LONDON CONFERENCE IN CRITICAL THOUGHT

Birkbeck College
University of London
29th & 30th June, 2012

http://londonconferenceincriticalthought.wordpress.com/
Twitter: @londoncritical/#londoncritical
The London Conference in Critical Thought (LCCT) began as many ideas do – in conversation with friends. In this case it was with new friends made at another conference where we all felt that the most interesting panels and papers always seemed to appear at the margins of the event and the margins of disciplinary boundaries more generally. From this we were inspired to find a means of developing and sustaining the sense of community we found on these margins. Central to this vision was an interdisciplinary, non-hierarchical, and accessible event which made a particular effort to embrace emergent thought and the participation of emergent academics. While the original call for papers was developed by a small group of committed volunteers, the organising collective soon grew with an enthusiastic response from those who proposed thematic streams and panels. In this way, both the organising collective and the subjects discussed at the conference emerged in a very organic process as academics identified with an event oriented toward a broad interpretation of critical thought.

In the spirit of accessibility and the facilitation of an emergent community of academics, we have kept the conference free and decided against the common practice of plenaries and invited speakers. Although the LCCT is not directly affiliated with any specific institution, it would not have been possible in its current form without the generous support of: the Birkbeck Institution for the Humanities, who have provided both financial and administrative support; the Birkbeck School of Law, who have provided financial support as well as the use of School facilities during the organisational process; Edinburgh University Press, who are launching the books of two of our organising collective on Friday evening; and Routledge, who, on the Saturday night will also be launching a book co-edited by one of our stream organisers. But most importantly, the conference has been possible due to the commitment of the organising collective itself – from writing the call for papers, to designing the program and coordinating volunteers. The LCCT is very much a reflection of the efforts and vision of the collective and conference participants.

Next year’s LCCT has been agreed in principle to be hosted by the London Consortium – and we look forward to the conversations and friendships that will continue to develop in 2013.

Victoria Ridler and the LCCT Collective
FRIDAY, JUNE 29TH

9.00 – onwards  REGISTRATION/INFORMATION
(Malet Street 152/153 - this room will be open for registration and information all day.)

9.30 – 11.00 Parallel Sessions 1

**TEXTUAL SPACE/SPATIAL TEXT I**  
**TEXT AND SPACE (MS 416)**

Fire Escape / Washing Line  
*Edwina Attlee*

The Language of Real Estate Boards  
*Peter SafroNov*

Towards a Spatial Ontology of the Maritime Subject of Modernity  
*Jonathan Stafford*

**CRITICAL ART I (MS 417)**

Rancière Against the Cuts! Activism as Aesthetic Force  
*Steve Klee*

Art, Professional Ethics and the Great Book of Accounts  
*Theo Reeves-Evison*

Notes Towards a Secret Service: Critical Art and Employment Contracts  
*Sophie Hope*

**CRITICAL HUMAN RIGHTS I**  
**HUMAN RIGHTS BEYOND MARX (MS G16)**

The Proletariat and the right for ‘the common’  
*Andreja Zevnik*

The Modern Foundations of Critical Human Rights  
*Bob Cannon*

On the Human Rights Question  
*Paul O’Connell*

**COMMON LIFE I**  
**QUESTIONING COMMUNITY: NEW ARTICULATIONS OF A ‘COMMON’ POLITICS (MS 151)**

The idea of the common  
*Leila Dawney*

Community as a ‘body without organs’. Post-sovereign reformulations of democracy  
*Gundula Ludwig*

From commons to commoning  
*Patrick Bresnihan*

**THE QUESTION OF THE ANIMAL I**  
**CONSUMPTION AND THE QUESTION OF THE ANIMAL (MS 538)**

Cannibals and Apes: Revolution in the Republic  
*Dr. Richard Iveson*

Wolf-biters and Over-Groomers: (Self-)Consumption as Ethical Reciprocity  
*Kamillea Aghtan*

Molar Ethics and Aesthetics  
*Karin Sellberg*

**POST-STRUCTURALISM AND THE POLITICAL SUBJECT (MS 151)**

Social Integration Through Recognition: Between Normative Consent and Subjection  
*Kristina Lepold*

Cultivating Sexuate Difference with Luce Irigaray’s Between East and West  
*Laura Roberts*

‘We will destroy all logical revolt!’ Revolutionary Failure and the Event: Rethinking Kathy Acker’s Politics  
*Emilia Borowska*

11.00 – 11.30 Coffee Break  
(Coffee and tea will be provided in the registration/information room, MS 152/153)
11.30 – 13.00 Parallel Sessions 2

**Spatial Text/Textual Space II**
Text and Space (MS 416)

- Baudelaire and the Rhizomatic City
  Octavia Bright

- Rewriting the City, Reading Harry Beck's Tube Map as a Form of Writing
  Andrea Vesentini

**New Foucauldian Approaches (MS 417)**

- Michel Foucault’s theory of sovereignty in modern political society
  Attasit Sittidumrong

- Healthcare as a Common Right: Biopolitics and the privatisation of the NHS
  Graham Matthews

- Who is the subject of human rights practice? Witnessing and its discontents
  Michal Givoni

**Critical Human Rights II**

- Human Rights and the Potential of Law (MS G16)

  - What is radical in 'radical international law'?
    Bill Bowring

  - The World Turned Upside Down? Socioeconomic Rights and Counter-hegemony
    Joe Wills

  - Critical human rights and liberal legality
    Roger Merino Acuña

**Mapping the Concept (MS 541)**

- Formulating Systems of Affect: Developing a methodology for interrogating and responding to the dominant aesthetic
  Tina Richardson

- Capturing The Social Sciences: An Experiment on Political Epistemology
  Martin Savransky

- Facing transpolitics – from image to operational formula
  Dan Öberg

**The Object: Between Time and Temporality I**

- Attention to the Object (MS 538)

  - Happening Art: Anthropological approaches to the art object
    Sam Barton

  - Alarm Clocks, Awakening, and the Outsourcing of Capitalist Time
    Jacob Bard-Rosenberg

  - The Object(s) of Musical Experience: Potentials for Cross-Disciplinary Dialogues
    Sam Wilson

  - Fashion, Consumption, History
    Calvin Hui

**Marx and Marxism Today I**

- Politics (MS 151)

  - Marxism and Democracy Today
    Marco Vanzulli

  - Inter-State Relations: Furthering National Interests
    Ozgur Yalcin

  - From Negative Freedom to Recognition: A Change in the Concept of Reification,
    Jonathan Lewis

13.00 – 14.00 Lunch Break
14.00 – 15.00 Parallel Sessions 3

**THE OBJECT: BETWEEN TIME AND TEMPORALITY II**
Roundtable: “Speculative Realism/ Object-Oriented Philosophy and the Criticality of Critical Thought” (MS 416)

Joseph Noonan-Ganley
Chris Wong
Stanimir Panayotov (via video)

**CRITICAL ART II (MS 541)**

In Europe, Nobody Knows How to Scream Anymore
Paul Pieroni

Noise Repetition – The Political Potential in Contemporary Music
Mads Led Behrend

**THE QUESTION OF THE ANIMAL II**

Animal Life: Beyond Good and Evil (MS 417)

A Marxist Response to ‘The Animal Question’?
Daniel van Strien

Deleuze and an Ethics of Suffering: Toward the Zone of Indiscernibility of Human and Animal
Hyun Soo Kj Oh

A Poetics of the Naughty
Tom Lee

**MARX AND MARXISM TODAY III**

Visualizing Capital (MS 538)

Allegory, Commodity, and Death. Reading Capital with Benjamin
Sami Khatib

On the Visual Dimension of Alienation: The Berlin School (Hirdina, Heise, Trebess)
Leena Petersen

**THINKING Egalitarian EMANCIPATION I (MS G16)**

Participation, Cooperation, and Common Property: Outlines of a Post-capitalist and Communitarian Idea of (Global) Democracy
Stefano Salvia

Egalitarian Emancipation via Structural Non-dominination (or how to recover the structural critique of domination)
Ana Azmanova

**CRITIQUE OF CRITICAL THEORY I (MS 151)**

The Eurocentrism of Critical Theory and Modernity as Crisis
Jose-Manuel Barreto

The blackness of black studies
Dhanveer Singh Brar

15.00 – 15.30 Break
Friday, June 29th — cont.

15.30 – 17.00 Parallel Sessions (4)

**Critical Education and Radical Pedagogy I**
**The Institutionalization of Education (MS 416)**

Evolution of welfare states 1960-1970: Birth of Education Society in Finland and West Germany
Matias Gardin

The Politics and Pedagogy of Debt: The New Poverty of Student Life
Gurnam Singh

The Tyranny of Structured-ness: Is the struggle for education restricted to institutional battlegrounds?
Soo Tian Lee

**Žižek and the Political I**
**Žižek and Violence (MS 417)**

Anonymous Democracy – The Legacy of the French Revolution
Petr Agha

The Mapuche Hunger Strike and The Terrorism Act in Chile: Symptoms of a State and their anti-ethical dimensions
Dasten Julián Vejar

**Deleuzian Theory in Practice I**
**Practices (MS G16)**

Deleuze, Philosophy and the Missing Architecture,
Marko Jobst

What is Deleuze and Guattari’s political theory, if there is any?
Charles Barthold

Who are our nomads today? Deleuze's Political Ontology and the Revolutionary Problematic
Craig Lundy

**Critique of Critical Theory II (MS 541)**

Towards a theoretical foundation of human rights: An analysis from Decolonial thinking
Fernanda Frizzo Bragato

Critique of critique: On critical interventions
Elise Derrotte and Alain Loute

18.00 – 21.00 Book Launch and Reception (Foyer of B01, Core)

**Critical Art III (MS 538)**

Killing Time Without Inuring Eternity
Amelia Groom

Ambiguous Materialities – objects and affects of resistance
Ida Marie Hede Bertelsen

Constructing Surrealism
Oisin Wall

**Radical Political Rhetoric I**
**Theorising Radical Rhetoric (MS 151)**

Discourse or Dialogue? Habermas, the Bakhtin Circle and the Question of Concrete Utterances
John Roberts

The tactical polyvalence of leftism
Mark Kelly

Being Radical: The modernist grounds of radical political rhetoric
Dimitrios E. Akrivoulis

The Politics of Redescription and Democracy: Going beyond Rorty
Giuseppe Ballacci

**Cosmopolitanism and the City (MS 540)**

Reorient[ing] the politics of the state’:
Cosmopolitanism and Multidirectionality in Teju Cole’s Open City
Daniel O’Gorman

Paris, Paramount: Ernst Lubitsch and the Imaginary Open City
Rachel Kapelke-Dale

Cosmopolitanism and the Metropolis
Esra Mirze Santesso

Olympics: Cosmopolitan dialectics of the city and the state
Erdem Ertürk
SATURDAY, JUNE 30TH

10.00 – 11.30 Parallel Session (5);
10.00 – 14.00 Registration/Information (Clore G01)

TRANSDISCIPLINARY APPROACH TO LAW AND CULTURE (MS G15)

Colonial Law and the Destruction of Tradition
Siraj Ahmed

Fanon, Violence and the Post-colonials
Saroj Giri

Oury Jalloh and the Colonial Scene: Law as Reminder
Eddie Bruce-Jones

THE QUESTION OF THE ANIMAL III
ANIMALS IN DOMESTIC AND URBAN SPACE (MS 451)

The Panoramic Animal: Authenticity and Living Exhibitions
Aaron Santesso

Art from the Dead: The Moral and Ethical Transformation of the Animal Pet into Cultural Artifact
Angela Bartram

Animal-Life in the London Zoo: Architecture, Consumption and Display
Lucia Vodanovic

THINKING Egalitarian Emancipation II
Emancipatory practices (Clore 101)

Taking Power or Re-Making Power?: New political cultures and strategies of opposition in the Americas and Beyond
John Foran

The failure of the post-1968 consensus
Kevin Gray

Abstract of Catalyzing Dissent: Irreversible Noise and Computational Immanence
Inigo Wilkens & Andrew Osborne

SOVEREIGNTY AT THE MARGINS I (MS 417)

The Schmittian Deconstruction of Hobbes’ Leviathan
Georgios Kolias

Walter Benjamin’s Monadology and the Fragmentation of Sovereignty: A Response to Carl Schmitt
Paula Schwebel

Hobbes, Foucault and the Shadow of Sovereignty
Osman Nemli

MARX AND MARXISM TODAY II
DIALECTICS (Clore 102)

Max Horkheimer’s Open Marxism Retrieved. A Defence of His Dialectics
Vassillis Grallios

Marx, Hegel and the 'Realisation of Philosophy' in the Work of Guy Debord and the Situationist International
Tom Bunyard

Communism and Consumerism: A New Perspective
Ishay Landa

CRITICAL HUMAN RIGHTS III
THINKING BEYOND THE HUMAN OF RIGHTS (Clore 103)

Liberal Pragmatism, the Marxian Critique of Human Rights and the Political Paradox
Andrew Schaap

Paintballs Against Lynchers – The Israeli media's coverage of the Gaza Freedom Flotilla
Itay Eisinger

A Trojan Horse? The Pirate and the constitution of the in/human at the limits of the international
Roberto Vileche Yamato

DELEUZIAN THEORY IN PRACTICE II
CORPOREALITY (MS 415)

Humoural Assemblages and the Praxis of Corporeal Confluence - Anna Chromik

Deleuze and Alcoholism - Aidan Tynan
Refractions of Crystallinity - Dennis Rothermel

11.30 – 12.00 Coffee Break – Coffee and Tea provided in room G01 Clore
**Saturday, June 30th – Cont.**

**12.00 – 13.30 Parallel Session (6)**

**Critical Education and Radical Pedagogy II**

**Critical Theory and Radical Pedagogy (MS G15)**

Critical Education and the Creation of Situations: From Adorno’s Critique of Halbbildung towards a Situationist Pedagogical Praxis

*David Christopher Stoop*

Understanding Post-Situationist Struggles in Education: A Comparative Analysis of the Production of Bio-Political Utopias and Revolutionary Subjectivities Then and Now

*Kasper Opstrup*

Walter Benjamin and Critical Pedagogy: the Limits of Liberalism and the Refunctioning of Pedagogy

*Matthew Charles*

**Common Life II**

**On the Practical and Embodied; Radical Perspectives on the Production and Experience of Community.**

We bow our heads in deep mourning’: Genocide remembrance amongst global political communities

*Tracey Skillington*

Social Media, Organisational Cybernetics and Non-hierarchical Community Organisation

*Thomas Swann*

On Martin Luther King day...

*Adam Gearey*

**Spatial Text III**

**Spatial Text (text)(Clore 101)**

‘To’ in Contemporary Poetry

*Johanna Hateley*

Textual Entrances and Crossed Thresholds

*Hannah Gregory*

**Critical Human Rights IV**

**Unworking Disembodied Human Rights (Clore 103)**

Right of resistance and human rights intactivism: The mutilated body of female genital cutting

*Elisabetta Bertolino*

Narratives of Blood and the Killjoy Sister: Queering Human Rights’ Politics in Contemporary Argentina

*Cecilia Sosa*

**Marx and Marxism Today IV**

**Abstraction and Value (MS 415)**

Real Abstraction and the Marxism of Alfred Sohn-Rethel

*Simon Choat*

Failed Abstraction – A Critique of Uno Kõzõ’s reading of Marx’s theory of the value form

*Elena Louisa Lange*

**Sovereignty at the Margins II (MS 417)**

On the Unconditional Heteronomy of the Sovereign

*Mauro Senatore*

Securitization through Sovereignty: Anti-Roma Violence in the Nation and Supranation

*Erin McElroy*

Waning Sovereignty’s New Walls: Contested Mexican American Identity Politics in Ethnic Studies in Arizona

*Perveren Ali and Nicolas Blanc*

**Radical Political Rhetoric II**

**Case Studies and Engagements (Clore 102)**

The not reactive rhetoric of emergent social movements

*Alicia Dominguez Garnelo and Rommy Morales Oliwares*

Not Another Twitter Revolution: Social Media and the Radical Politics of Refusal

*Zinaida Feldman*

The role of ethics for radical political discourse

*Anat Matar*

This Silence that Is Not One: Silence as a Tactic in Politics

*Sofia H. Hadjisavvidou*

**13.30 – 14.30 Lunch Break**
SATURDAY JUNE 30TH – CONT.

14.30 – 16.00 Parallel Sessions (7)

**Critical Education and Radical Pedagogy III**
Critical Pedagogy Now (MS G15)

- Paulo Freire’s Educational Progressivism and Its Contemporary Significance
  *Jones Irwin*

- Critical pedagogy, Public Sociology and Student Activism
  *Joyce Canaan*

**Common Life III**
Dreams of the Common; Openings, Possibilities and Concerns (MS 451)

- A communality-to-come: Deconstructive politics and community
  *Daniel Matthews*

- Pirates and politics: A digital commons or Bill Gates’s wet dream?
  *Tara Atluri*

- An uncommon commons: Radicalising the radical imagination as a response to new enclosures
  *Naomi Millner*

- Reclaim the commons: Occupy everything
  *Sophie Ball*

**Spatial Text/Textual Space IV**
Spatial Text (Clore 101)

- Passions and Agonies of Critical Distance; the All too Exemplary Case of Maurice Blanchot
  *Ivan Callus*

- Photography, Violence and Sovereign Indifference in Benjamin, Agamben and Barthes
  *Saul Anton*

- Critical Distance in the Aesthetics and Politics of Simon Critchley
  *James Corby*

**Deleuzian Theory in Practice III**
Incorporeality (MS 415)

- The Theory of Ideas: Kant and Deleuze
  *Daniela Voss*

- Tradition as Repetition: A Deleuzian Perspective on Christian Tradition and Practice
  *Kristien Justaert*

- Deleuze and Guattari: Creative versus Utopian Thinking
  *Lee Watkins*

**The Object: Between Time and Temporality III**
Temporalities as Strategy (Clore 102)

- Preservation, Restoration and the Politics of the English Constitution in the 19th Century.
  *Reuben Bard-Rosenberg*

- Notes for an argument about Deleuze: postcolonial thought, temporality, transdisciplinarity
  *Matt Mahon*

- The Experiential Time of Pre-legality
  *William E Conklin*

**Žižek and the Political II**
Theoretical Interventions (Clore 103)

- The toilet as the Žižekian vase: On the implications of the Lacanian concept of cause to the critique of political economy
  *Gabriel Tupinambá*

- Rethinking the political: A genealogy of the “antagonism” in Carl Schmitt through the lens of Laclau-Mouffe-Žižek
  *Ricardo Camargo*

- Class Struggle and New Forms of Apartheid: What does sexual difference tell us about urban slums?
  *Chris McMillan*

18.00 – 21.00 Book Launch and Reception (Foyer of B01, Clorе)
**FRIDAY 29th JUNE**

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**Edinburgh University Press Book Launch and Reception**  
18.00 – 21.00 foyer of B01 Clore

*History and Becoming*, with author Craig Lundy  
*Žižek and Communist Strategy*, with author Chris McMillan

**SATURDAY 30th JUNE**

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**Routledge Book Launch and Reception**  
18.00 – 21.00 foyer of B01 Clore

*New Critical Legal Thinking*  
with  
Matthew Stone, Illan Wall, and Costas Douzinas (eds.)
The Conference will be taking place in the Birkbeck Main Building (on Torrington Square) and the Clore Management Building. Throughout the programme the Clore management building will be referred to as 'Clore' and the main building as 'Malet Street', or 'MS'.

Registration, information and publishers books stands can be found in 152/153 MS on Friday, and G01 Clore on Saturday.

Online versions of BBK maps can be found here: [http://www.bbk.ac.uk/maps](http://www.bbk.ac.uk/maps)
EDINBURGH University Press

Visit our stand to take advantage of our conference discounts:
50% off hardbacks • 30% off paperbacks

And we look forward to welcoming you to our wine reception on Friday at 6pm in the Foyer outside of B01, Core Management Building to celebrate the launches of
History and Becoming by Craig Lundy and
Žižek and Communist Strategy by Chris McMillan

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