

CALL FOR PAPERS

Apocalypse, Utopia, and Cultural Change

International Christian University, Tokyo, 6-9 July 2012

Sixth Annual Generative Anthropology Summer Conference

Plenary Speakers: Jean-Pierre Dupuy, Eric Gans, Michel Serres

GASC, the Generative Anthropology Society and Conference, invites interested scholars and thinkers to participate in fundamental reflection on the human, particularly in reference to the themes of apocalypse, utopia, and cultural change.

Suggested topics include:

- * apocalyptic thinking: definitions, merits, objections
- * Jewish and Christian roots of contemporary apocalyptic thinking: texts, figures, movements
- * apocalyptic thinking and political reality
- * Hiroshima and Nagasaki as historical revelation
- * intersections of postmodern sensibility and apocalyptic thinking
- * competing models of political change and/or cultural change
- * the persistence of the idea of progress
- * imagining apocalypse in literature and film
- * particular varieties of apocalypse (nuclear war, ecological disaster, economic collapse, bio-terrorism)
- * dangers and limits of the apocalyptic imagination
- * the post-apocalyptic world in science fiction
- * utopian thinking: definitions, merits, objections
- * utopian thinking and political reality
- * critics of utopia (Popper, Kolakowski and others)
- * studies of utopia as literary genre (More, Bellamy, Morris, Wells and others)
- * images of utopia in literature and film: the golden age; the ideal city; the millenium
- * feminist and ecological utopias in recent science fiction
- * dystopian fictions (Swift, Butler, Huxley, Orwell and others)
- * utopian thinking and faith in reason

Proposals or abstracts for papers of 20 to 25 minutes should be sent by attachment in MS-Word to Chief Organizer for GASC VI, Andrew Bartlett, English Department, Kwantlen Polytechnic University, via <Andrew.Bartlett@kwantlen.ca>. **Deadline: March 30, 2012.**

Preference will be given to papers that deploy, develop, critique, or engage with Generative Anthropology particularly, or philosophical anthropology generally, in relation to these themes. For an introduction to Generative Anthropology and examples of it at work, visit the online journal *Anthropoetics* at <<http://www.anthropoetics.ucla.edu>>; send preliminary queries to A. Bartlett; or see *The Originary Hypothesis: A Minimal Proposal for Humanistic Inquiry* (Davies Group Publishers, 2007), ed. Adam Katz.

This conference will be held in conjunction with COVR 2012: that is, panels and plenary sessions will be held concurrently with those constituting the 2012 meeting of the Colloquium on Violence and Religion. (The Japan Girard Association will also be co-sponsoring the event.) For information on the COVR conference, visit <<http://www.uibk.ac.at/theol/cover/events>>.