

CFP: Shapeshifters, Cyborgs, and Psychedelics: Analyzing the Alternate Worlds of J.J. Abrams' Fringe

Coeditors Sherry Ginn, Tanya R. Cochran, and Paul Zinder invite proposals or completed essays for an edited collection of scholarly works that explore J.J. Abrams' science fiction television series *Fringe* (2008-present). We are interested in a variety of topics as well as diverse disciplinary approaches. Proposals should demonstrate not only a clear methodology and strong thesis but also a familiarity with current conversations and publications about the series. We would be especially pleased to see innovative perspectives on unusual topics such as the show's paratexts or production elements. Though not prescriptive, the following list of topics may be productive to consider:

- Alternate Worlds
- Auteur Theory—J.J. Abrams, creator
- Broadcasting/Scheduling
- Casting
- Characters/Character Development
- (Dis)Ability—representations of mental illness, psychotherapeutic techniques, (de)institutionalization
- Drug Use—recreational use as well as therapeutic use of recreational drugs
- Discourse Analysis
- Fandom
- Gender
- Genre
- Government Intervention/Conspiracy Theories
- History—LSD trials, emergence of transpersonal psychology/Consciousness Studies
- Intertextuality
- Interpersonal Communication
- Myth(ologies)
- (Neuro)Science and Technology—ethics (e.g., human experimentations)
- Philosophy/Spirituality/Religion
- Paratexts—web content, fan fiction, glyphs
- Production—cinematography, editing, musical score
- Predecessors—*The X-Files*, *Regenesis*, *Eleventh Hour*, etc.
- Psychology
- Race
- Rhetoric

We strongly recommend authors familiarize themselves with these publications to extend and/or challenge published analyses of the series:

- Grazier, Kevin R., ed. *Fringe Science: Parallel Universes, White Tulips, and Mad Scientists*. Dallas: Smart Pop, 2011. Print.
- Stuart, Sarah Clarke. *Into the Looking Glass: Exploring the Worlds of Fringe*. Toronto: ECW, 2011. Print.

QUERIES AND SUBMISSIONS

Queries are welcomed; please email us at fringecollection@gmail.com. Send 350-500-word proposals or 5,000-7,000-word essays in Microsoft Word or Rich Text Format (RTF) to the same email address; please label your attachment with “Fringe,” your last name, and the date (day.month.year)—e.g., “Fringe, Cochran, 1.3.12.” We suggest but do not require that proposals include a working bibliography. Please provide in a separate document or in the body of the email a brief biography and selected vita.

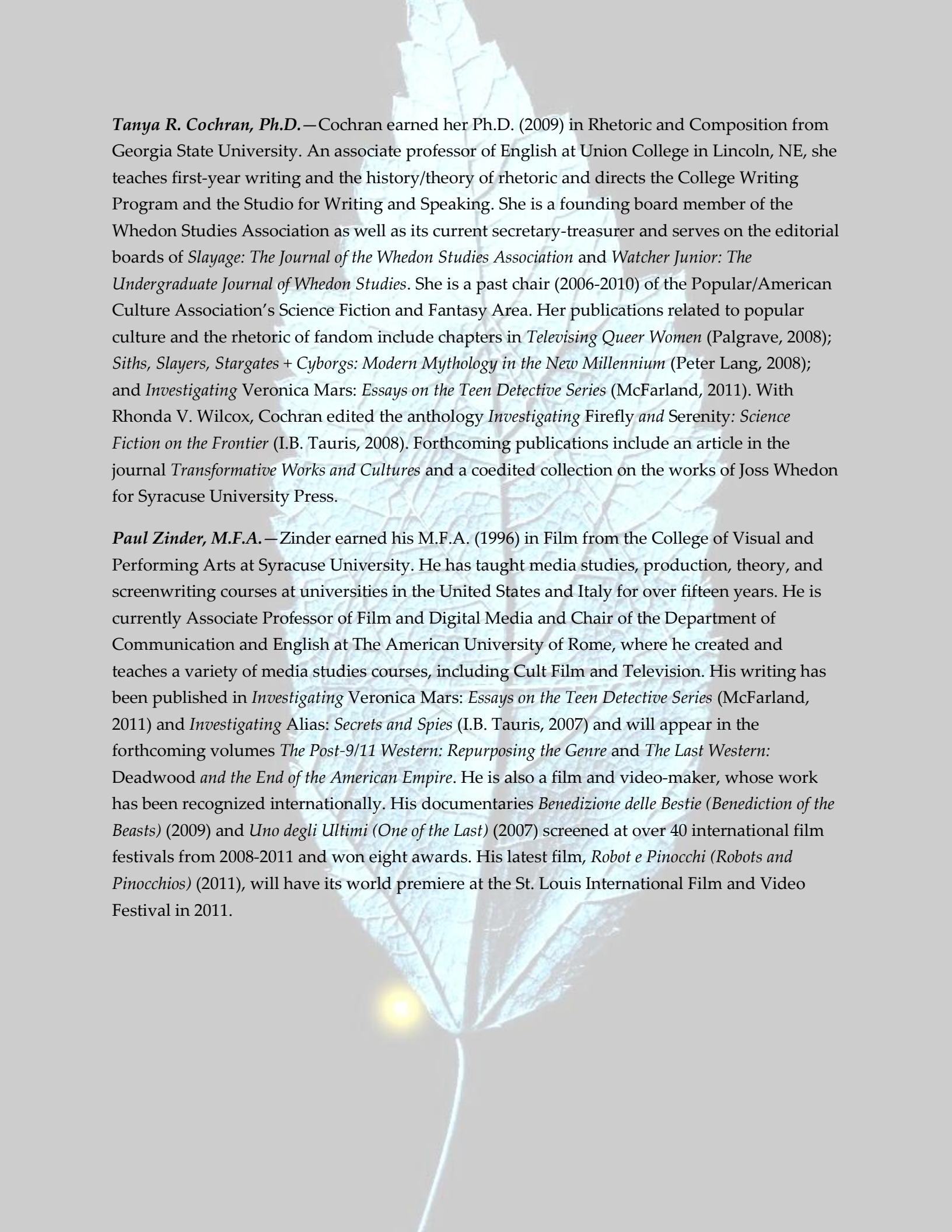
PRODUCTION TIMELINE

We are currently negotiating with a publisher and working on the following timeline:

- **Proposals Due:** 1 March 2012
- **Notification of Acceptance:** 1 May 2012
- **First Drafts Due:** 1 August 2012
- **Second Drafts Due:** 1 December 2012
- **Completed Manuscript:** 1 March 2013

BIOGRAPHIES

Sherry Ginn, Ph.D.—Ginn earned both her M.A. (1984) and Ph.D. (1988) in General-Experimental Psychology from the University of South Carolina. She currently teaches at Rowan-Cabarrus Community College, near Charlotte, North Carolina. She has published numerous articles in the fields of neuroscience and psychology. Her book *Our Space, Our Place: Women in the Worlds of Science Fiction Television* was published in 2005; forthcoming is *Power and Control in the Television Worlds of Joss Whedon* (McFarland, 2012). She is a member and/or officer of a number of professional organizations, including the International Society for the History of the Neurosciences (President, 2008-2009; Secretary, 2010-present), the Popular Culture Association (Chair, Science Fiction and Fantasy Section, 2009-2012), the Whedon Studies Association, and the North Carolina Writers’ Network. Current projects in the field of popular culture include an essay on the *Doctor Who* companion Sarah Jane Smith, cinematic intersections of neuroscience with the *Frankenstein* myth, *Sexing Science Fiction* (with coeditor Michael Cornelius), and *Farscape* (editor).



Tanya R. Cochran, Ph.D.—Cochran earned her Ph.D. (2009) in Rhetoric and Composition from Georgia State University. An associate professor of English at Union College in Lincoln, NE, she teaches first-year writing and the history/theory of rhetoric and directs the College Writing Program and the Studio for Writing and Speaking. She is a founding board member of the Whedon Studies Association as well as its current secretary-treasurer and serves on the editorial boards of *Slayage: The Journal of the Whedon Studies Association* and *Watcher Junior: The Undergraduate Journal of Whedon Studies*. She is a past chair (2006-2010) of the Popular/American Culture Association's Science Fiction and Fantasy Area. Her publications related to popular culture and the rhetoric of fandom include chapters in *Televising Queer Women* (Palgrave, 2008); *Siths, Slayers, Stargates + Cyborgs: Modern Mythology in the New Millennium* (Peter Lang, 2008); and *Investigating Veronica Mars: Essays on the Teen Detective Series* (McFarland, 2011). With Rhonda V. Wilcox, Cochran edited the anthology *Investigating Firefly and Serenity: Science Fiction on the Frontier* (I.B. Tauris, 2008). Forthcoming publications include an article in the journal *Transformative Works and Cultures* and a coedited collection on the works of Joss Whedon for Syracuse University Press.

Paul Zinder, M.F.A.—Zinder earned his M.F.A. (1996) in Film from the College of Visual and Performing Arts at Syracuse University. He has taught media studies, production, theory, and screenwriting courses at universities in the United States and Italy for over fifteen years. He is currently Associate Professor of Film and Digital Media and Chair of the Department of Communication and English at The American University of Rome, where he created and teaches a variety of media studies courses, including Cult Film and Television. His writing has been published in *Investigating Veronica Mars: Essays on the Teen Detective Series* (McFarland, 2011) and *Investigating Alias: Secrets and Spies* (I.B. Tauris, 2007) and will appear in the forthcoming volumes *The Post-9/11 Western: Repurposing the Genre* and *The Last Western: Deadwood and the End of the American Empire*. He is also a film and video-maker, whose work has been recognized internationally. His documentaries *Benedizione delle Bestie (Benediction of the Beasts)* (2009) and *Uno degli Ultimi (One of the Last)* (2007) screened at over 40 international film festivals from 2008-2011 and won eight awards. His latest film, *Robot e Pinocchi (Robots and Pinocchio)* (2011), will have its world premiere at the St. Louis International Film and Video Festival in 2011.