

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.

A Note from the Collection Coordinator

Greetings! Fall and the spooky season are almost upon us! Here at Pitt, we are starting a new school year and are excited to have students returning to campus in person. We have already been working with faculty and various partners on campus to create opportunities for students to begin working with the Romero and Horror Studies collections and begin to produce research and other projects that will contribute to the development of our Horror Studies programs.

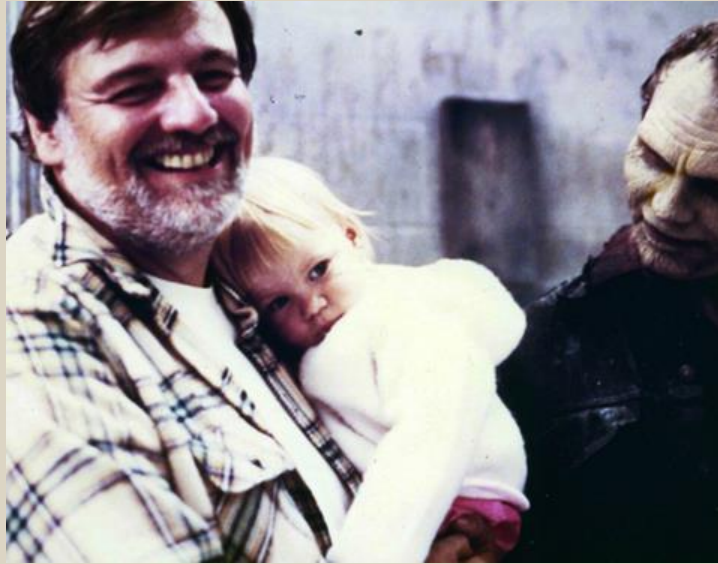
The change of seasons brings the return of our Horror Studies Webinars! Scroll down for more details, including how to register. Missed a previous session or want to rewatch one? You can view recordings of Spring 2021 Expanding the Horror Canon programs, [click here](#), or visit calendar.pitt.edu/events/horrorcanonS21.

Pitt Alumni attending Homecoming this month should also make sure to [register for our Open-House Celebration on September 24th](#). You'll be able to visit the new Archives & Special Collections Reading Room and view selections from our fast-growing Horror Studies Collections, including materials from the George A. Romero Archival Collection, Daniel Kraus, Kathe Koja, Linda D. Addison, and the Horror Writers Association. We look forward to welcoming you to our new space.

- Ben Rubin, Horror Studies Collection Coordinator

Fall 2021 Webinars

We are pleased to announce the return of the Horror Studies Webinar Series with two exciting new installments scheduled in the coming weeks.



Raising the Dead: Exploring George A. Romero's Archive

Tuesday, September 21 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

The ULS's own Adam Hart will present his research on the development of Day of the Dead. Romero scholar Dr. Tom Fallows of the University of Maryland, Global Campus will also join for the conversation.

[**Register for Raising the Dead**](#)



Expanding the Horror Canon: Exploring Queer Horror

Tuesday, October 5 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Join us for Expanding the Horror Canon: Exploring Queer Horror with acclaimed authors Hailey Piper and Eric LaRocca, who will talk about the history of queer horror and the importance of outspoken queer texts within the genre.

Hailey Piper is the author of numerous novellas and short fiction. Her 2021 publications include her first story collection, *Unfortunate Elements of My Anatomy*, and her first full-length novel, *The Queen of Teeth*.

Eric LaRocca is an author, playwright, and screenwriter. His 2021 publications include the novella, *Things Have Gotten Worse Since We Last Spoke*, and his first story collection, *The Strange Thing We Become and Other Dark Tales*.

[Register for Exploring Queer Horror](#)

[Fresh Cuts from the Blog](#)

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



Jacaranda Joe: More Updates

Adam Hart has been speaking to crew members who worked on George A. Romero's *Jacaranda Joe*. The film was the second installment of an innovative program devised by Valencia Community College faculty member Ralph Clemente that brought established filmmakers to campus to direct a short film. The previous year, Robert Wise (director of *The Haunting*, *West Side Story*, and *The Sound of Music*), filmed a short called [Best Two of Three with Valencia students](#). *Jacaranda Joe* was written by Romero, with the scope (and limitations) of filming in ten days in central Florida with a student crew in mind.

[Read more Jacaranda Joe updates](#)

MURRAY

So you and Liederman and whoever else is involved here came to the only logical conclusion. A Golem stuck its arm or its leg inside of these shtoonks and turned their livers into pixie dust.

RUTH

Maybe they were just heavy drinkers.

Another burst of nervous laughter.

PETRILLO

No two objects can occupy the same space at...

ALLAN

At the same time. How do you define an object, doctor? Is this an object? (He pounds the desk) Is this? (He slaps the wall) Is this? (He holds his hand up balled into a fist) No. This is not an object. This is a collection of objects. Blow my hand up big enough and it looks like...

He rushes to a blackboard and punches a random scattering of white dots with a piece of chalk.

ALLAN (cont.)

...it looks like this. Molecules. Atoms. Not merged. Not even touching one another. Held in suspension by some force...the way gravity holds the stars in constellation. These are objects. These...particles...

He points at the dots.

ALLAN (cont.)

...that you and I...the desk, the wall, the lamp are made of...are the only truly solid objects in the universe. And there's plenty of room to move around between them.

He draws hasty lines between the dots.

ALLAN (cont.)

This space, this...ether...God's Super Glue. Suppose it was disturbed. Suppose whatever...force it was generating got interrupted. Even for an instant. Just long enough for the particles to drop out of suspension...

George Romero's High-Tech *Golem*

In 1995, George Romero wrote *The Golem*, a screenplay that radically re-imagined the golem myth - a myth that would continue to be important to his thinking about science, technology, and society: the monster that turns on those who create it. Many of the themes would, for example, re-appear in the *Resident Evil* scripts he'd write in the next two years.

[Read more about The Golem](#)

George A. Romero Foundation Updates

The GARF has made a generous monetary gift to the ULS to hire a student employee to assist with the horror studies collections. This is an ideal collaboration between the ULS and GARF, as it will provide a wonderful opportunity for a student to learn and gain experience working with archives and rare book

materials. The student will help with processing archival collections, participate in programming, and assist with creating exhibits. Interviews are underway and we hope to have a student begin by the end of September. On behalf of the ULS, thank you to Suz and Jeff from the GARF for making this happen!



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