

# OH, THE HORROR! ROMERO

and the Horror Studies Collection at the  
University of Pittsburgh Library System

*A University of Pittsburgh Library System newsletter sharing  
Horror Collection updates, Romero news, horror genre events, and  
more.*

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## **A Note from the Collection Coordinator**

Earlier this month, together with the Center for African American Poetry and Poetics, we hosted a Horror Studies Webinar called "Expanding the Canon: a conversation and reading with Linda D. Addison."

During the webinar, we announced that Linda Addison is donating her literary archives to our Horror Studies Collections! This represents a significant addition, as Addison is perhaps the most acclaimed horror poet in the field today. She has received six Bram Stoker Awards (and was the first African American to win a Stoker), the Horror Writers Association (HWA) Lifetime Achievement Award, and the HWA Mentor of the Year Award. She was also named Grand Master by the Science Fiction and Fantasy Poetry Association. Her archive will provide an invaluable resource for researchers interested in poetry generally and African American and horror poetry specifically.

Additionally, we were thrilled to share that Heidi Honeycutt is donating her archive to our Horror Studies Collections. This archive contains ephemera documenting the Viscera and Etheria Film Festivals co-created by Honeycutt, which were among the first film festivals featuring women-directed horror and genre films. Many of these directors went on to make feature-length films that garnered significant fandom throughout the horror film community. Both of these acquisitions represent exciting new additions and culminate the past year's work highlighting the voices of women in horror.

We hope you will join us for our next webinar on April 6th, "[A Conversation with Jewelle Gomez and Michelle Lane.](#)" Until then, stay scared!



**Tuesday, April 6th at 7:00 p.m.**

**A Conversation with Jewelle Gomez and  
Michelle Lane**

*Part of the **Women in Horror** series supported by a **Year of Engagement** grant.*

Join us for a conversation with acclaimed horror authors **Jewelle Gomez** and **Michelle Lane**. The conversation will explore expanding traditional horror conventions to include marginalized communities, the intersections of inspiration and mentorship, and revisiting characters through sequels.

[Register now at  
https://calendar.pitt.edu/event/horrorcanon](https://calendar.pitt.edu/event/horrorcanon)



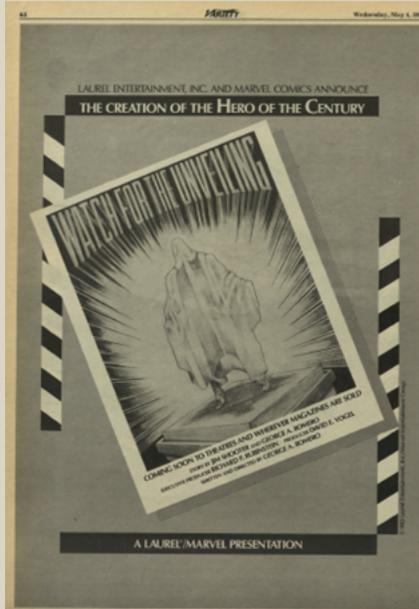
**Jewelle Gomez** is an author, poet, playwright, and essayist whose work centers the experiences of LGBTQ women of color. She is the author of the groundbreaking, Lambda Award-winning novel *The Gilda Stories* as well as collections of stories, poetry, and essays including *Don't Explain*.

**Michelle Lane** is the author of numerous short stories and essays. Her first novel *Invisible Chains* was a finalist for a Bram Stoker Award.

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## Fresh Cuts from the Blog

Visiting scholar Adam Hart shares freaky and fantastic behind-the-scenes highlights on our [Horror Studies website](#).



## **Copperhead: George Romero & Jim Shooter's Sci-Fi Superhero**

In 1981, producers and executives arranged for Romero to meet the Pittsburgh-born Editor in Chief of Marvel Comics Jim Shooter. The two of them came up with an idea for a superhero movie, which they developed together until 1985.

[Read more about Copperhead](#)

GEORGE: Hasn't it been...good...with us?

DRAGO: It's been REAL good, George...but now it's time ta say: 'much abliged'...and drift on.

George hangs his head in tears. Drago reaches out and strokes his cheek.

DRAGO: I never led ya on ta expect anything more, did I? You knew from the beginin'...

GEORGE: Yeah...I knew...I just...let myself hope...

DRAGO: Fer what it's worth...I love ya, darlin'... I'll be thinkin' bout ya whenever I meet that gal in my dreams...and when I'm lyin' in that gutter somewhere...beat and dyin'.

GEORGE: I love ya, too, Drago...as much as I'll ever love anybody...and I'll always be here... waitin'...case ya change yer mind. Ya can ride back in anytime.

DRAGO: That's good to know, George. You and the people in this town been good ta me. Accept me fer what I am as a woman...rather than fer what I can do with...THIS!

In a lightning move, Drago draws her gun, and stares at the weapon hard. She looks away, her eyes saddened. She spots an intricately woven spider web in a corner at the joint of walls and ceiling. The spider sits near the center, enjoying a fly for breakfast. Calmly, Drago holsters her gun and stands. She faces off against the cobweb, slaps leather, raises the gun and fires, the shot resounding through the room with a great roar. The spider is hit squarely, and a clean round hole replaces the insect's position in the webbing.

## ***Gunperson*: Romero's Gender-Flipped Western**

Like many of the cinephile directors of his generation, Romero adored Westerns. In the Archive, we have a screenplay titled *Gunperson*, a gender-flipped riff on *The Magnificent Seven*, close enough that the second paragraph of the script shouts out Elmer Bernstein's iconic score. But it's not gender-flipped in the sense that *Ocean's 8* or the Melissa McCarthy *Ghostbusters* is. *Gunperson* takes place in a world in which the entire society has switched gender roles.

[Read more about Gunperson](#)



## **Jacaranda Joe: Update**

In early March, the University of Pittsburgh received original 35mm camera footage from the filming of *Jacaranda Joe*, George Romero's lost Bigfoot film. The film requires assessment and preservation before we can examine it in-depth, but, for the moment, here's a remarkable look behind the scenes of the studio used by Valencia Community College. Check out the guy in the background!

[Read more about Jacaranda Joe](#)

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## Upcoming George A. Romero Foundation Events

- [Knightriders 40th Anniversary Celebration with Christine Romero and Warner Shook \(4/11\)](#)
  - [Everybody Has a Secret Face: Queer Horror & Poetry - Hosted by Pitt's Center for Creativity \(4/13\)](#)
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