philoSOPHIA:

a feminist society

The Second Annual Meeting

Decatur, GA

3/19/08–3/22/08
Generously supported by:

Emory University’s Departments of Philosophy, Women’s Studies, and Comparative Literature &
Kennesaw State University’s Departments of History and Philosophy, Gender and Women’s Studies, and the HSS Dean’s Office &
Vanderbilt University’s Kelly Oliver
Executive Committee:
Tina Chanter
Robyn Ferrell
Jena Jolissaint
Stacy Keltner
Kyoo Lee
Mary Beth Mader
Kelly Oliver

Local Organizers:
Jena Jolissaint
Stacy Keltner

Student Assistants:
Amy Hopper
Participants
Sarah LaChance Adams
Sara Beardsworth
Tina Chanter
Jori Cohen-Greenberg
Carolyn Sue Colbertson
Athena V. Colman
Jon Dodds
Penelope Deutscher
Rochelle M. Green
Katie Hertzog Grosh
Lisa Guenther
Sarah Hansen
Paris Hatcher
Gina Helfrich
Lynne Huffer
Jena Jolissaint
Robin M. James
Emma Jones
Stacy Keltner
Lisa Knisely
Catherine Lewis
Kyoo Lee
Anne van Leeuwen
Abigail Levin
Donna Marcano
Elaine Miller
Yvana L. Mols
Mary Beth Mader
Ann Murphy
Emily A. Parker
A. Zurn Perry
Jennifer Purvis
Andrew Robinson
Becky Sukovaty
Laina Saul
Bronwyn Singleton
Fanny Söderbäck
Chloe Taylor
Erin Tarver
Maria L. Talero
Ericka Tucker
Eeva Urrio
Talia Welsh
Laura Werner
Cynthia Willett
Emily Zakin
Description of the Meeting

The meeting of *philosophia: a feminist society* has been designed around a research workshop model. There are four groups of approximately ten participants each and organized according to research topics and figures. Each group will meet in these workshops for the duration of the conference, and each participant will have 20-25 minutes to present a current work in progress and 35-40 minutes for discussion. The reasoning behind this organization of the conference meeting is to promote the development of individual research projects in conversation with other researchers in the field, as well as to promote feminist dialogue and community. To this end we request that participants stay in their groups for the duration of the conference, and we invite participants to speak extemporaneously of their work.

The workshop meetings will be held in the historical Solarium building in S. Decatur, about 1.5 miles from the conference hotel. Shuttles to and from the venue will be provided by the Holiday Inn. A sign-up sheet for times on the mornings of 3/20 and 3/21 will be available at the registration table the evening of 3/19.

Aside from the workshops, we also have several community events planned: a documentary film showing of *Simone de Beauvoir*, a keynote lecture by Penelope Deutscher, a cocktail party, and a Saturday morning breakfast roundtable meeting. Details for all events and workshops can be found in the program. Please note that all participant abstracts will be provided as a separate document.

We look forward to an excellent meeting!

Local *philosophia* Contacts

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Jena Jolissaint, organizer, jenajoli@gmail.com (404.488.4504)
Stacy Keltner, organizer, skskeltner@gmail.com (404.313.4088)
Hotel and Travel Information

Hotel Accommodations
Lodging for conference participants has been arranged at the Holiday Inn Decatur Atlanta Conference Plaza, 130 Clairemont Avenue, Decatur, GA 30030. Telephone: 404-371-0204, Fax: 404-377-2726, Toll-free: 1-800-HOLIDAY. Ask for the philoSOPHIA group rate. Conference rate: $119/night. (Note: Room reservations must be made by February 18, 2008 in order to receive the group rate.) The hotel is located in Downtown Decatur, a hop, skip, and a jump from historic Decatur Square, 1 block from MARTA, and 5 miles from Downtown Atlanta. The Holiday Inn Decatur has an indoor heated pool and fitness center.

Travel Information

By Air: Atlanta has one major airport, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, which is served by all major airline carriers. A taxi from the airport to the hotel costs around $35. The North line of MARTA, Atlanta’s mass-transit system, also leaves directly from the airport. A one-way trip on MARTA costs $1.75 and takes 30-40 minutes. The train runs from the airport from until 4:35 am until 1:00am. To get from the airport to the hotel using MARTA, take the North Line to Five Points station and transfer to the East (Blue) line. Get off at the Decatur stop, walk north on Church Street, take a left onto East Ponce De Leon and a right onto Clairemont. The hotel will be on your left. Visit www.itsmarta.com for a full rail and local bus schedule. Zipcar car-sharing vehicles are located near the Decatur station; call 866-4ZIPCAR for reservation and fee information.

By Train and Bus: The Amtrak station is located on Peachtree Street in Atlanta. For schedules and fares, contact Amtrak at (800) USA-RAIL or www.amtrak.com. A cab from the Amtrak station to the hotel costs around $25. Greyhound provides transcontinental bus service to Atlanta’s airport station. For schedules and fares, call 1-888-287-6359 or visit www.greyhound.com.
By Car: Visit mapquest.com and type in starting address and hotel address.

Map of Decatur Square
Wednesday, March, 19 2008

5—7 pm  Registration & Welcoming Reception
            Hotel Lobby
7—9 pm  Documentary Film Showing:
             Simone de Beauvoir
            Intro: Jena Jolissaint & Stacy Keltner

This award-winning French documentary profiles world-class feminist existentialist philosopher Simone de Beauvoir (1908-1986). Directed by Josée Dayan and Malka Robowska, the program features archival footage, as well as conversations with de Beauvoir reflecting on various topics, including her philosophical positions, her love affair with Jean-Paul Sartre, and her friendship with philosopher Albert Camus. Simone de Beauvoir won the Red Ribbon at the American Film and Video Festival.

In Celebration of de Beauvoir

2008 marks the centenary of the birth of Simone de Beauvoir. To celebrate and reflect on her achievements as a writer, philosopher, and feminist activist, the Second Annual Meeting of philoSOPHIA will host several panels devoted to her work, a documentary film viewing of Simone de Beauvoir, directed by Josée Dayan and Malka Robowska, and a keynote lecture by Penelope Deutscher, “Simone de Beauvoir, the Age of Sex, and the Sex of Age.”

philoSOPHIA also plans to host a satellite meeting at SPEP every year. This year the focus will also be on Simone de Beauvoir.
Thursday, March 20, 2008

8:30—9 am Shuttle to The Solarium
9 am -12 pm Research Workshop Session 1
12-1:30 pm Lunch in Oakhurst
1:30-3:30 pm Research Workshop Session 2
3:45 pm Shuttle to the hotel
6-7:30 pm Keynote Lecture
   The Old Courthouse on The Square
7:30-8:30 pm Reception
   The Old Courthouse lobby

(Directions: From hotel, turn right and walk to Ponce de Leon, where you will be facing the courthouse.)

The Hillary Johnson Memorial Lecture

‘Simone de Beauvoir, the Age of Sex,
and the Sex of Age”
by
Penelope Deutscher

Moderator: Stacy Keltner

Penelope Deutscher is Associate Professor of Philosophy at Northwestern University. She specializes in 20th-century and contemporary French philosophy and philosophy of gender. She has authored four books: Yielding Gender: Feminism, Deconstruction and the History of Philosophy (Routledge 1997); A Politics of Impossible Difference: The Later Work of Luce Irigaray (Cornell University Press, 2002); How to Read Derrida (Granta/Norton, 2006); and The Philosophy of Simone de Beauvoir: Ambiguity, Conversion, Resistance (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming). She has edited or co-edited three books and authored over 60 articles. She is also the recipient of several distinguished awards, grants, and fellowships.
Friday, March 21, 2008

8:30-9 am Shuttle to The Solarium
9 am -12 pm Research Workshop Session 3
12-1:30 pm Lunch in Oakhurst
1:30-3:30 pm Research Workshop Session 4
3:45 pm Shuttle to The Holiday Inn

5-7 pm Cocktail Party at Azul Blue Bar
121 Sycamore St. on The Square

Viva La Fiesta!

Azul blue bar

5:00 pm—7:00 pm
(Don’t forget your free drink tickets!)

Generously Supported by Kelly Oliver and Vanderbilt University.

...but I always say,
One’s company,
Two’s a crowd,
And three’s a party.
— Andy Warhol
As a community of feminists and intellectuals committed to social justice, the question of the distinction between theory and practice, as well as that between the academy and the public, is a pressing one, especially as we are in a privileged position to act. This roundtable will introduce and provide the opportunity to discuss the difficulties and obstacles we face, as well as successful models for negotiating these divides both within the classroom and beyond the academy.
Research Group A

Moderator: Mary Beth Mader

Research Workshop Session 1: The Ethics of Eros, take 1
Cynthia Willett, Emory University, “Melancholia and Meaning: Kristeva and Coetzee”
Lynne Huffer, Emory University, “Eros in the Age of Biopower: A Queer Feminist Ethics”
Kyoo Lee, “Hiroshima notre amour: When Your Memories Turn Up In My Mouth”

Research Workshop Session 2: Antigone, take 1
Tina Chanter, “Antigone as Critical Commentator through the Ages: Race, Imperialism and Colonialism in Osofisan’s Tegonni”
Laura Werner, “The Impure Heroine: Antigone Between the Family and the State”

Research Workshop Session 3: The Ethics of Eros, take 2
Chloe Taylor, “Pornography as Discipline and as Ars Erotica: Foucault and Annie Sprinkle”
Jena Jolissaint, “Pirates, Priestesses, and Porne Pillage the Panopticon”

Research Workshop Session 4: Antigone, take 2
Fanny Söderbäck, “Impossible Mourning: Sophocles Reversed”
Stacy Keltner, “Sacred Oedipus, Anti-Oedipus, or Antigone? Unravelling Kristeva’s Figures of the Modern Nomadic Subject”

Research Workshop Group B

Moderator: Ericka Tucker

Research Workshop Session 1: Merleau-Ponty
Sarah LaChance Adams, “The Nature of Nurture in Maternal Ethics”
Erin Tarver, “Flesh, Meaning and Empathy: Toward a New Merleau-Pontian Theory of Sexuality”
Maria L. Talero, “Enactive Bodily Coupling, Performativity and Personal Identity”

Research Workshop Session 2: Simone de Beauvoir, take 1
Ann Murphy, “Simone de Beauvoir’s Ethics of Ambiguity and Recent Feminist Thought”

Research Workshop Session 3: The Politics of the Body
Talia Welsh, “Radical Embodiment: Fat Female Bodies and Health Normalization”
Robin M. James, “No one on the corner has a swagger like us’: Politics and the Aesthetics of Embodiment”  
Eeva Urrio, “Bodies without Limits? Deleuzian feminism and the concept of the body”

Research Workshop Session 4: Simone de Beauvoir, take 2  
Bronwyn Singleton, “Virginity Re-Defined: Beauvoir on ‘Sexual Initiation’”  
Yvana L. Mols, “A Relational Imagining of the ‘Heloise Complex’”

Research Workshop Group C
Moderator: Lisa Knisely

Research Workshop Session 1: Levinas: for or against?  
Laina Saul, “Simone de Beauvoir & Emmanuel Levinas: Conversations(?) and Controversy”  
Emma Jones, “Ethics of the Other Self: A Challenge to Levinas’ Ethics of Absolute Alterity by way of Irigaray and Kristeva”  
Lisa Guenther, “Singularity and Feminist Philosophy”

Research Workshop Session 2: Irigaray, take 1  
Rochelle M. Green, “Irigaray and the Mimetic Use of Feminine Metonymy”  
Katie Hertzog Grosh, “Production and Sexual Difference: How can Hölderlin defend Irigaray against the charge of essentialism?”

Research Workshop Session 3: Butler  
Gina Helfrich, “Expanding the Category of the Human: Solidarity and Social Practice”  
Emily A. Parker, “The Beauvoirean Subject That is Not One: Judith Butler, Tina Chanter, and The Second Sex”

Research Workshop Session 4: Irigaray, take 2  
Anne van Leeuwen, “Identity and (Sexual) Difference”  
Andrew Robinson, “Wonder and the ‘Who art thou?’”

Research Workshop Group D
Moderator: Jori Cohen-Greenberg

Research Workshop Session 1: Kristeva and Politics, take 1  
Emily Zakin, TBA  
Jon Dodds, “Analytic Interpretation in Kristeva”
A. Zurn Perry, “On Amphibians and Dolphins: Kristeva’s Spectacle and Revolt Elucidated as Aquatic Life Doubled Differently”

Research Workshop Session 2: Kristeva and Politics, take 2
Sarah Hansen, “Zoe and Bios: Kristeva’s Arendtian Politics”
Donna Marcano, “Art and Politics in the Harlem Renaissance”

Research Workshop Session 3: Kristeva and Irigaray
Athena V. Colman, “Sexual Difference and the Imaginary in the work of Julia Kristeva and Luce Irigaray”
Sara Beardsworth, “Transformation in Psychoanalysis and Yoga”

Research Workshop Session 4: Kristeva and Art
Elaine Miller, “Negativity, Iconoclasm, Mimesis: Kristeva between Hegel and Freud”
Carolyn Sue Colbertson, “Loss, Recovery, and Women in Kristeva’s Black Sun”