



Future Visions

Speculation and Anticipation in Graphic Narratives

& Workshop poster session

Astrid Böger (Hamburg)

"Destiny's Temporal Anomaly" in *X-Men: Days of Future Past*

Jennifer Henke (Bremen)

Dystopian Visions of Technology: Graphic Literature and Genetics

Dirk Vanderbeke (Jena)

Dirges in the Dark: Dystopian Desires in Graphic Novels



Since the end of the cold war in the late 1980s, the sense of crisis has become ubiquitous. Media discourse around terrorism, climate change disasters, global financial collapse, and impending pandemics inspire apocalyptic fiction and fictional narratives of disaster feed into risk reporting. At the same historical moment, comics as a medium, particularly in the English-speaking world, turned towards bleaker, more dystopian and complex narrative worlds, Alan Moore's *Watchmen* (1986-87) and Frank Miller's *Dark Knight* series (1986, 1987, 2001-02) being the most prominent early examples. Focusing on this shift, this workshop brings together BA/MA students, doctoral students, and established scholars in the field of Comics Studies to explore ways in which comics have envisioned the future and yet unrealized potentialities from the 1980s to the present.

The workshop continues a series of symposia, workshops and conferences in Bayreuth around the question of global catastrophic risk in literature, popular culture and society. It is part of a research project at the University of Bayreuth on risk fiction and cultures of speculation.

For more information please visit our website:
amerikanistik.uni-bayreuth.de

Organizers: Jeanne Cortiel & Laura Oehme (Amerikanistik/
Nordamerikastudien)