Echoes of Time and Enchantment

April 2nd and **3rd**, 2027,
University of Wisconsin-**Madison**

Keynote: **Dr. Laura Di Bianco**

40th Annual GAFIS Symposium
Call for Papers
Graduate Association of
French and Italian Students

The conditions of time both challenge and are challenged by human perception; the passing of time or evaluations of time periods leave poets, philosophers and scholars perplexed, maybe even enchanted. How can we define the 'sentiment of time'? How does this question change when we move between different disciplines? How does the past come into play with the present and future? What does it mean to position a society, a culture, or even a planet, within a particular frame of time? How does time become distorted or can it be contained? The 40th Annual GAFIS Symposium invites discussions and evaluations of the "Echoes of Time and Enchantment" as an interdisciplinary exploration of how time is perceived differently across peoples, cultures, and circumstances. This two-day interdepartmental event will be held at the University of Wisconsin-Madison on April 2nd and 3rd, 2027. This symposium seeks to investigate themes of time, enchantment, blending fantasy and reality, the relevance of ancient worlds in modernity, the categorization of time periods, and the altering of human awareness of time through technology or changing philosophies before and during the Anthropocene era.



illustration by Dugald Walker, 1920

Submissions encouraged from graduate scholars in all areas, including but not limited to:

- **Literature and Foreign Languages**
- **Film, Media, Visual, Cultural Studies**
- **Environmental Studies**
- **Education, Curriculum and Instruction**
- **Medieval Studies**
- **European Studies**
- **Gender and Women's Studies**
- **Art and Art History**
- **Sociology, Anthropology, Political Science**
- **Religious Studies**
- **Classics**
- **History**
- **Geography**
- **Philosophy**
- **Music, Theater and Performance Arts**

Keywords: **time**, **enchantment**, **magical realism**, **anthropocene**, **ecocriticism**, **ancient, modern**, **fantasy**, **reality**, **folklore, fairytale**

The Graduate Association of French and Italian Students invites graduate student speakers from a wide range of disciplines to share their notions on the roles of time and ideas of enchantment through a series of panel presentations. Please send your abstracts (300 words) and a short biography (100 words) to gafis_symposium@frit.wisc.edu by January 20, 2027. Presentations will be in English and between 15-20 minutes in length.

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