

Surroundings / Environs

Society for French Studies Postgraduate Conference
King's College London, Strand Campus
Friday 19 May 2023

9am - 9.30am Registration

River Room, King's Building
King's College London (Strand Campus)

9.30am - 9.45am Welcome and opening remarks

David Ewing and Elly Walters

9.50am - 11.10am Panel I: Surrounding the Subject

Chair: TBC

Alix Stéphan (University College Dublin), Les spectres qui nous entourent :
Lecture croisée de Benjamin Fondane et Camille de Toledo

Thomas Chesworth (University of Birmingham), Trapped Between Subject
and Object: The Marxian Ontology of *The Second Sex*

Tobias Barnett (University of Cambridge), Form and Function at the
Historical Limit: New Modes of Rationality in Contemporary French Thought

Louise Ferris (University of Oxford), Becoming Absent to Oneself: Forms of
Identity Destruction and Externalisation in Malabou and Proust

11.10am - 11.30am Break

11.35am - 1.00 pm Panel II: Surroundings in Time and Space

Chair: TBC

Phoebe Day (Courtauld Institute of Art), 'A Fugitive Eye': Walter Benjamin and
Germaine Krull in the Paris Arcades

Carrie Heusinkveld (University of Cambridge), 'C'est peu de violer l'amitié, la
nature': Social and Environmental Destruction in Racine's *Iphigénie*

Helen O'Sullivan (University of Birmingham), Translating Time and Place in
Gisèle Pineau's *Mes Quatre Femmes*

Gareth Hughes (Royal Holloway, University of London), 'Je gonfle': The
Inflation of Space-Time in the Poetry Performances of Christophe Tarkos

1.00 pm - 1.45pm Lunch

Move to K2.40, King's Building

1.50pm - 3pm Panel III: Contested Norms: Gender and its Boundaries

Chair: TBC

Rachel Hayes (University of Warwick), Queering Borders: (In)visible Blood in the *Saineresse*

Anastasia Scepi (Sciences Po / Université de Paris), Écrire la mère dans la littérature contemporaine française, une expérience paradoxale : ou comment les marges permettent de (re)penser sa / une place

Tia Caswell (Nottingham University), Natural Woman, Natural Mother: The Deployment of Female Agency in the Construction of Marie-Antoinette's Queenly Identity

3pm - 3.20pm Break

3.20pm - 4.10pm Panel IV: Social Surroundings: Borders, Peripheries, Milieux

Chair: TBC

Samantha Seto (King's College London), Transnational Character Portraits in Cosmopolitan Spheres at the Fin-de-Siècle in Edith Wharton's and Marcel Proust's Novels

Joseph Duckett (Bangor University), Translation as Activism in Peripheralized Communities: The Example of Brittany

4.15pm - 5.30pm Keynote Lecture

Benjamin Dalton (Lancaster University), Rebuilding the Hospital with Jean-Luc Nancy: Approaches to Clinical Environments through Contemporary French Philosophy

5.30pm End of conference

This conference has been made possible thanks to the support of the Society for French Studies and of the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures at King's College London.