**AMERICAN LITERATURE AND THE PHILOSOPHICAL**

**Thursday, 23 March 2017**

*Institute of Advanced Studies*

*Hôtel de Lauzun*

*17 Quai d’Anjou*

*75004 Paris*

9.30-9.45: Welcome and Opening Remarks

9.45-10.45 (Salle des Gardes):

**Keynote 1**: **Nancy Ruttenburg** (Stanford University): “Conscience, Rights, and ‘the delirium of democracy’”

Presentation: Cécile Roudeau (Université Paris Diderot)

10.45-11.00: *Coffee break*

11.00-12.30:

**Panel 1: Emerson & Philosophy** (Antichambre)

Chair: Thomas Constantinesco (Université Paris Diderot)

**David Greenham** (University of the West of England): “Ralph Waldo Emerson, Metaphor and the ‘Epistemology of Form’”

**David Robinson** (Oregon State University): “The Transcendental Ordinary: Cavell from Thoreau to Emerson”

**Yves Gardes** (Université Paris Dauphine): “The Emersonian Poet and the Conceptual Persona”

**Panel 2: Contemporary Crossings 1** (Salle des Gardes)

Chair: Stéphane Vanderhaeghe (Université Paris 8)

**Nicholas Manning** (Université Paris Sorbonne): “‘Explaining Is Where We All Get Into Trouble.’ Anti-Philosophical Philosophies In the Contemporary American Novel”

**Ali Chetwynd** (American University of Iraq, Sulaimani): “Joseph McElroy’s PLUS and the Peircean Optimism of US Postmodernism’s Philosophy of Action”

**Sylvie Bauer** (Université de Rennes 2): “‘Literally, Everything I Utter is a Metaphor’: Thought Unhinged in Percival Everett's Novels”

12.30-14.00: *Lunch*

14.00-15.30:

**Panel 3: Thinking and Writing the Community** (Salle des Gardes)

Chair: Cécile Roudeau (Université Paris Diderot)

**Thomas Claviez** (University of Bern): ‘A Metonymic Society? Towards a New Poetics of Community’

**Marianne Noble** (American University, Washington D.C.): “A Motive to Love your Fellow Man: Hawthorne, Stowe and Sentimental Moral Philosophy”

**Viola Marchi** (University of Bern): “Thinking ‘Literally’: Community as Limit-Concept between the Literary and the Philosophical”

15.30-16.00: *Coffee break*

16.00-17.30:

**Panel 4: Melville & Philosophy** (Antichambre)

Chair: Agnès Derail (École normale supérieure)

**Michael Jonik** (University of Sussex): “Melville and Spinoza”

**Edouard Marsoin** (Université Paris Diderot): “Melville, the Belly Philosophical”

**Chad Luck** (California State University, San Bernardino): “The Aesthetics of Usury: Melville, Derrida, and the Interesting”

**Panel 5: Echoes of Pragmatism: William James in Literature** (Salle des Gardes)

Chair: Mathieu Duplay (Université Paris Diderot)

**Chloé Thomas** (Université Paris 8): “‘That Is Where Philosophy Comes In’: Gertrude Stein Making *The Making of Americans*”

**Michael Manson** (American University, Washington D.C.): “Running to Philosophy: Robert Frost’s Struggle to Write Poetry”

**Jessica Luck** (California State University, San Bernardino): “Lyn Hejinian, William James, and the Phenomenology of the New Sentence”

18.00-19.00: *Recital and Drinks*

**Friday, 24 March 2017**

*Université Paris Diderot*

*Amphithéâtre Turing and Room 1003*

*Bâtiment Sophie Germain*

*8 Place Aurélie Nemours*

*Paris, 75013*

9.00-9.15: Registration

9.15-10.45:

**Panel 6: Systems of Relations in the Nineteenth Century** (R. 1003)

Chair: Michel Imbert (Université Paris Diderot)

**Mary Grace Albanese** (Columbia University): “Poe’s Caribbean Cosmologies”

**Paul Hurh** (Arizona): “Irrelative Scale in Poe’s ‘Washer-Woman’ Philosophy”

**Dorri Beam** (Syracuse University): “Collective Efforts: Literary and Social Assemblage in the American ‘Age of Fourier’”

**Panel 7: Skepticism, Pragmatism, and Phenomenology in African-American Literature** (A. Turing)

Chair: Magali Bessone (Université de Rennes 1)

**Jennifer Lewis** (Bath Spa University): “‘Tak[ing] care of the philosophy’: Frederick Douglass’s phenomenological interventions”

**Harvey Cormier** (Stony Brook University): “W. E. B. Du Bois, William James, and Literature”

**Greg Chase** (Boston University): “Trying to Build a Bridge of Words: Other-Mind Skepticism in Wright’s *Black Boy* and Ellison’s *Invisible Man*”

10.45-11.00: *Coffee Break*

11.00-12.30:

**Panel 8:** **Henry James as Philosopher of Power and Vulnerability** (A. Turing)

Chair: Richard Anker (Université Blaise Pascal)

**Julie Rivkin** (Connecticut College): “Maisie’s Body and Butler’s Radically Inequitable Corporeal Vulnerabilty”

**Phyllis van Slyck** (City University of New York, La Guardia): “‘I See Nothing But You’: Vulnerable Levinasian Encounters in James’s Late Novels”

**Rory Drummond** (Independent scholar): “Henry James, Guy Debord and the Critique of Spectacular Power”

**Panel 9: Wallace Stevens: The Life of Thought** (R. 1003)

Chair: Juliette Utard (Université Paris Sorbonne)

**Bart Eeckhout** (University of Antwerp, NIAS Fellow): “The Philosopher’s Poet: 21st-Century Perspectives on Wallace Stevens”

**Charles-Henry Morling** (Université Paris Sorbonne): “Wallace Stevens' and A.N. Whitehead's Modes of Thought”

***Respondant:* Juliette Utard** (Université Paris Sorbonne): “‘The Necessary Angel’: A Few Words on Stevens' Theory as Poetry and his Poetry as Theory”

12:30-14.00: *Lunch*

14.00-16.15:

**Panel 10: Contemporary Crossings 2** (A. Turing)

Chair: Mathieu Duplay (Université Paris Diderot)

**Naomi Morgenstern** (University of Toronto): “The Post-Kantian Child in Contemporary American Fiction”

**Cindy Weinstein** (Caltech): “The sound of time in Nabokov's *ADA, OR ARDOR*”

**Andrea Pitozzi** (Università degli Studi di Bergamo): “Time-Images in Don DeLillo's Writing”

**Arkady Plotnitsky** (Purdue University): “Demons of Chance: Thomas Pynchon’s Novels and Philosophy of Randomness and Probability”

**Panel 11: Poetic Speculations** (R. 1003)

Chair: Abigail Lang (Université Paris Diderot)

**Antoine Cazé** (Université Paris Diderot): “Emily Dickinson and the Question of ‘Giving Death’”

**Aurore Clavier** (Université Paris 8): “The American Modernist Poem, or the Endless Prolegomena”

**V. Joshua Adams** (University of Louisville): “No Puzzle: James Merrill and the Philosophy of the Self”

16.15-16.45: *Coffee Break*

16.45-18.15:

**Panel 12: History and Influence** (A. Turing)

Chair: Mathieu Duplay (Université Paris Diderot)

**Russell Sbriglia** (Seton Hall University): “‘The Fervid and Tremendous IDEA’: Whitman, Hegel, History”

**William Flesch** (Brandeis University): “Three Blackbirds: The Anxiety of Influence, Decision Theory and Preferences among Preferences in American Literature”

**Jeffrey Di Leo** (University of Houston, Victoria): “Who Needs American Literature? From Emerson to Marcus and Sollors”

**Panel 13: Body and Mind in the Nineteenth-Century** (R. 1003)

Chair: Cécile Roudeau (Université Paris Diderot)

**Andrew Sydlik** (Ohio State University): “Revolution and Cure: Molyneux’s Problem, Denis Diderot’s *Letter on the Blind*, and Royall Tyler's *The Algerine Captive*”

**Dorin Smith** (Brown University): “Melville’s Neuroanatomies and the Organs of Personality”

**Jennifer Fleissner** (Indiana University, Bloomington): “Maladies of the Will: The American Novel and the Symptomatology of Modernity”

20.00: *Conference Dinner*

*Restaurant “Le Coupe-Chou,” 11 Rue de Lanneau, 75005 Paris*

**Saturday, 25 March 2017**

*Université Paris Diderot*

*Amphithéâtre Turing*

*Bâtiment Sophie Germain*

*8 Place Aurélie Nemours*

*Paris, 75013*

9.45-10.45:

**Keynote 2**: **Ralph Berry** (Florida State University): “But Can Literature Know Itself and Not Become Philosophy”

Presentation: Stéphane Vanderhaeghe (Université Paris 8)

10.45-11.00: *Coffee break*

11.00-12.30:

**Panel 14: Thinking in Figure**

Chair: Richard Anker (Université Blaise Pascal)

**Francie Crebs** (Université Paris Sorbonne): “Kant vs. Cant: Poe’s Materialist Sublime”

**Andrzej Warminski** (University of California, Irvine): “Mystic Symbol and Ironic Allegory: Hawthorne's Work of the Letter”

**Martin Rueff** (University of Geneva): “Hegel’s Aesthetics in America”

12.30-14.00: *Lunch*

14.00-15.00:

**Keynote 3: Isabelle Alfandary** (Université Sorbonne Nouvelle): “Unfounding an American Tradition: R. W. Emerson”

Presentation: Antoine Cazé (Université Paris Diderot)

15.00-15.15: *Coffee break*

15.15-17.30:

**Panel 15: The Politics of Thought**

Chair: Bruno Monfort (Université Paris Ouest)

**Philipp Reisner** (Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf): “Ancilla theologiae: The Rivalry of Philosophy and Theology in American Cultural and Literary History”

**Paul Downes** (University of Toronto): “Hobbes in America, or, Is there a Democratic Sovereignty?”

**Owen Cantrell** (Georgia Institute of Technology): “‘Only Hegel is fit for America’: Dialectic and Parataxis during the Market Revolution”

**Elizabeth Duquette** (Gettysburg College): “Tyranny in America: Napoleon, Tocqueville, Séjour”

17.30: *End of Conference*