History and the Fantastic: A talk by Tim Powers

An event hosted by the Science Fiction Collective Mellon Group

Abstract

Multiple-award-winning author Tim Powers will discuss the relation between history and the fantastic in his work. Considering historical fantasy's relation to alternate history and magic realism, he will explore how and why real historical periods and characters are an important basis for effective fantastic fiction.

Friday, May 30th
HMNSS 2212

Guest Speaker: Tim Powers

SF and fantasy novelist Tim Powers writes "secret histories": he uses actual, documented historical events featuring famous people, weaving fantastic supernatural and SF elements into the gaps and disjunctions of the historical record. The celebrated and influential novels he creates using this approach include The Anubis Gates, The Stress of Her Regard, Last Call, and Declare. His work has received some of the highest awards in the field, including the Locus award, the Phillip K. Dick Award, and the World Fantasy award. Tim Powers’s latest novel, Nobody's Home, is forthcoming this year from Subterranean Press.