UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN
PHILOSOPHY POSTGRADUATE CONFERENCE

IMAGINATION, FICTION, AND EXTENDED REALITY

10 - 11 February 2026 | Sir Duncan Rice Library
Meeting Room 1

Keynote Speakers:

Stacie Friend
(University of Edinburgh)

Neil McDonnell
(University of Glasgow)

Hosted by:
Johanna Alt, Kelvin Chan, Jerry Lu, Jim Sigailov-Lanfranchi
(PhD Students, University of Aberdeen)

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MIND

SCOTS PHILOSOPHICAL ASSOCIATION

PROGRAMME

10 February 2026

11:50 Welcome

12:00
Opening Keynote
STACIE FRIEND
(University of Edinburgh)
Chatbot-Fictionalism and Empathetic AI:
Should we worry about AI when AI worries
about us?

13:00 Lunch

13:45
LIN LIN
(University of Glasgow)
Virtual Causation as Counterpart-
Sensitive Dependence Anchored in Digital
Event Groups

14:30
ERIK WÖLLER
(Free University of Berlin)
Author's Authority

15:15 Break

15:30
MICHELLE SALLUCE
(University of Bologna)
The Self as Adaptive Fiction: Altered States
and the Phenomenal Self-Model

16:15
MARIA FEDOROVA
(University of Vienna)
What Psychedelic Experience Teaches

19:00 Conference Dinner at Rishi's

11 February 2026

9:30
GEORGINA BRIGHOUSE
(University of Liverpool)
Aphantasia and the Plurality of
Imagination

10:15
DIANA CRACIUN
(University College London)
Imagine That! The Imagination Can Be a
Source of Self-Knowledge

11:00 Break

11:15
ROLAND FRANZ
(University of Würzburg)
On the Relation between Assuming and
Phantasy

12:00
LAURA OPPI
(University of Copenhagen)
What Effect? Reassessing the Perky Effect

12:45 Lunch

13:30
ENRIQUE ARANDA-MURILLO
(University of Granada)
Fictive Utterances and the Role of the
Imagination

14:15
Closing Keynote
NEIL McDONNELL
(University of Glasgow)
Virtual Fictionalism and the Metaphor of
Dead Metaphors