

REPORTS ON CONFERENCES & COLLOQUIA ANNOUNCEMENT OF CURRENT AND FUTURE EVENTS

The Lacan Symposium in Australia was held from July 13th to July 24th, 1991, at Melbourne University College, Parkeville, and Lorne, a southern coastal town. Activities included a Conference on July 13-14 on "Psychoanalysis Since Lacan: Who Analyses Today?", Workshop I on "The direction of the treatment and the principles of its power", Workshop II on Television. More than 75 hours were spent by participants from Australia and the USA in lecture and discussion groups with analysts and academics, including Marie-Hélène Brousse, Joan Copjec, Bruce Fink, Anne Dunand, Russell Grigg, Pierre-Gilles Guéguen, Jean-Pierre Klotz, Carmela Levy, Vicente Palomera, Ellie Ragland-Sullivan, Leonardo Rodriguez, Sylvia Rodriguez, Henry Sullivan and other members from the Centre for Psychoanalytic Research at Melbourne. For further information regarding the next summer Lacan Symposium and details concerning publication of proceedings from summer 1991, please contact Dr. Russell Grigg, Faculty of the Humanities, Deakin University, Geelong, Victoria, 3217, Australia. Tel: (61) (52) 471 335; Fax: (61) (52) 472 018.

The *Rencontre Jacques Lacan* was held in Paris on September 7th & 8th, 1991, ten years after his death on September 9, 1981. The Foundation of the Freudian Field which Lacan created in 1979, and over which he presided, organized a *Rencontre* at the Palais des Congrès in Paris. An exposition of manuscripts and photographs was held at the Galerie des Saints-Pères. Many of the items shown there are featured in the *Album Jacques Lacan* (Seuil 1991) in which

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Judith Miller brings together photographs and texts of personal and historical dimensions of her father's life. Approximately 1,200 participants, 400 of whom were students, came from many countries to pay homage to the person and teaching of Jacques Lacan. The international character of the *Rencontre* reflects the worldwide phenomenon of interest in Lacan's teaching and the growth of psychoanalytic practice in diverse areas of the globe. Special journal issues (including *L'Ane*, Dec. 1991, No. 48) were also dedicated to the occasion whose most poignant moment came when the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, Monsieur Roland Dumas, unveiled the plaque on 5, rue de Lille, the address at which Lacan practiced analysis for some forty years. His commemorative address takes the place of the editorial in this issue of *NFF*.

The Second European *Rencontre* of the Freudian Field, also the IX Days of the Freudian Field in Spain, took place in Barcelona on March 14th and 15th, 1992. The theme of the *Rencontre* was "The Impossible to Bear--in everyday life and in psychoanalytic experience". Participants came from European and other countries to consider the implications of the theme--"the impossible to bear"--chosen by Jacques-Alain Miller from a phrase of Lacan's: "The psychoanalytic clinic is

the real insofar as it is the impossible to bear". Conference speakers worked with the implications of Lacan's sentence: The subject himself is only an effect of defense erected against the heterogeneous *jouissance* of the symbolic order. The return of *la Chose* in the symptom shows the diverse connotations which the unbearable acquires in everyday life, also expressing itself in affects such as aversion, repulsion, disgust and horror, to name a few. The ethics of psychoanalysis was foregrounded at this conference where analysts from several countries considered the destiny of the real in experience, and what becomes of the position of the subject. In a final session, Jacques-Alain Miller announced the theme for the Third European *Rencontre*: the clinic of the feminine.

In her *Album Jacques Lacan* (Seuil 1991), Judith Miller wrote that her father was attached to Barcelona, as well as to Catalunya (pp. 92-93). In 1958 Lacan spent time in Barcelona where he gave an address at the IVème International Congress on the Psychosomatic and Psychotherapy. That address remained unedited and unpublished until it was recently translated into Spanish and French

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and published in number 4/5 *Freudiana*, the EEP journal of Catalunya.

On October 30th to November 2nd, 1991, The Newsletter of the Freudian Field sponsored A Lacan Symposium on Psychoanalytic Theory and Clinical Practice in HISTORY AND HYSTERIA. Over one hundred students and analytic practitioners attended this Symposium at The University of Missouri in Columbia. The Freudian Field was represented from Paris in Seminars conducted by the two keynote speakers, psychoanalysts Colette Soler and Jean-Pierre Klotz. Soler discussed hysteria in reference to the text of the "witty butcher's wife" from "The direction of the treatment and the principles of its power" ([1958], published in *Ecrits*, 1966; in English in Sheridan's *Ecrits: A Selection*). Klotz referred to the Dora case as treated by Lacan in "Intervention on Transference" ([1958], published in *Ecrits*, 1966; in English in *Feminine Sexuality*, ed. Mitchell & Rose). Main speakers included analyst Gerardo Réquíz from Caracas, Venezuela, Teresa Brennan from the University of Amsterdam and Cambridge, analyst Robert Samuels from New York City, Elizabeth Wright from Cambridge University, Juliet FlowerMacCannell from the University of California-Irvine, analyst Bruce Fink from San Diego, analyst André Patsalides from San Francisco and the University of Brussels, Mark Bracher from Kent State University and Charles Shepherdson from the University of Missouri-Columbia. Sixty-five sessions and short addresses were given in simultaneous panels that covered areas such as literature, philosophy, law and psychoanalytic theory. Some of the keynote addresses from "History and Hysteria" will be published in a future issue of *NFF*. For further information, contact Ellie Ragland-Sullivan, Dept. of English, University of Missouri-Columbia, 107 Tate Hall, Columbia, Missouri 65211. Tel: (314) 882-6066; Fax: 314 882-5785.

On April 4th and 5th, 1992, the Ecole de la cause freudienne of Belgium sponsored a *rencontre* on "l'hystérique et 'L'envers de la psychanalyse'". The hysteric has always been the bearer of a

message in sufferance. She takes this enigma to a master, particularly to the medical doctor. History has responded by calling her a

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witch, a mad woman, a fake . Her question is basically: What is a woman? Lacan called hysteria a neurosis at first, and later a discourse, saying in *Television* that in this discourse the unconscious "speaks clearly," given that one listens to it.

On May 16th and 17th, 1991, the Ecole de la cause freudienne sponsored a *rencontre* on "Psychanalyse et psychothérapie: deux stratégies du transfert?" at Rennes. In eight workshops, some of the questions taken up were: "Knowledge and truth in conducting the cure," Principles of the power of the analyst and of the psychotherapist in the cure," and so on.

On April 30th to May 3rd, 1992, the International Association of Philosophy and Literature held its annual congress at the University of California, Berkeley, on the theme "Passions, Persons, Powers". Several of the sessions were concerned with psychoanalysis. Many Lacanian concepts appeared under headings concerning the Other, the Real, the subject, and so on. Of note was a continuing special section on *Jouissance*.

The Buffalo Symposium in Literature & Psychoanalysis was held at the University of New York at Buffalo on May 8th to 10th, 1992. Organized by Joan Copjec, Director of the Center for the Study of Psychoanalysis and Culture, the theme of this annual Symposium was "The Subject". Speakers included Parveen Adams, Etienne Balibar, Homi Bhabba, Mikkel Borch-Jacobsen, Elizabeth Grosz, Claude Lefort, Slavoj Žižek.

On May 23rd, 1992, the Ecole de la cause freudienne of Mediathèque de Corbeil, Ile de France sud, sponsored a *Journée* on "La psychanalyse et les formes contemporaines du symptôme". The editor of Seminar XVII, *L'envers de la psychanalyse* (Seuil, 1991), presented this most recently published Seminar with this commentary: "Les outils de la pensée de demain" ("The tools of tomorrow's

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thought"). It is by attacking today's problems that one forms the tools of tomorrow's thought through the fundamental interrogation of psychoanalysis which takes account of the unconscious forces that animate each person and considers the responsibility of the subject in the management of his own destiny.

THE SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL RENCONTRE OF THE FOUNDATION OF THE FREUDIAN FIELD, PRESIDED OVER BY CARMEN RAMIA, WILL BE HELD IN CARACAS, VENEZUELA, FROM THE 24TH TO THE 27TH OF JULY, 1992, ON 'STRATEGIES OF THE TRANSFERENCE IN PSYCHOANALYSIS'. THE PRE-RENCONTRE VOLUME, *LES STRATEGIAS DU TRANSFERT EN PSYCHANALYSE*, EDITED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF THE FOUNDATION OF THE FREUDIAN FIELD IS NOW AVAILABLE for 209 FF. The volume, edited by NAVARIN, 31, RUE DE NAVARIN, 75009, PARIS, FRANCE--(TEL: 878 OS 65), is diffused by Seuil. REGISTRATION FOR THE VIIème REN-CONTRE 1ST, 300 FRENCH FRANCS. YOU MAY REGISTER BY SENDING A MONEY ORDER, A FRENCH CHECK OR FRENCH FRANCS TO THE FREUDIAN FIELD, B. P 740, 75121 PARIS, CEDEX 03, FRANCE; OR TO THE SEVENTH EN-CUENTRO OF THE FREUDIAN FIELD, ATENEODE CARACAS, 3cr, PISO, APARTADO 662, CARACAS 1010 A, VENEZUELA. TEL: 571.1354-573.7812; FAX: 582-573-7812. YOU MAY ARRANGE HOUSING THROUGH AGENCIA CANDES SABANA GRANDE C.A., Account No. 0996-450968-031, BANCO ATLANTICO, MIAMI AGENCY, 801 Brickell Ave., MIAMI, FLORIDA 33131.

With the VIIth *Rencontre* a new cycle begins, following the ternary subject of clinical structures on hysteria and obsession in 1986; the differential clinic of psychosis in 1988; and traits of perversion in clinical structures in 1990. The current focus is analytical practice, starting with the transference that Lacan considered in terms of its strategies in "The direction of the treatment and the principles of its power" (*Ecrits: A Selection*, Sheridan).

This *Rencontre* is of particular importance to those who are interested in Lacan's teaching, but have no experience of psychoanalytic *practice*, and for the clinicians who turn away from Lacanian teaching and practice precisely on the issues of transference and identification. The word "strategy" suggests calculation, artifice, anticipation, because--although the transference is a necessary

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condition for analysis--transference does not guarantee a successful analysis. The patient tries to be loved by the analyst, while the analyst seeks to bring about an opening of the patient's unconscious. This step on the part of the analyst supports Lacan's efforts to wrest transference from the Imaginary trajectory in which it has been caught since Freud's day--in order to point toward the Real. The analyst is challenged to put the transference at the service of analytical discourse (The Organizing Committee--J. D. Matet, D. Miller, P. Skriabine, L. Solano).

In 1987, THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FREUDIAN FIELD (NFF) proposed to its readers that the names of US Lacan Study Groups be listed and published in each issue. Since then, the names of active Study Groups have been listed in each number of NFF.

At the NFF SYMPOSIUM on "HISTORY AND HYSTERIA" representatives of the various Study Groups met to discuss the situation confronting those persons living in the United States who are interested in studying Lacan. Virtually everyone present voiced feelings of iso-

lation and the wish to meet other people interested in Lacan. Several people suggested that a Conference be held in the future expressly for the purpose of Lacan Study Groups to meet and exchange notes on their work and interests.

At the end of the list of Lacan Study Groups, you can find directions on how to form such a group.
