Foundations of Psychoanalysis

A SERIES OF PRESENTATIONS

This series is designed to introduce and study some of the fundamental concepts of psychoanalysis with particular focus on Lacan's understanding of clinical practice. It is addressed to all those interested in psychoanalysis, independent of level of study and orientation.

Repetition, Rememoration, Transference
André Michels
Friday, September 26, 2008
6:30 PM–8:30 PM
Repetition is a fundamental element of clinical analysis that informs the direction of the cure. Repetition emerges at the limit of rememoration, manifesting what cannot be said, it intertwines in the repetition, but the transference cannot be reduced to repetition.

Suggested readings:

On Narcissism
Paula Hochman Vappereau
Friday, December 5, 2008
6:30 PM–8:30 PM
Narcissism is a fundamental aspect of subjectivity that cannot be reduced to the domain of the imaginary, since it involves the very structure of the subject of enunciation. This presentation will return to Freud's notion of narcissism and develop it in light of Lacan's formulation of the relation between the subject of enunciation and the subject of the statement.

Suggested readings:

Lacan's Object a
Alain Vanier
Friday, December 19, 2008
6:30 PM–8:30 PM
Lacan introduced the notion of the object a ([Objet petit a]) as a solution to the contradictions inherent in the psychoanalytic notion of the object. We will examine the chronological development of this concept, situating it in the Imaginary, then in the Symbolic, and then in the Real orders, and addressing its significance in the analytic cure.

Suggested readings:

On the Fundamental Rule and Psychoanalytic Listening
Paola Mieli
Friday, January 9, 2009
6:30 PM–8:30 PM
With the establishment of the fundamental rule and its counterpart, the analyst, Freud sets the very foundation of psychoanalytic practice. Psychoanalytic practice unfolds around the interplay as well as the specific nature of the drives, its relation to jouissance, and the role it plays in sublimation.

Suggested readings:

Slips of the Tongue, Parapraxis, Forgetting
Gabriella Ripa di Meana
Friday, May 29, 2009
6:30 PM–8:30 PM
In every act of speech, in sudden blanks and memory lapses, in unawareness and parapraxis, the unconscious emerges and surprises us: an unknown desire and an unknown truth are at stake.

Suggested reading:

The Symptom from Freud to Lacan
Pura Cancina
Friday, June 5, 2009
6:30 PM–8:30 PM
Freed believed that the disappearance of symptoms would mark the end of an analytic cure. Returning to Freud's position on this matter, we will study the development of the concept of symptom and its articulation in Lacan's understanding of the end of an analysis.

Suggested readings: