Videogame Cultures 2025 Conference, 10-12 September 2025

Department of Art Theory and Artworks, Faculty of Humanities, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic

Videogame Cultures 2025 Conference Programme v1bc

VGC 2025					
6	Day 1 – Wednesday, S	Day 1 – Wednesday, September 10th 2025			
09:00-09:30	Registration and welc	Registration and welcome coffee			
09:30-10:00	Introduction and opening remarks (Daniel Říha)				
Session 1 Environmental					
Storytelling 10:00-11:30	Teodora Alata (UK)	Speculative Ecologies and the Hauntology of Collapse: Environmental Storytelling Beyond Life			
	Sarah Faber (Germany)	Two Hundred Years of Solitude: Landscapes of Confinement in 'The Cosmic Wheel Sisterhood'			
11:30-11:45	Coffee break				
Session 2					
Environmental Storytelling II.	Charlotte Stevens (UK)	Representing Virtual Worlds in Chinese Television Dramas			
11:45-13:15	Tamara Urach (Austria)	Eco-friendly Life in 'Evergreen Harbor': Environmental Storytelling and Simulating Sustainability in Classrooms with The Sims 4 Eco Lifestyle			
	Claudia Leitinger (Austria)	Environmental Storytelling in Horror Games: Making of Your Own Horror			

13:15-14:15 Session 3 Diverging and	Lunch break				
Dystopia and Apocalypse 14:15-15:45	Çağla Cengiz & Atanur Andıç (Turkey) Debbie Ding (Singapore) Laura Arnott (UK)	A Base That Refuses to Be Home: Exploring Spatial Narratives of Cozy Horror in 'Voices of the Void' 'Wasteland': Virtual Worlds as Environmental Storytelling and Urban Commons "Why did you wake me up?" Paradoxical Agency in the Dystopia of 'Pathologic 2'			
15:45-16:00	Coffee break				
Session 4 Dystopia and Apocalypse II. 16:00-17:30	Sarah Beyvers (Germany)	Player Agency, Self-Efficacy, and Radical Hope in the Face of Environmental Destruction: The Ecocritical Spaces of 'Horizon Zero Dawn' (2017) and 'Avatar: Frontiers of Pandora' (2023)			
10.00 17.50	Matthew Hellenbran (Austria)	d "Sometimes, evil wins": Dystopia and Cognitive Friction in 'Tyranny'			
	Iris Kleinecke-Bates (UK)	From Video Game to Television: Trans- media Adaptation, Aesthetics, and Environmental Storytelling in 'The Last of Us' and 'Fallout'			
	Day 2 – Thursday, September 11th 2025				
Session 5 Eutopis and Sci-fi	Größing	Spaces of Violence – The Affect of Isolation in Secluded Environments in the Science Fiction Horror Game 'Mouthwashing' "Nothing Wonderful Before Us": S.T.A.L.K.E.R. and the Taxonomy of the post-Soviet World as a World Beyond Salvation			
09:30-11:00	Ondřej Váša (Czechia)				

	Brittney Finley (UK)		oddess: Horizon Zero Dawn SCREAL ideologies		
11:00-11:15	Coffee break				
Session 6	Ajla Abdukić & Samantha Thurgood (Austria)		Training Through Space and Emotion: AI Learning and Environmental Design in Little Learning Machines Is Game Design the Next		
AI, VR and Hardware for Space	Louis Martin Guay & Delphine Duplain (Canada)		Weapon in Psychological Warfare?		
11:15-12:45	Tom Tuček (Austria)		The Costs of Generative AI in Video Games: Using Locally- Running Models for Sustainability		
12:45-13:45	Lunch break				
Session 7 Spaces for Healthy Emotions	Gao, Yizhen (Sweden)	It's Not Your Fault: Autobiographical Game as a Medium for Self-Reflection and Emotional Healing			
13:45-15:15	Slaven Lendić (Croatia)	Bioethics of Se Various Video	elf-Medication and Healing in Games		
	Tan Ylva Schütz (Austria)	Video Game D	Video Game Design as a Form of Art Therapy		
15:15-15:30	Coffee break				
	Vicente Matrocola (Brazil)		Minimal Resources, Maximal horror: A Study of the Game 'Iron Lung'		
Session 8 Title: Horror Spaces	Felix Schniz (Austria)	Living in Dystopia: 'Frostpunk' and 'Frostpunk 2' - The Slightly Different City			
15:30-17:00	Bettina M. Münzer (Austria)				

17:30-Open	Social Event				
	Day 3 – Friday, September 12 th				
09:00-09:30	Coffee				
Session 9	Michele Varini (Italy)	"Nothing is True and Everything is Permitted": Orientalism and Evolving Representation in 'Assassin's Creed'			
Game Design Spaces 09:30-11:00	Jayden Montalvo (USA	Sanity Mechanics and Tentacularity Form The Genre Motions Clinging to Lovecraftian VR Games			
	Sara Skubiszewski (Austria)	Post-Apocalyptic Video Game Spaces as an Anthropocene Narrative on the Climate Crisis			
11:00-11:15	Coffee break				
Session 10 Serious Gaming and AI	Jakub Binter & Daniel Říha (Czechia)	Global Warming Necessitates Serious Gaming Approaches to Reduce Damages due to Devastating Floods			
11:15-12:45	Kateřina Goryczka (Czechia)	When the Apartment Becomes a Game: Environmental Storytelling through Everyday Interface			
	Stephen Mallory & R. Tucker Koepp (USA)	ChatGPT is Dysteleological			
12:45-13:15	Lunch break				
Session 11					
Title: Narrative and Space		1			
13:15-14:45	Anja Gödl (Austria)	A Player's Guide to the End of the Story: A Study on the Interface of Narrative and Space in Digital Games			
	Rosa Iris McQueen (UK)	Gotta Save 'em All: Environmental Narratives of Pokémon Games			

14:45-15:00	René Schallegger (Austria)	"For Those Who Come After!" - Postmemory and the Intricately Moving Eudystopia of 'Clair Obscur: Expedition 33' (2025)		
Session 12	Daniel Říha (Czechia Henriques, Diogo P. (Portugal) Heather Maycock (U	Planetary Thin Video Game S Storytellers an Environments Chatbots Space, Place, Permadeath: HEnvironmental	Space, Place, Time, and Permadeath: Ethical Demand and Environmental Design in 'The Long	
Title: Space and Place 15:00-16:30	Simon Huber (Austr	Concepts of En	Landscaping Games: Historizing Concepts of Environmental Storytelling from a Perspective of Cultural Techniques	
16:45-17:30	Final panel discussion a	d outlook		