

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 intervenes in the transference, but the transference cannot be reduced to repetition.

SUGGESTED READINGS: S. Freud: "Remembering, Repeating and Working-Through," 1914; *Beyond the Pleasure Principle*, 1920. J. Lacan: Seminar XI, *The Four Fundamental Concepts of Psychoanalysis*, 1964.

Language in Psychoanalysis: Introduction to the Signifier and the Letter

David Lichtenstein

Friday, October 24, 2008
6:30 PM–8:30 PM

This presentation will introduce Lacan's ideas about the relationship between language and psychoanalysis. We will address both the way that an appreciation of modern linguistics may affect our understanding of psychoanalysis and how psychoanalytic experience informs our appreciation of language.

SUGGESTED READINGS: J. Lacan: "The Function and Field of Speech and Language in Psychoanalysis," 1953; "The Instance of the Letter in the Unconscious, or Reason since Freud," 1957.

Dora's Case and the Subject of Transference

Adriana Passini

Friday, November 14, 2008
6:30 PM–8:30 PM

Transference is the enactment of the sexual reality of the unconscious. With this proposition Lacan explains to us that transference is not the reproduction of something that happened in the past. It is an act, with the structure of a fiction, where the truth of the subject is articulated.

SUGGESTED READINGS: S. Freud: "Fragment of an Analysis of a Case of Hysteria," 1905; "The Dynamics of Transference," 1912. J. Lacan: "Presentation on Transference," 1951; Seminar XI, *The Four Fundamental Concepts of Psychoanalysis*, 1964.

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: S. Freud: "On Narcissism: An Introduction," 1914.

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: J. Lacan: Seminar X, *Anxiety*, Presentations of January 16, June 12, June 19, July 3, 1963. A. Vanier: *Lacan*, 2000.

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 evenly suspended attention on the part of the analyst, Freud sets the very foundation of psychoanalytic practice. Psychoanalytic practice unfolds around a particular way of listening, which reckons with the separation between knowledge and truth proper to the subject of language.

SUGGESTED READINGS: S. Freud, *Papers on Technique*, 1911-1915; *The Question of Lay Analysis*, 1926.

Sometimes a Cigar: On the Concept of the Unconscious

Martin Winn

Friday, April 3, 2009
6:30 PM–8:30 PM

What constitutes the Freudian unconscious as distinct from previous conceptions of the unconscious? How does Lacan clarify and elaborate upon Freud's initial discovery?

SUGGESTED READINGS: S. Freud: "The Unconscious," 1915. J. Lacan: Seminar XI, *The Four Fundamental Concepts of Psychoanalysis*, 1964.

On the Death Drive

Claude Rabant

Friday, April 17, 2009
6:30 PM–8:30 PM

The death drive introduces both a limit and a vacuum in the interplay of the drives. We will study this interplay as well as the specific nature of the death drive, its relation to jouissance, and the role it plays in sublimation.

SUGGESTED READINGS: S. Freud: "Drives and Their Vicissitudes," 1915; *Beyond the Pleasure Principle*, 1920. J. Lacan: Seminar XI, *The Four Fundamental Concepts of Psychoanalysis*, 1964.

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: S. Freud: *The Psychopathology of Everyday Life*, 1906.

The Symptom from Freud to Lacan

Pura Cancina

Friday, June 5, 2009
6:30 PM–8:30 PM

Freud 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: J. Lacan: Seminar XXIII, *Le sinthome*, 1975/76.

MEETING PLACE: All meetings will take place at the School of Visual Arts, 214 East 21st Street, New York City. Please ask at the front desk for the room number.

REGISTRATION: Attendance is free for all members of Après-Coup as well as for the faculty and students of the School of Visual Arts. Attendance for others is \$20 per session; for students with ID, \$10 per session.