The category of time plays a central role for almost everyone involved in theme parks: designers, employees, visitors, and researchers. This international, interdisciplinary conference unites scholars from all over the world to examine the temporal dynamics of the “happiest places on earth.”

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“Here You Leave Today”
Time and Temporality in Theme Parks

Thursday, 18 September 2014

04:00 P.M. Participants’ Arrival and Registration

05:00 P.M. Conference Opening

Keynote:
“The Theme Park Is Dead, Long Live the Theme Park!”
SCOTT A. LUKAS (Lake Tahoe Community College, USA)

07:00 P.M. Conference Warming

Friday, 19 September 2014

09:00 A.M. Panel I: Theme Parks and the U.S.
“Revisiting Past Futures at the 1939 New York World’s Fair”
ASTRID BÖGER (U Hamburg, Germany)

“Resetting the Clock: Theme Parks and New Urbanism in Los Angeles’ Imaginary”
MARKUS REISENLEITNER (York U, Canada)

“Coney Island Films and Non-Teleological Temporalities”
SIMON DICKEL (Ruhr U, Germany)

11:00 A.M. Coffee Break

03:30 P.M. Conference Break

04:00 P.M. Panel IV: Designing the Park
“Temporality as Storyline, in the Design of Themed Environments”
GORDON S. GRICE (Forrec Ltd., Canada)

“Scoring the Music for Discoveryland”
DAVID L. TOLLEY (Delaware State U, USA)

07:00 P.M. Conference Dinner

Saturday, 20 September 2014

09:00 A.M. Panel V: Past/Times II

“Theme parks, Nostalgia, Retro”
SUSAN INGRAM (York U, Canada)

“Wrangling the Masses: Frontierland and the Imagineering of American Collective Memory”
PRISCILLA HOBBS (JGU Mainz, Germany)

“Mini Israel and the Subversive Present”
MICHAEL FEIGE (Ben-Gurion U, Israel)

10:30 A.M. Coffee Break

11:00 A.M. Panel VI: Situating the Theme Park
“Representations of Difference in Themed Spaces”
JAN-ERIK STEINKRÜGER (U Bonn, Germany)

“Et in Chronotopia Ego: Main Street-Architecture as a Rhetorical Device at Theme Parks and Outlet Villages”
PER STRÖMBERG (Telemark U, Norway)

“From Neomediaevalism to Retrofuturism: A Virtual Addition to the Genealogy of the Pleasure Ground”
PETER KRISTOF MAKAI (U of Szeged, Hungary)

07:00 P.M. Conference Dinner