

Desire,
Unreason,
& Truth
in Affect

Common Room & Board Room,
Heyman Center for the Humanities,
Columbia University



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Wed, 02/04/26

2:00-2:15 Welcome and Introduction
(Patricia A. Dailey, Caroline Sauter)

Session I (Chair: Caroline Sauter)

2:15-3:00 Willem Styfhals, KU Leuven: *The Politics of Eros: Susan Sontag's Columbia Seminar*

3:00-3:45 Yael Attia, University of Potsdam:
Scenes of Mutilation: on Jewish and Black Masculinities in Hélène Cixous and Saidiya Hartman

Session II (Chair: Patricia A. Dailey)

4:00-4:45 Gil Anidjar, Columbia University:
Love Your Enemies? The Affective Turn
(The Prequel)

4:45-5:30 Emily Apter, New York University: *Shivers: A meditation on R.D. Laing's "Life is a sexually transmitted disease and the mortality rate is one hundred percent."*

6:30 Dinner

Thurs, 02/05/26

9:00 Morning coffee

Session III (Chair: Orr Scharf)

9:15-10:00 Michael Levine, Rutgers University:
Apprehension: The Fabulous Textuality of Nuclear Conflict

10:00-10:45 Gilad Shenhav, LMU Munich: *The Desire for Heresy and Its Potent Failure: Reflections on the Negation of Exile*

Session IV (Chair: Yael Attia)

11:00-11:45 Agata Bielik-Robson, University of Nottingham: *The Singular Enigma: Seduction, Sexuality, and Love in Jean Laplanche*

11:45-12:30 Marcus Coelen, "Remembering, Repeating, Working Through"—*And Being Haunted? Spectral Affects in the Psychoanalytic Clinic*

12:30-2:00 Lunch (Le Monde)

Session V (Chair: Lauren Mancia, CUNY)

2:00-2:45 Adam Lipszyc, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw: *The Tangent of Desire: Affect, Truth and Narrative in One Story by Clemens J. Setz*

2:45-3:30 Amir Engel, HU Berlin/Hebrew University, Jerusalem: *Literature as Magic: The Strange Case of Bebequin and his Miracle Makers*

Session VI (Chair: Willem Styfhals)

4:00-4:45 Caroline Sauter, GU Frankfurt/New York University: *Unfaithful Fidelity. Desire and Truth in Franz Rosenzweig and Barbara Cassin*

4:45-5:30 Ilit Ferber, Tel Aviv University: *On Being Tired of Oneself: Jean Améry and the Aging Body*

6:30 Dinner at 455 Central Park West, 15A

Fri, 02/06/26

9:15 Morning coffee

Session VII (Chair: Gilad Shenhav)

9:30-10:15 Patricia A. Dailey, Columbia University: *Reading Affect/Ethics with J. Hillis Miller*

10:15-11:00 Elias Dakwar, New York: *All Chemical? Drug effects, affects, and intimacies*

Session VIII (Chair: Amir Engel)

11:15-12:00 Millie Forman, Columbia University: *Fantasies of photosynthesis; desiring light in Simone Weil's Cahiers*

12:00-12:45 Orr Scharf, University of Haifa: *Desire and Subversion in the Early Hannah Arendt*

12:45-1:00 Closing remarks

Co-sponsored by

THE UNIVERSITY SEMINAR
on AFFECT STUDIES



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