

Editorial

Issue no. 5 of *Amaltea. Journal of Myth Criticism* focuses on the myth of the Apocalypse. Both eschatological and cosmogonic myths have been relevant in Judeo-Christian, Eastern, and American cultures throughout history. Of particular note are representations of traumatic ends, considered either from a real or allegorical perspective, such as the flood, the final judgment, the Anti-Christ, and the empire of chaos, in contrast with Messianic myths. Aesthetic representations of the apocalypse may be found in different fields, ranging from biblical literature, which is at its origin, to science fiction, as this issue illustrates.

In these days, Apocalypse continues to be a source of inspiration. Three contributors deal with the city as an apocalyptic setting: Encarna Alonso focuses on Federico García Lorca's New York; Lina Barrero Bernal presents Medellín as portrayed in Fernando Vallejo's *Our Lady of the Assassins*, while Joshua Parker overviews the depictions of Berlin in American postwar fiction. Jean Giono's biblical background and his personal recreation of Apocalypse is the subject of Dominique Bonnet's study. Dorothee Cailleux suggests an interesting reading of Günter Grass's *The Rat* and challenges its connection with science-fiction. Danielle Verena Kollig explores the opposing conceptions of Apocalypse in Lars von Trier's *Epidemic* and *Melancholia*. Apocalypse also has a humorous side, as two of these articles show. Mariano García considers Argentine short-fiction from the sixties, with particular emphasis on a short story by Adolfo Bioy Casares, while Esther Lorenzo analyses the apocalyptic elements found in *The Simpsons Movie*. Finally, the Miscellanea section includes an interdisciplinary approach to fairy tales and its contemporary renditions from a gender approach, contributed by María del Mar Pérez Gil, and a socio-political reading of Medea, by Brian G. Caraher.

Among the numerous articles received, the Coordinating Team has selected those published here. All articles have been peer-reviewed by at least two different referees. Both the editorial and coordination board, complying with the general rules of the Journal, have bestowed absolute freedom on the authors regarding the choice of works, literary genre and theoretical framework.

We would like to thank all the authors for their invaluable contributions, and wish you all a pleasant reading.

José Manuel Losada. General Editor of *Amaltea. Journal of Myth Criticism*.

Madrid, 30th September 2013