

FRIDAY, APRIL 19th (University College, Western University, London, ON)

12:00pm Registration Begins

Session I: Panel Title: Politics & Marxism

12:30pm -1:30pm Moderator: Joseph Palmeri

UC 2110 Speaker: Dominic Pizzolitto, University of Toronto, "Benjamin's Esoteric Marxism"

2nd Floor Speaker: Mang Su, Temple University, "The Concept of Natural History and the Mediation through the Extremes: On Adorno's Alleged Critique of Benjamin"

12:30pm -1:30pm **Film Phenomenology and the Politics of the Thought-Image**

UC 2105 Moderator: Yijing Li

2nd Floor Speaker: Daniel Mourenza, Universitat de Barcelona, "The Haptic Quality of Film: Walter Benjamin and Film Phenomenology"

Speaker: Xue Jiang, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, "Between Proximity to the Market and Political Influence of a Left-Wing Outsider: Walter Benjamin's Feuilletonistic Literary Writings"

Break: Sandwiches / Coffee

Session II: Allegory, Aura, Image-Sound

2:00pm-3:00pm Moderator: Gigi Wong

UC 2110 Speaker: Hong Liu, Centre for Comparative Literature at University of Toronto, "Image and Sound: Revisiting Walter Benjamin's Theory of Allegory in the *Trauerspielbuch*"

2nd Floor Speaker: Yijing Li, Western University, "Re-define Chinese Aesthetic Terminology 'yi' through the Lens of Walter Benjamin's Theory"

UC 2105 **Understanding Time and History**

2nd Floor Moderator: Kashifa Arif

Speaker: Jürgen Lipps, University of California, Los Angeles, "The End of All Things (And the Beginning of Nothing!)"

Speaker: Tyla Stevenson, Massey University, "Walter Benjamin for Fashion Studies: Understanding Time through Fashion"

Break

Opening Keynote: Peter Fennes "Walter Benjamin's Second Program for the Coming Philosophy"

3:30pm-5:00pm Introduced and Moderated by

Conron Hall Joshua Schuster, Centre for the Study of Theory & Criticism at Western University

3rd Floor

CSTC RECEPTION UC 3100 (Next to Conron Hall)

5pm-6:00pm Drink Tickets included in Registration Folder

Hosted by the Centre for the Study of Theory & Criticism

Generously Funded in Part by the Academic Joint Fund

SATURDAY, APRIL 20th (University College, Western University, London, ON)

8:30am Registration Begins

Session I: Benjamin and Psychoanalysis

9:00am-10:00am Moderator: Tanner Layton

UC 2110 Speaker: Ali Ghasemibarghi, Centre for the Study of Theory & Criticism at Western University, "Walter Benjamin's 'The Destructive Character' Revisited: From Theology to Ethics through a Lacanian Interlude"

2nd Floor Speaker: Veronika Nayir, York University, "The Burden of the Critic and the Task of Resuscitating Carthage"

UC 2105 **Law, Violence, Power**

2nd Floor Moderator: Jason Stocker

Speaker: Bogdan Ovcharuk, York University, "Baroque Sovereignty in Walter Benjamin's 'Natural History' of Fascism"

Speaker: Natasha Hay, Toronto Metropolitan University, "The Sexual Politics of Sovereign Power"

Break: Coffee / Pastries

Second Keynote:
10:15am-12pm
Conron Hall
3rd Floor

Rebecca Comay, “Petrified Unrest / Restless Petrifact” (Virtual)
Introduced and Moderated by
John Vanderheide, Centre for the Study of Theory & Criticism at Western University

Lunch: Sandwiches / Assorted Vegetable / Coffee

Session II:
1:00pm-2:00pm
UC 2110
2nd Floor

Autoethnography and the Politicization of Aesthetics

Moderator: Nicholas Birmingham
Speaker: Sarah Burgoyne, Concordia University, “‘History is Time in Drag’: Benjamin and the Québécois in Montreal’s Arcades”
Speaker: Jason Stocker, Centre for the Study of Theory & Criticism at Western University, “Ecological Allegory and the Politicization of Aesthetics”

UC 2105
2nd Floor

Art and the Spectacle in Contemporary Consumer Society

Moderator: Mara Gonzalez
Speaker: Ulysse (Maxim) Sizov, Memorial University of Newfoundland, “Reimagining New Potentialities for Art and Revolution in Consumer Society”
Speaker: Fernando Garcia, Centre for the Study of Theory & Criticism at Western University, “The Body-Brand: A New Phantasmagoria?”

Break: Coffee

Session III:
2:15pm-3:15pm
UC 2110
2nd Floor

Intersections between Benjamin & Fanon

Moderator: Evan Adamou
Speaker: Jeremy Arnott, Concordia University, “Violence and Metaphysics: Benjamin and Fanon”
Speaker: Jiantao Liang, Concordia University, “Redeeming History with Fanon and Benjamin: Theorizing the Decolonization of Time and Possibilities in between the History of Refusal and Messianic Time”

UC 2105
2nd Floor

Applications of ‘Montage’

Moderator: Samir Khondoker
Speaker: Deepro Roy, Centre for the Study of Theory & Criticism at Western University, “The Post-Colonial Montage against the National Allegory: Benjamin, Brecht, and Epic Theater in India”
Speaker: Cory McConnell, York University, “Trauma: Shock-Experience in Hip-Hop”

Break

Session IV:
3:30pm-5:00pm
Conron Hall
3rd Floor

Political Cosmogony, Theology, and Eschatology

Moderator: Lennon Needham
Speaker: Brendan Brown, CSTC at Western University, “Towards a Constellation of an Origin/al Cosmogony”
Speaker: Joseph Palmeri, CSTC at Western University, “Benjamin, Theology, and Messianic Joy: Theorizing Benjamin’s Theology as a Politics of Revolutionary Joy”
Speaker: Lingyu Jing, McMaster University, “From the End of History to the History of the End: Walter Benjamin’s Innovation of Political Eschatology”

UC 2105
2nd Floor

Revolutionary Forms

Moderator: Deepro Roy
Speaker: André Babyn, McGill University, “Revolutionary Form: Benjamin, Fourier, and the Necessity of the Cosmic Imagination”
Speaker: Olivier Dorais, Université de Montréal, “Profane Illumination and the Task of Revolutionary Intellectuals: The Use of a Notion from Walter Benjamin to Friedrich Kittler”

5:00pm
Conron Hall
3rd Floor

Closing Remarks