

Special Issue

Turn to the East: Afrofuturism 2.0, African Futurism and Sinofuturism in Speculative Theory, Criticism and Practice

Message from the Guest Editor

This special issue explores non-Western futuristic movements and their chronopolitics—Afrofuturism 2.0, African Futurism, and Sinofuturism—as frameworks for decolonizing narratives of technology, culture, and power. While Afrofuturism interrogates Black diasporic futures through African cosmologies and resistance to colonialism, Sinofuturism examines China’s rapid technological ascendance as a form of “distributed artificial intelligence” embedded in globalized labor and cultural flows. Both movements challenge Eurocentric visions of progress, offering radical alternatives to hegemonic futurisms. Afrofuturism re-centers agency through mytho-forms, philosophy, and alternate histories; African Futurism explores the agency and realities of people on the African continent; and Sinofuturism seeks to reframe China’s technological rise as collective post-human agency. Chronopolitics examines how both movements manipulate time—Afrofuturism via “revisionist histories” and Sinofuturism through accelerating industrial timelines [...]

Guest Editor

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