

SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES, CULTURES AND LINGUISTICS

LCL RESEARCH SEMINAR

Second Semester 2009

Building 11 E363

4 pm – 6 pm

The LCL Research Seminar is being launched in Semester Two 2009 with the following program. It is open to all researchers – postgraduates and staff. All topics which can lead to interdisciplinary dialogue are welcome. The series will continue in first semester 2010. Please send expressions of interest with suggested topic and short bio to the LCL Research Seminar
Coordinator: Millicent.Vladivglover@arts.monash.edu.au

TOPICS

Thursday 20 August

JAMES GARRETT

Heidegger's *Basic Concepts of Aristotelian Philosophy*

Abstract: While the publication of Heidegger 1924-25 semester *Plato's Sophist* revealed just how much the structure of *Being and Time* rested on Aristotelian foundations, the true extent of the early Heidegger's engagement with Aristotle is now accessible with the recent translation of the 1924 course. My paper will examine some of the key concepts that emerge from this course with special attention given to Heidegger's attempt to clarify the importance of being-in-the-world for Aristotle.

(James Garrett is a PhD candidate at the University of Melbourne's School of Philosophy and a member of the MSCP – Melbourne School of Continental Philosophy).

Thursday 27 August

MILLICENT VLADIV-GLOVER

The Realist Poetics of the 19th Century Novel

Abstract: This paper deals with the manifestos of Realism published in France and Russia in the 1840s, together with Charles Baudelaire's 1863 essay "Constantin Guys: The Painter of Modern Life." The aim is to map the self-understanding of the 19th century French and Russian writers about the mission of art and the artist in modernity.

(Millicent Vladiv-Glover is Associate Professor of Comparative Literature and Slavic Studies in ECPS and LCL at Monash University. To date she has published five monographs and over fifty refereed journal articles. Her research interests include the application of psychoanalytic theory and phenomenology to the reading of literature, cinema and popular culture).

Thursday 3rd September

ELLIE BROWN

The Homeric Homicide: Tracing the 'Pre-History' of Homicide Customs

Abstract: This paper will be an attempt to link the 'pre-history' of homicide customs with later codified homicide laws, particularly those of Archaic and Classical Athens, and the religious customs which accompanied these laws. Archaeological evidence from the Late Bronze Age (1600-1150BCE), the era in which the Trojan War traditionally took place, and from the Late Dark Ages (900-750BCE) into the early part of the Archaic Period (750-490BCE), when the *Iliad* and *Odyssey* were composed, will be considered to see if light can be shed on the development of later homicide civic and religious laws.

(Ellie Brown is a first year PhD candidate in Classical Studies in LCL, Monash University. Her research is focused on the connection between homicide laws and religious customs surrounding homicide in Classical Greece. Ellie was recently awarded the 2008 Alexander Leeper Prize by the Classical Association of Victoria for most outstanding Honours project in Classical Studies in 2008).

Thursday 10 September

ZDRAVKA GUGLETA

The Meaning Of Metaphor

Abstract: This paper will examine two interrelated subjects - the meaning or nature of metaphor and the metaphoric meaning as such, or *poetic* meaning. The first part of the presentation will be dedicated to the theoretical reworking of the notion of metaphor as an inherent characteristic of (poetic) language. Diverse models of the metaphoric sign, from Aristotle's poetics to Jakobson's poetic function, will be discussed. The second part of the presentation will involve a concrete analysis of a selection of early "object poems" by Vasko Popa, which will elucidate the underlying theoretical issues.

(Zdravka Gugleta is in her first year of a PhD candidature in Slavic Studies, writing on the topic of "The Phenomenality of the Object in the Poetry of Vasko Popa and Charles Simic." Her paper on "The Atemporal Space of the Poem: A Phenomenological Interpretation of Charles Simic's Poetry" has been accepted for the ECPS Time, Transcendence, Performance Conference," 1-3 October 2009, Monash University at Caulfield).

Thursday 24 September

MELANIE BURNS

The Discursive Construction of Sexual Health: Implications for Sexual Education and Sexual Health Campaigns

Abstracts: This presentation will explore the linguistic and textual ways in which sexual health is defined and made sense of in dominant media genres and how these compare to formal sexual education and sexual health campaigns. The discursive construction of sexual health involves elements of identity, agency, and risk, which vary according to audiences. The discourses employed in formal and informal arenas often conflict, leading to a potential lack of efficacy in official 'safe sex' programs.

(Melanie Burns is a PhD candidate within the Linguistics Program, School of Languages, Cultures and Linguistics, Monash University. Her research explores the discursive construction of sexuality within the media and the ways in which linguistic forms contribute to the understanding of sexual behaviours and sexual identities).

Thursday 8 October

ALEXANDER LUGG

Chinese Online Fiction: Reading Trends in an Alternate Medium

Abstract: Online fiction has become a large part of the online experience for the average Chinese Web user. Publishers of online fiction have grown from small collections of amateurs to large scale commercial operations with the resources to not only pay popular contributors but also offer other advantages such as health benefits. Focusing on the popular fantasy novel *Candle in the Tomb*, this paper will explore the reasons for the popularity of online Chinese fiction and the tension between creativity and commerce as the driving forces. The paper will also examine the impacts of this fiction on Chinese popular culture online and off.

(Alexander Lugg is a PhD candidate in the Chinese Program in the School of Languages, Cultures and Linguistics, Monash University. His thesis topic centres on creativity and culture on the Chinese Internet, focusing on the Internet as a form of surveillance and inverse surveillance, forms of creative expression online, forms of online community, and *cyberlebrity*).