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ETHICS AND/OF CONTINGENCY

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

SLAVOJ ZIZEK

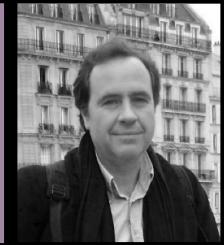
The Ethics of Christian Atheism
Lecture 25 May 2017, 18.30-20.00
No Workshop

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 *The Sublime Object of Ideology* in 1989, his first book in English, Žižek has published over 40 books, spanning from political theory to cultural 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 <u>Professor</u> of Italian Studies in the Department of Romance Studies at Cornell University and the editor of the series <u>Commonalities</u> 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 <u>Communitas</u> (2010) and <u>Bios</u> (2008), he is the author of <u>Wireless Writing in the Age of Marconi</u> (2006) and <u>Improper Life: Biopolitics and Technology from Heidegger to Agamben</u> (2011). His most recent book <u>The Techne of Giving: Cinema and the Generous Form of Life</u>, 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 peoliberal charity

MICHAEL 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 <u>Professor of Philosophy at DePaul University in Chicago</u>. His research covers the fields of philosophy and comparative literature, with a particular focus 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* (2005), and *Adieu: To Emmanuel Levinas* (1999). His most recent publications, still engaging with the complexities of Derrida's thought, are *The End of the World and Other Teachable Moments: Jacques Derrida's Final Seminar* (2015) and *Miracle and Machine: Jacques Derrida and the Two Sources of Religion. Science, and the Media* (2012).

All lectures will take place at:

Universität Bern Hochschulstrasse 4, 3012 Bern Room HS 220

The workshop of Prof. Timothy Campbell will take place at:

UniS, Schanzeneckstrasse 1, 3012 Bern / Room A-119

The workshop of Prof. Michael Naas will take place at:

UniS, Schanzeneckstrasse 1, 3012 Bern / Room B-102