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Introduction

On April 3rd and 4th, 2003, the University of Limoges (France) hosted a meeting of the Coordination Internationale des Chercheurs en Littérature Populaire et Culture Médiatique (LPCM) dedicated to the notion of genre. In the study of mass literature and media culture, few concepts can lead to more clear-cut positions than this one, either for or against. The subject was therefore an ideal one to stimulate vigorous exchange, which did take place to everybody's satisfaction. This latest issue of *Belphégor* presents the articles that have come out of the presentations and the discussions of the Limoges conference, as well as other texts submitted by colleagues who were unable to attend at the time. To frame the discussion, we are also providing the transcripts of a series of preliminary e-mail exchanges between members of the Coordination. The goal of these exchanges was to help identify the main arguments and create a constructive dialogue among the participants.

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