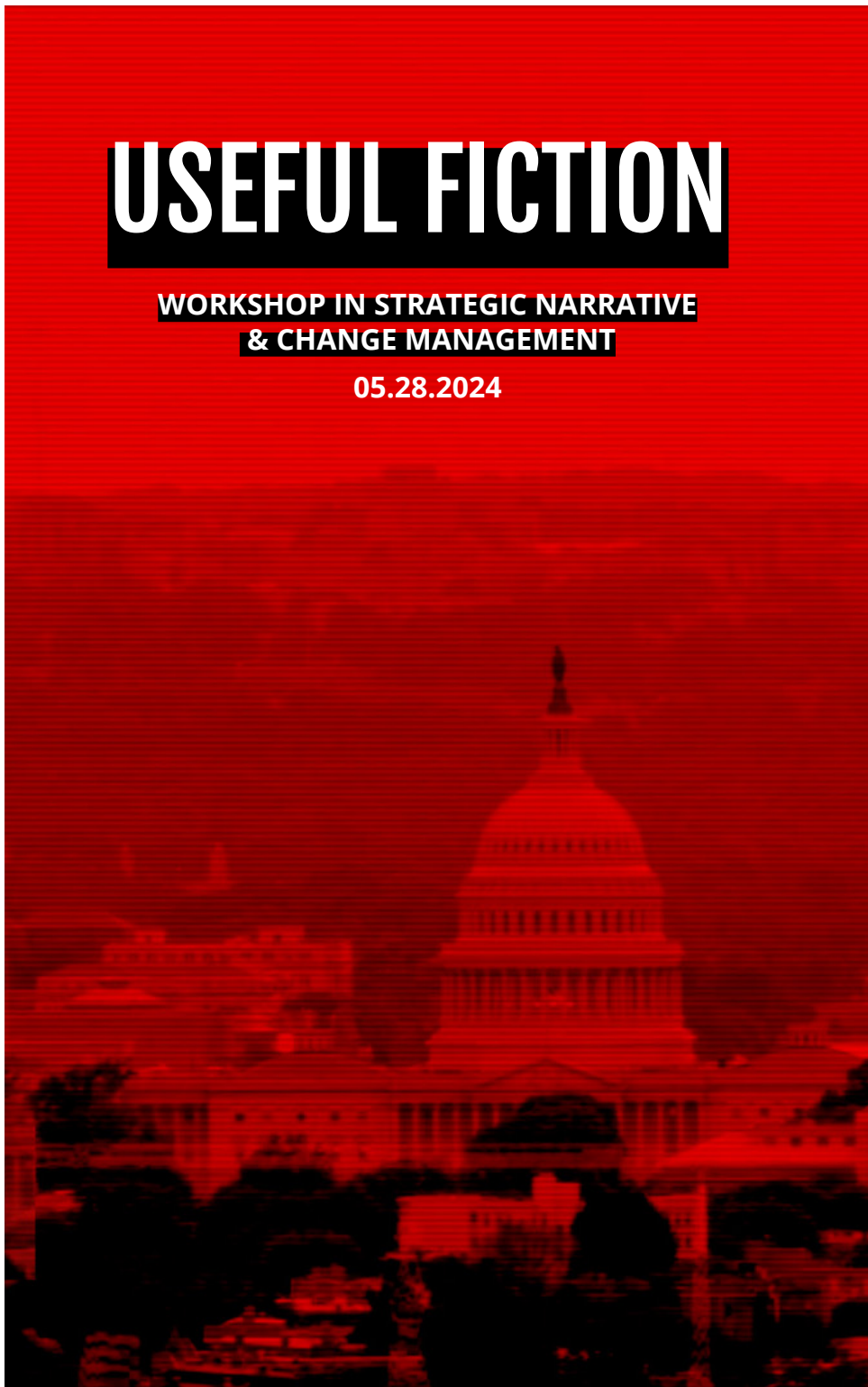


USEFUL FICTION

WORKSHOP IN STRATEGIC NARRATIVE
& CHANGE MANAGEMENT

05.28.2024



1000-1700
May 28, 2024
PENTAGON LIBRARY & CONFERENCE CENTER

WHAT IS “USEFUL FICTION”?

Useful Fiction, or FICINT (“Fictional Intelligence”) melds nonfiction analysis/research with narrative, so as to explore and explain new and complex issues related to future trends, technology, and policy, while also reaching greater target audiences, with greater effect. It has been used by organizations that range from SOCOM and NATO to Fortune 500 firms.

WHO IS USEFUL FICTION LLC?

Useful Fiction, LLC (useful-fiction.com) works at the intersection of strategic narrative, foresight, and change management, helping organizations to identify and better tell their key “stories.” Over the years, its events and projects have brought together the work of former leaders of US military services, strategists and tech forecasters for Fortune 500 companies, best-selling writers of projects like *World War Z*, *Ghost Fleet*, and *American War*; the producers of such Hollywood projects as *Game of Thrones*, *Call of Duty*, *The Walking Dead*, and *Homeland*; and artists who have illustrated for *Wired* and *The New York Times Magazine*.



AUGUST COLE is Founder & Managing Partner at Useful Fiction and an author exploring the future of conflict through fiction and other forms of FICINT storytelling. With Peter W. Singer, he is the co-author of the best-seller *Ghost Fleet: A Novel of the Next World War* and *Burn In: A Novel of the Real Robotic Revolution*. His talks, short stories, and workshops have taken him from speaking at the Nobel Institute in Oslo to presenting at SXSW Interactive to tackling the “Dirty Name” obstacle at Fort Benning.



PETER W. SINGER is Strategist at New America, a Professor of Practice at Arizona State University, and Founder & Managing Partner at Useful Fiction. A New York Times Bestselling author, he has been named by the Smithsonian as one of the nation's 100 leading innovators and by Defense News as one of the 100 most influential people in defense issues. No author, living or dead, has more books on the professional US military reading lists.



AGENDA

TIME	SPEAKER	TOPIC
1000–1015	MADELINE MORTELMANS Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategies, Plans and Capabilities	Welcoming Remarks
1015–1045	PETER W. SINGER Best-Selling Author and Partner, Useful Fiction	What Is the Power and Role of Story in the Real World?
1045–1115	ADM JOHN RICHARDSON, USN (RET.) Former Chief of Naval Operations	Using Narrative for National Security Leadership
1115–1130	BREAK	
1130–1200	SINGER & COLE Ideation Exercise	What Are the Stories We Need to Tell?
1200–1230	KEN LIU Award-Winning Sci-Fi Author and AI Expert	The Future of Story and Narrative Across Cultures
1230–1330	LUNCH	
1330–1415	AUGUST COLE Author and Partner, Useful Fiction	What Are The Elements of a Successful Story?
1415–1500	CARRIE GILLOGLY Director of Drama Series at Netflix	Finding and Curating Breakout Stories
1500–1515	BREAK	
1515–1600	SINGER & COLE Writing Exercise	Narrative Concept and Outline Generation
1600–1650	SINGER & COLE Writer's Room Exercise	Delivery, Pitching, and Feedback



ADM JOHN RICHARDSON, USN (RET.) is the former 31st Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) and an active board member at a number of organizations including The Boeing, Constellation Energy, and the Center for New American Security. John served 37 years in the U.S. Navy before completing his service as the 31st CNO: the top officer in the Navy. During his service, he commanded the attack submarine USS HONOLULU, for which he was awarded the Stockdale Inspirational Leadership Award; and served as the Director of Naval Reactors. He holds master's degrees in electrical engineering from MIT and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, and a master's degree in national security strategy from the National War College.



KEN LIU is an American author of speculative fiction. A winner of the Nebula, Hugo, and World Fantasy awards, he wrote *The Dandelion Dynasty* and the English translation of the international bestseller, *The Three-Body Problem*; as well as the short story collections *The Paper Menagerie and Other Stories* and *The Hidden Girl and Other Stories*. Ken also penned the Star Wars novel *The Legends of Luke Skywalker*. Prior to becoming a full-time writer, Liu worked as a software engineer, corporate lawyer, and litigation consultant. Liu frequently speaks at conferences and universities on a variety of topics, including futurism, machine-augmented creativity, and the mathematics of origami.



CARRIE GILLOGLY is the director of drama series at Netflix. She worked previously as the co-head and senior vice president of scripted programming at AMC Networks, where she oversaw the development and production of AMC scripted series including *Into The Badlands*, *The Terror*, *The Son*, *Dispatches From Elsewhere*, and *Pantheon*—an animated series based on Ken Liu's "Singularity" stories in *The Hidden Girl and Other Stories*. Before her time at AMC, Gillogly worked as an executive at Gerber Pictures, developing such projects as *Gran Torino* and *A Star Is Born*. Originally from Silver Spring, MD, Gillogly moved to LA in 2001 to attend the University of Southern California's School of Cinematic Arts.



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