers and publishers of science fiction.

Participants:

**Daniel Brooks** (moderator)

10:00-11:00 **Peter Watts**: “Attack of the Hope Police: Delusional Optimism at the End of the World?”

*11:00-11:30 Coffee break*

11:30-12:00 **Thomas Filk**: “Science and Fiction - an (un)equal relationship?”

12:00-12:30 **Daniel Brooks**: “Biological Themes in Science Fiction Classics: Standing the Test of Time”

12:30-1:00 Discussion

*1:00-2:30 Lunch*

2:30-3:00 **György Csepeli**: “Can Machines Make Love?”

3:00-3:30 **Dezső Boda**: “Complexity in Nature and Society”

3:30-4;00 **Jody Jensen**: tba

*4:00-4:30 Coffee break*

4:30-6:00 Panel Discussion