Distinguished Lectures Series
Walter Benjamin Kolleg
Faculty of Humanities
University of Bern

ETHICS
AND/OFF
CONTIN-
GENCY

SLAVOJ ŽIŽEK
TIMOTHY CAMPBELL
MICHAEL NAAS
Distinguished Lectures Series
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ETHICS AND/OR CONTINGENCY

SLAVOJ ŽIŽEK

The Ethics of Christian Atheism
Lecture 25 May 2017, 18.30–20.00
No Workshop

Slavoj Žižek is Professor of Philosophy at The European Graduate School (EGS), senior researcher at the Institute for Sociology and Philosophy at the University of Ljubljana, Global Distinguished Professor of German at New York University, International Director of the Birkbeck Institute for the Humanities, and founder and president of the Society for Theoretical Psychoanalysis, Ljubljana. Since his celebrated Object of Ideology in 1989, his first book in English, Žižek has published over 40 books, spanning from political theory and psychoanalytic studies and bringing together the influences of Hegelian idealism, Lacanian psychoanalysis, and Marxist thought. His most recent publication is Lenin 2017: Remembering, Repeating, and Working Through (2017). The International Journal of Žižek Studies, founded in 2007, is dedicated to the study of his work.

All workshops are open to Swiss and international graduate, post-graduate and post-doctoral students. If you would like to participate in a workshop, please write to dls@wbkolleg.unibe.ch.

TIMOTHY CAMPBELL

Biopolitical Ethics and the Comic Self
Lecture 23 October 2017, 18.30–20.00
Workshop 24 October 2017, 9.30–12.00

Timothy Campbell is Professor of Italian Studies in the Department of Romance Studies at Cornell University and the editor of the series Commonalities for Fordham University Press. His research ranges from biopolitics and contemporary Italian thought to Fascist culture and modern Italian visual culture. In addition to the translations of Roberto Esposito’s Communitas (2010) and Bios (2008), he is the author of Wireless Writing in the Age of Marconi (2006) and Improper Life: Respublica and Technology from Heidegger to Agamben (2011). His most recent book, The Techne of Giving: Cinema and the Generous Form of Life, published in 2016 by Oxford University Press, addresses the possibility of conceptualizing a radical form of generosity that is able to escape both the grip of contemporary biopower as well as the comforting rhetoric of neoliberal charity.

The workshop of Prof. Timothy Campbell will take place at:
UniS, Schanzeneckstrasse 1, 3012 Bern / Room A-119

MICHAELE NAAS

Dumb Luck: Jacques Derrida and the Question of Contingency
Lecture 27 November 2017, 18.30–20.00
Workshop 28 November 2017, 9.30–12.00

Michael Naas is Professor of Philosophy at DePaul University in Chicago. His research covers the fields of philosophy and comparative literature, and in particular focuses on ancient Greek thought and contemporary French philosophy and with a strong interest for thinkers such as Nietzsche, Heidegger, Derrida, Lyotard, and Levinas. He has edited and co-translated into English a number of Jacques Derrida’s texts, such as The Work of Mourning (2011), Learning to Live Finally (2007), Rogues (2015), and Adieu. He is Emmanuel Levinas’s (1999). His most recent publications, still engaging with the complexities of Derrida’s thought, are The End of the World and Other Fateful Moments, Jacques Derrida’s Final Seminar (2015) and Miracle and Machine: Jacques Derrida and the Two Sources of Religion, Science, and the Media (2012).

The workshop of Prof. Michael Naas will take place at:
UniS, Schanzeneckstrasse 1, 3012 Bern / Room B-102