Selling Your Soul for Fun and Profit: Faustian Bargains

Jim Cohn

Thursday, January 12
5:00-6:00 p.m.
*online only*
Join via Zoom at uvic.ca/csrs/events

The Faust legend takes up the compelling question of selling your soul to the devil for advantages in this world. This talk surveys the legend in four famous instantiations, as German chapbook, Christopher Marlowe’s tragedy, Goethe’s iconic version, and Thomas Mann’s novel. Over the span of 400 years, we can trace these authors’ evolving view of evil, sin, the soul, and salvation. How seriously we take the afterlife has everything to do with what we may aspire to in this one.

Jim Cohn holds a PhD from the University of Chicago, was a tenured “tutor” at St. John’s College (NM) and a founding faculty member of Quest University Canada. He is an Associate Fellow at the CSRS.

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