



*The Freudian School
of Melbourne*

School of Lacanian Psychoanalysis



CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2018

CONFERENCE
HOMAGE TO LACAN 2018

WHY SPEAK?

Saturday September 1st,
Treacy Centre, 126 The Avenue, Parkville 3052
9.00am- 4.00 pm

“Whether it wishes to be an agent of healing, training, or sounding the depths, psychoanalysis has but one medium: the patient’s speech. The obviousness of this fact is no excuse for ignoring it.” (Jacques Lacan)

“Now, if these things are true, as you know they are, surely you see how much less words are to be valued than that on account of which we use words.” (St Augustine)

Psychoanalysis finds its hesitant beginnings in the therapeutic field as a “talking cure” in which the fundamental rule was to speak as freely as possible, without constraint or censorship. This gave clear precedence to the act of speech and that which arises from speaking. This year the School returns to the not self-evident question of what constitutes the function, field and limitations of speech and language in psychoanalysis whereby talking begins to exceed the parameters of the “cure” as such.

The focus of the School’s work in 2018 will be Lacan’s written work *The Function and Field of Speech and Language in Psychoanalysis*, delivered as 2 papers at the Rome Congress of 1953. This early and complex text, part critique, part diatribe, part poetry, remains inexhaustible in its richness; brimming with a kind of excess which is characteristic of Lacan’s style and the critique it constituted of the moribundly conservative tendencies in the psychoanalytic field. We find there Lacan taking up a critique which is evident through to the end of his teaching, endeavouring to restore to the experience of psychoanalysis the creative possibilities resident in the act of speaking.

Whilst perhaps mistakenly situated as a “talking cure”, the experience of psychoanalysis which the Lacanian critique directs us to is of a function of speech which engages the analysand in a richness of the language which inhabits them, pushing it to its limits and encountering there its creative possibilities.

The members of the School will present the fruit of their engagement with this subject of speech and language which remains enigmatically central to the psychoanalytic experience.

SEMINAR The Foundations of Psychoanalysis

This course provides participants with a rigorous working of the fundamental concepts underpinning Freudian and Lacanian theory and clinical practice. It forms an important component of the theoretical aspect of the training of analysts and the ongoing work of the analysts of the school.

The Seminar is also open to students, scholars and colleagues in related clinical fields, in recognition of the importance to psychoanalysis of its extension beyond the clinic.

The Seminar takes place at Amrep Education Centre, Alfred Hospital, Wednesdays from 8.00 to 9.30pm. For further information contact Peta Welsh, Convenor of Seminars, (03) 9636 0079.

SEMINARS

“PSYCHOANALYSIS, PHILOSOPHY & THEOLOGY.”

Convenor: David Pereira, (03) 9690 3515

An appraisal of certain fundamental concepts in psychoanalysis and the way in which they are informed by and inform recurring questions in philosophy and theology across the realms of metaphysics, ontology, logic and ethics.

First Saturday of the month 3.30pm-5.00pm.

“THE CHILD, THE ADULT, AND THE SUBJECT OF PSYCHOANALYSIS.”

First Tuesday of each month 8-9.30pm, from Tuesday 1st March 2018.

Convenor: Michael Gerard Plastow.

Tel: 9347 1486

Email: plastow@internode.on.net

This seminar endeavours to grapple with the developmental beings of the child and the adult, in order to disentangle from them the psychoanalytic subject. In 2018 we will continue our examination of the theme of narcissism through the Memoirs of Daniel Paul Schreber, and Freud's account of that case.

This seminar welcomes those of any stage of interest in psychoanalysis, or formation. Participants will have the opportunity to speak of their own clinical practice and associated working of texts in the theorising of their work.

“THE FATHER IN PSYCHOANALYSIS.”

First Saturday of the month 9.00am-10.30am, July to December.

Convenor: Megan Williams, 0417 728 738; megan@mwilliams.com.au.

This seminar The Father in Psychoanalysis will continue in 2018 with a study of the father and the paternal function as considered in Seminar XXIII, Joyce the Symptom. It will meet from July to December, on the first Saturday of each month, from 9.15-10.45,. It is open to participants with an interest in psychoanalysis.

“MY BARBARIC YAWP: FABRICATING PSYCHOANALYSIS .”

Second Tuesday of the month 7.30pm – 9.00pm, commencing March 13, 2018

Convenor: Peter Gunn, (03) 9347 1707

This seminar seeks to engage with the force of psychoanalysis, but it does so from the margins. The work of an analysis can be considered to be a fabrication, with all that that word carries of the work of the unconscious: a production of lying truth which is encountered in the materiality of the letter.

On that basis, the domain of the clinical is here extended to practices which also make an approach to this borderland of the real, in literature, but also in painting, dance and music. The Seminar is structured around presentations by those participating.

READING SEMINARS

These Seminars involve a close reading of foundational texts of Freud and Lacan with discussion of related clinical and theoretical topics.

Freud's writings on art

Last Saturday of the month 11.00am-1.00pm.

Lacan's *Seminar XI The four fundamental concepts of psychoanalysis*

Last Saturday of the month 3.00pm-5.00pm

Convenor: Linda Clifton, (03) 9509 9396..

Freud's *Later Works*

Third Saturday of the month 11.00-1.00pm

Convenor: Sarah Jones Ferguson, 8899 7753.

Freud's social papers:

commencing with *Thoughts for the times on war and death*

Third Saturday of the month 11.00-1.00pm

Convenor: Alicia Evans, 9378 8693

“Fluctuat nec mergitur”
‘It is tossed by the waves, but does not sink’

The Freudian School of Melbourne was founded as a School of Lacanian Psychoanalysis in 1977. The School takes its direction from the writings of Sigmund Freud and Jacques Lacan. Its task is the investigation and transmission of psychoanalysis and the formation of Lacanian psychoanalysts.

The School holds an important place in the history of psychoanalysis in Australia in having been the first to have formed Lacanian psychoanalysts in this country; through its work, opening a possibility which had previously not existed. Further, the School has opened the study of psychoanalytic theory and clinical practice to those scholars and clinicians interested in working with, developing and questioning the conceptual and clinical dimensions of Lacanian psychoanalytic theory and practice.

The School holds as fundamental the fact of speaking and writing psychoanalysis in Melbourne, Australia, with its particularity of culture, place and time, while not eschewing its important place in the international psychoanalytic community and its recognition within the Psychoanalytic Movement of Lacanian Schools within the world.

In addition to the practice of clinical psychoanalysis, sustained by psychoanalysts within the School, and a programme of internal meetings, seminars, cartels, study groups and clinical discussion groups, the School offers the following programme of activities. This programme is addressed to students, colleagues in related clinical fields, and psychoanalysts who wish to take up the particularity of their interest in relation to psychoanalysis; from those with a specific theoretical or clinical interest to those who seek a serious and rigorous formation as Lacanian psychoanalysts.



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of Melbourne***

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