

Immanent Expressions: Conversations at the Crossroads of Philosophy, Literature, and Politics

An international symposium organized jointly by the department of Social and Political Theory at Vytautas Magnus University and the department of English at Butler University, Indiana, U.S.A.

May 16, 2014, Vytautas Magnus University
Adamkus Library-Museum, Daukanto g. 25, 3rd floor

The theory of immanence—informed primarily by Spinoza—has influenced many recent investigations into politics, ontology, theology, and philosophy (see especially Warren Montag and Ted Stolze's *The New Spinoza* and Dimitris Vardoulakis's *Spinoza Now*). This conference seeks to expand on these discussions while also addressing the relationship between immanence and literature, which has received far less attention. Central to the philosophy of immanence is a theory of interpretation which challenges traditional conceptions of expression and representation by demanding a systematic consideration of singular essences which, in turn, are linked through immanent causality. This symposium gathers scholars to explore the interpretive encounters which emerge when diverse questions concerning politics, literature, and philosophy are explored through the lens of immanence. Given that immanence is a concept that operates in widely differing contexts, this conference does not seek to define it as a concept so much as harnesses its manifold possibilities for further creative and critical thinking.

Conference Organizers: J.D. Mininger and Brynnar Swenson

The language of the conference is English.

Schedule

10:00 Kasparas Pocius "Spinoza and New Social Movements: the Birth of Affect"

10:30 Arnoldas Stramskas, "Anonymous Authorship and the Regime of Compulsory Visibility: Reading Roberto Bolaño's 2666."

11:00 COFFEE BREAK

11:30 J.D. Mininger "The Anxiety of Immanence: Kafka and the Persistence of Desire"

12:00 Brynnar Swenson "Henry James's Transatlantic America: Immanence and the Corporate Form"

LUNCH

14:00 Audrone Žukauskaitė, "Gilles Deleuze's Ethics of Immanence: Life, Intensity, Multiplicity"

14:30 Jurga Jonutytė, "The Disabled Body and the Concept of a Dark Precursor: Attempts to Grasp an Interface"

15:00 COFFEE BREAK

15:30 Gintautas Mažeikis, "The Continuation of 'Humanism Studies': the Role of Spiritual Villainy in Contemporary Self-Othering Processes"

16:00 Ruta Bagdanavičiūtė, "The Hermeneutical Relation with the Other: between Immanence and Transcendence"

18:00 RECEPTION