

# *43rd Annual Meeting of the International Merleau-Ponty Circle*

## The Normal and the Abnormal

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 8<sup>th</sup>

*All Thursday sessions are in the Raccoon Mountain Room in the University Center at the University of Tennessee of Chattanooga. The University Center is located at 642 E 5th St, Chattanooga, TN 37403.*

8:30 -9:00 Continental Breakfast and Registration: Raccoon Mountain Room  
9:00-9:15 Opening Remarks: Talia Welsh, Conference Director

### **Session 1: Fundamental Concepts in Merleau-Ponty's Conceptions of Normality and Abnormality**

Moderator: Susan Bredlau, Emory University

9:15-10:00 Neal DeRoo, King's University Alberta: "Merleau-Ponty and Ab/Normal Phenomenology: The Husserlian Roots of Merleau-Ponty's Account of Expression"  
10:00-10:45 Jan Puc, Czech Academy of Science: "Neither Bad Habit nor Bad Faith. The Ambiguity of the Unconscious in early Merleau-Ponty"  
10:45-11:00 Break

### **Session 2: Challenges to Classical Theories of Perception**

Moderator: Catherine Fullarton, Emory University

11:00-11:45 Peter Antich, University of Kentucky: "Hallucination and Perceptual Faith"  
11:45- 12:30 Adam Blair, Stony Brook University: "Ground Without Figure: A Phenomenology of Peripheral Sightedness"  
12:30-2:00 LUNCH BREAK

### **Session 3: Memory and Reversibility**

Moderator: Gayle Salamon, Princeton University

2:00-2:45 Chiara Palermo, Université de Strasbourg: "Reflecting memory. Trauma and history in Kader Attia's work."  
2:45-3:30 Lin Ma, Renmin University: "On the Topology of Chiasma, Chiasme, and Reversibility: Merleau-Ponty's Later Ontology"

3:30-3:45 Coffee break

**Session 4: Decolonization and World-Making**

Moderator: Glen Mazis, Penn State Harrisburg

3:45-4:30 Gail Weiss, George Washington University: "Living Between-Worlds: Decolonizing and De-Pathologizing Multiple Worlds of Sense"

4:30-5:15 Alia Al-Saji, McGill University: "Decolonizing Phenomenology: Merleau-Ponty, 'Primitive' Peoples, and Prepersonal Life"

**KEYNOTE: Raccoon Mountain Room**

Introduction: Talia Welsh, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

5:30-7:00 Jenny Slatman, Tilburg University  
*"What is Abnormal Embodiment?"*

7:30-10:00 *Performance by Rachel McCann & Carnal Echo* and Reception  
Bessie Smith Hall-Vilma Fields Atrium, 200 E. Martin Luther King Blvd.

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9th**

*All Friday sessions, apart from the keynote, will all be in the Signal Mountain Room in the University Center at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. The University Center is located at 642 E 5th St, Chattanooga, TN 37403.*

8:30 -9:00 Continental Breakfast and Registration: Signal Mountain Room

**Session 5: Spectrum of Autism**

Moderator: Nancy Barta-Smith, Slippery Rock University

9:00-9:45 Jennifer Bradley, Duquesne University: "Figures with No Ground: an exploration of the (dis)orienting Perceptual Experiences in Autism through the lens of Merleau-Ponty"

9:45-10:30 Jennifer Wang, Villanova University: "(Ab)normality as Spectrum: Merleau-Ponty, Post-Kleinians, and Lacan on Childhood Autism"

10:30-10:45 Break

**Session 6: Transgender & Sociotechnical Systems**

Moderator: Shiloh Whitney, Fordham University

10:45-11:30 Claus Halberg, University of Bergen: "Transgendering the Merleau-Pontian Body: Not Necessarily an Easy Task."

11:30-12:15 Matthew Rukgaber, Eastern Connecticut State University: "A Phenomenological, Sociotechnical Systems Approach to Shame and Disability"

12:15-1:45 Lunch Break

### **Session 7: Extending the Body**

Moderator: Austin Kippes, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

1:45-2:30 Randall Johnson, Psychiatry-Private Practice: "Dark Pedagogies: Unlearning Whiteness as Transparency"

2:30-3:15 James Rakoczi, King's College London: "Moving Without Movement"

3:15-3:30 Coffee Break

### **Session 8: Pathologies Mental and Physical**

Moderator: Whitney Ronshagen, Emory University

3:30-4:15 Gabrielle Jackson, Stony Brook University: "What Does the Pathological Reveal About the Normal? Merleau-Ponty and Neuropsychology"

4:15-5:00 Joel Michael Reynolds, University of Massachusetts Lowell: "Health and Other Reveries"

5:00-5:15 Break

### **KEYNOTE: Grote 129 (Across from the University Center)**

Introduction: Jim Morley, Ramapo College

5:15-6:45 Lawrence Hass, Dean of the McBride Magic & Mystery School, Las Vegas/Retired Austin College  
***"What Is Magic? The Philosophy and Psychology of a Neglected Art Form"***

### **SATURDAY NOVEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>**

*All Saturday sessions will be in the Signal Mountain Room in the University Center at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. The University Center is located at 642 E 5th St, Chattanooga, TN 37403.*

8:30 -9:00 Continental Breakfast and Registration: Signal Mountain Room, University

### **Session 9: Dispossession and Abnormality**

Moderator: Hanna Lipkind, Vanderbilt University

9:00-9:45 Whitney Howell, La Salle University: "The Insight of Dispossession: Merleau-Ponty on the Spatial Level"

9:45-10:30 Hannah Venable, University of Dallas: "The Need for Merleau-Ponty in Foucault's Account of the Abnormal"

10:30-10:45 Break

**Session 10: Height and Institution**

Moderator: Tim Isley, Psychiatry Private Practice

10:45-11:30 Jan Halak, Palacky University: "Living Body as an Institution: Merleau-Ponty on Experiential Norms"

11:30 -12:15 Maria Cristina Murano, Linköping University/Children's Mercy Kansas City: "A Socio-Phenomenological Understanding of Short Stature"

12:15-2:15 Business Lunch: Chattanooga Room C, University Center

**Session 11: Disability, Trauma, and Race**

Moderator: Lucy Vollbrecht, Vanderbilt University

2:15-3:00 Christine Wieseler, University of Louisville: "The Desexualization of Disabled People as Existential Harm and the Importance of Temporal Ambiguity"

3:00-3:45 Noel Kirsch, School of the Art Institute of Chicago: "Plasticity of Perception: Towards a phenomenology of PTSD"

3:45-4:00 Coffee Break

**Session 12: WINNER OF THE 2018 Martin Dillon Award**

Introduction: David Morris, Concordia University

4:00-4:45 Rawb Leon-Carlyle, Penn State: "Wild Red: Synesthesia, Deuteranomaly, and Euclidean Color Space"

6:00-10:00 **Banquet** Bessie Smith Hall-Vilma Fields Atrium, 200 E. Martin Luther King Blvd.

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