

DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY
The Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center

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PHENOMENOLOGY and critical theory

Dates: March 16-17, 2007

Location: Room 204, Hanley Hall, Law School
Duquesne University
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Symposiasts: Cristina Lafont
David Rasmussen
Joel Whitebook
Lambert Zuidervaart

The Symposium is free and open to the public. C.E. credits available for psychologists participating in Dr. Whitebook's presentation.

For further information,
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History and Mission

The Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center was founded in 1980 under the direction of Amedeo Giorgi, Ph.D. as an expression of the phenomenological orientations of Duquesne University's graduate programs in philosophy and psychology. Mr. Simon Silverman, the late president of the Humanities Press, was the Center's first major benefactor and proudly bears his name. The goal of the Center is to promote and facilitate original phenomenological research and thereby add to the corpus of literature in all disciplines, with continental philosophy and psychology as a human science as fields of particular emphasis.

Programs and Publications

Partnering with stakeholder academic departments of Duquesne University's McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts, the Center serves as a campus hub for numerous intellectual activities which complement graduate programs in philosophy, psychology, and communication and rhetorical studies.

Internationally, the Center is known for its annual sponsorship of a spring symposium, a fall lecture/conference and the André Schuwer memorial lecture series at the yearly conference of the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (SPEP). Recent programs include: The Phenomenology of Karol Wojtyla/John Paul II (Fall, 2006) and Walter Brogan's Schuwer Lecture "On Giorgio Agamben's Naked Life: The State of Exception and the Law of the Sovereign" at SPEP 2006. The diversity of these topics shows well the Center's efforts to advance phenomenological applications with breadth and depth. The Center also hosts gatherings of learned societies, including the forthcoming 3rd annual meeting of the International Association for the Study of Environment, Space, and Place (April 27-29, 2007) as well as the 3rd annual Alumni/ae Conference of Duquesne University's Psychology Department.

All of the Center's symposia acta are published on an annual basis, including the latest titled, *Paul Ricoeur and Phenomenology*. Other publications include: *Phenomenology Today: The Schuwer SPEP Lectures 1998-2002* (ed. Daniel J. Martino, 2003) and *Clefts in the World: And Other Essays on Levinas, Merleau-Ponty, and Buytendijk* by Stephan Strasser (trans. Richard Rojcewicz, 1986). A book manuscript is in progress by David L. Smith, C.S.Sp. titled, *Born to See, Bound to Behold: The History of the Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center*.

Resources

The collections of the Center form part of the Special Collections at Duquesne University's Gumberg Library. Located in an attractive setting, the Center holds a comprehensive collection of world literature on phenomenology, which expands yearly to incorporate new publications. Alcoves house the personal libraries and papers of renowned phenomenologists, including Erwin Straus, Aron Gurwitsch and Stephan Strasser. Also available for consultation are the Moser transcripts of Heidegger's Marburg lectures, F.J.J. Buytendijk's "Pensées Repensées" and Husserl's unpublished transcribed papers, as the Center is an official branch of the Husserl-Archives (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven).

Many thanks to the following individuals who provided the photos used in the cover art: Gadamer photo, courtesy of Etsuro Makita; Sartre photo, courtesy of Vivian K. Berghahn, Sartre Studies International; Fromm photo, courtesy of Rainer Funk, The Literary Estate of Erich Fromm; Scheler photo, courtesy of Manfred Frings



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THE SIMON SILVERMAN PHENOMENOLOGY CENTER
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PHENOMENOLOGY and critical theory

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25TH ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

MARCH 16-17, 2007

**Duquesne University
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**



FRIDAY, MARCH 16

Law School – Hanley Hall Room 204

Opening Session, 9 a.m. to Noon

9 a.m. Welcome: Charles J. Dougherty, Ph.D.
President, Duquesne University

Moderator: Jessica Wiskus, D.M.A.
Department of Musicianhip, Duquesne University
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

9:05 a.m. Lambert Zuidervaart, Ph.D.
Truth in Phenomenology and Critical Theory

10 a.m. Comments: Cristina Lafont, David Rasmussen,
Joel Whitebook

10:30 a.m. Refreshment Break

11 a.m. Reply: Lambert Zuidervaart

11:15 a.m. Discussion

Noon Lunch

Second Session, 2 to 5 p.m.

Moderator: Lee A. McBride, III, Ph.D.
Department of Philosophy
The College of Wooster
Wooster, Ohio

2 p.m. Cristina Lafont, Ph.D.
Heidegger and Habermas on Personal Identity

3 p.m. Comments: David Rasmussen, Lambert
Zuidervaart, Joel Whitebook

3:30 p.m. Refreshment Break

4 p.m. Reply: Cristina Lafont

4:15 p.m. Discussion

5-6 p.m. Reception
Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center
Gumberg Library – Special Collections

SATURDAY, MARCH 17

Law School – Hanley Hall Room 204

Third Session, 9 a.m. to Noon

Moderator: James Swindal, Ph.D.
Department of Philosophy, Duquesne University
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

9 a.m. David Rasmussen, Ph.D.
*Preserving the Eidetic Moment: Phenomenology's
Contribution to Critical Theory*

10 a.m. Comments: Joel Whitebook, Cristina Lafont,
Lambert Zuidervaart

10:30 a.m. Refreshment Break

11 a.m. Reply: David Rasmussen

11:15 a.m. Discussion

Noon Lunch

Final Session, 2 to 5 p.m.

Moderator: Daniel Burston, Ph.D.
Department of Psychology, Duquesne University
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

2 p.m. Joel Whitebook, Ph.D.
The Hermeneutics of Suspicion: An Interrogation

3 p.m. Comments: Lambert Zuidervaart, Cristina
Lafont, David Rasmussen

3:30 p.m. Refreshment Break

4 p.m. Reply: Joel Whitebook

4:15 p.m. Discussion

5 p.m. Closing remarks: Daniel Martino, Ph.D.
Director, Simon Silverman Phenomenology
Center

5:10 p.m. Reception
Law School, Hanley Hall

*C.E. credits available for psychologists participating
in Dr. Whitebook's presentation.*

Panelists



Cristina Lafont, Ph.D., is professor of philosophy at Northwestern University. She received the Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of Frankfurt in 1992 and did her Habilitation there in 2000. Lafont has also been a visiting professor at Universidad Carlos III (Madrid) and the University of Mexico as well as researcher at the Institute of Philosophy, part of the Spanish Council for Scientific Research. A frequent presenter at over 60 conferences throughout the world has taken her to Bogotá, London and Prague, to name a few destinations. The associate editor of *Isegoría and Azafes*, she also serves as consulting editor for Cambridge University Press and for the journals *Philosophy and Social Criticism* and *Graduate Faculty Philosophy*. Lafont's specializations in hermeneutics, critical theory, phenomenology and philosophy of language have led to numerous publications. Aside from articles and book chapters, she has authored book length studies which include *Heidegger, Language and World Disclosure* (2000), *The Linguistic Turn in Hermeneutic Philosophy* (1999), *Sprache und Welterschließung: Zur Linguistischen Wende der Hermeneutik Heideggers* (1994), which was subsequently translated into Spanish, and *La Razón Como Lenguaje* (1993). Her forthcoming publications include "Religion in the Public Sphere: Remarks on Habermas's Conception of Public Deliberation in Post-secular Societies," in the journal *Constellations*, as well as "Heidegger and the Synthetic Apriori" in *Heidegger and Transcendental Philosophy* (J. Malpas and S. Crowell, Eds.). Lafont is a native speaker of Spanish and fluent in German.



David Rasmussen, Ph.D., is professor of philosophy at Boston College. He earned the Ph.D. from University of Chicago in 1968. He has been a visiting professor at various institutions of higher learning in the U.S. and Germany, where on two occasions he was also a Fulbright advanced research fellow (Munich, Frankfurt) and a Fulbright German studies fellow (Bonn). Rasmussen serves as editor in chief of *Philosophy and Social Criticism*, a journal he founded in 1978. He is also the founder of two other journals, *Human Studies*, for which he continues to serve as associate editor, and *Filosofia e Questioni Pubbliche*. Actively involved in committee work, Rasmussen serves on the board for the Center for Ethics and Law (Copenhagen) and was on the executive committee of the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy (1994-97). His areas of expertise include continental philosophy, hermeneutic phenomenology and critical theory. Recent edited works include the multi-volume *Critical Theory* (co-edited with J. Swindal, 2003) as well as a forthcoming multi-volume title from Sage's Masters of Sociological Theory Series, *Jürgen Habermas* (co-edited with J. Swindal), which will provide the first systematic assessment of this key theorist of the later Frankfurt School. Other edited books are *Handbook of Critical Theory* (1996) and *Continental Aesthetics: Classic and Contemporary Readings* (with R. Kearney, 2001), to name a few. Rasmussen has also authored several books, including *The Final Foucault* (with J. Bernauer, 1988), *The Narrative Path: The Later Works of Paul Ricoeur* (with P. Kemp, 1989) and *Reading Habermas* (1990). Many of Rasmussen's works have been translated into Japanese, French and Italian.



Joel Whitebook, Ph.D., is assistant clinical professor of medical psychology in the department of psychiatry at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, as well as faculty at the Center for Psychoanalytic Training and Research, both at Columbia University. He is the recipient of two doctoral degrees in philosophy and clinical psychology from the New School for Social Research (1978) and the City University of New York (1984) respectively. In 1990, he earned the diploma in psychoanalysis from the New York Freudian Society. Whitebook is engaged in various editorial commitments with the following journals: *Constellations*, *American Imago*, *Journal of the American Psychoanalytic Association* and *International Journal of Psychoanalysis*. A regular presenter at national and international conferences on psychoanalysis and critical theory, he has also organized scholarly meetings held in New York City. Counted among his book length titles are *Sigmund Freud: An Intellectual Biography* (forthcoming) and *Perversion and Utopia: A Study in Psychoanalysis and Critical Theory* (1995). He has authored several articles and book chapters; some of the more recent are "Against Interiority: Foucault's Struggle with Psychoanalysis," in *The Cambridge Companion to Foucault* (2005), "Freud and the Frankfurt School," in *The Cambridge Companion to the Frankfurt School* (2004), and "Omnipotence and Radical Evil: On Possible Reapproachment between Hannah Arendt and Psychoanalysis," in *Pragmatism, Critique, Judgment: Essays for Richard J. Bernstein* (S. Benhabib and N. Fraser, Eds., 2004). Since 1985 Whitebook has maintained a private psychoanalytic practice.



Lambert Zuidervaart, Ph.D., is professor of philosophy at the Institute of Christian Studies and an associate member of the graduate faculty in the philosophy department at the University of Toronto. He earned the Ph.D. in philosophy from Free University (Amsterdam) in 1981. For the past two decades his scholarship has been recognized through the receipt of several awards, including fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities and a grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. Administrative appointments include academic dean and senate chair at the Institute of Christian Studies as well as board president and capital campaign co-chair at the Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts. Zuidervaart specializes in continental philosophy, cultural theory, aesthetics and social philosophy. His book length studies include *Artistic Truth: Aesthetics, Discourse, and Imaginative Disclosure* (2004), which received an award for excellence from Canadian Society for Continental Philosophy, and *Adorno's Aesthetic Theory: The Redemption of Illusion* (1993). He has also authored numerous journal articles and co-edited several books, including *The Arts, Community, and Cultural Democracy* (with H. Luttikhuisen, 2000) and *The Semblance of Subjectivity: Essays in Adorno's Aesthetic Theory* (with T. Huhn, 1997). Among Zuidervaart's forthcoming publications are *Social Philosophy After Adorno*, *Art in Public: Politics, Economics and a Democratic Structure*, "Truth and Authentication: Heidegger and Adorno in Reverse," (in *Adorno and Heidegger: Philosophical Questions*, I. Macdonald and K. Ziarek, Eds.). Aside from his graduate teaching and advising, he currently offers strategic planning consultations to non-profit organizations.