



Colloque international
**American Literature
and Therapeutic Cultures**
Littérature américaine et cultures thérapeutiques

14-16 juin 2023

Maison de la Création et de l'Innovation (MacI)
Université Grenoble Alpes

Organisation: Nicholas Manning (UGA-IUF)
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CRÉATION
ET DE
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Arts
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Wednesday June 14

8:15-8:45 Coffee

8:45 Welcome address

Session 1

Literary Criticism and the Limits of Therapeutic Knowledge

Moderator: **Nicholas Manning**, Université Grenoble Alpes/Institut universitaire de France

9:00-9:45 : Beth Blum, Harvard University

“Unlearning”: The Rise of an Aesthetic-Therapeutic Imperative

9:45-10:30 : Adam Frank, University of British Columbia

A Survey of Motives for Criticism

10:30-10:45 – Coffee Break

Session 2

The State of Fiction: From Alienation to Detachment

Moderator: **Marie Mianowski**, Université Grenoble Alpes

10:45-11:30 David James, University of Birmingham

Therapeutic Generalization

11:30-12:15 Peter Boxall, University of Sussex

I Was the Prosthesis: Philip Roth and Therapeutic Fiction

12:15-13:30 – Lunch Break

Session 3

Therapeutic Feminisms

Moderator: **Véronique Molinari**, Université Grenoble Alpes

13:30-14:15 Aubrey Jones, Weber State University

Resistance, Transformation and Therapeutics: Representations and Treatments of Mental Illness in American Women’s Writing Across the 20th Century

14:15-15:00 Juliette Bouanani,

Université Paris Nanterre

Confessions, Shame and Bravery: the Feminine Lyric and Therapeutic Cultures

15:00-15:15 – Coffee Break

Session 4

Catharsis or Anti-Catharsis?

Moderator: **Estelle Rivier Arnaud**, Université Grenoble Alpes

15:15-16:00 Julie Vatain, Sorbonne Université

From Catharsis to Resilience?
Contemporary Reconfigurations in American Theater

16:00-16:45 Michaëla Cogan, Université de Franche-Comté

Mythopsychosis, or Catharsis Unbound in Jerome Charyn’s Autofictions

Session 5: Roundtable

What Future For Therapeutic Cultures? Rethinking Literature’s Relationship to Psychology and Psy Discourses

17:00-18:15 Moderator: **Peter Boxall**,

University of Sussex

Participants: **Timothy Aubry**, Baruch College, CUNY

Beth Blum, Harvard University

Adam Frank, University of British Columbia

David James, University of Birmingham

Trysh Travis, University of Florida

Thursday June 15

8:30-9:00 Coffee

Session 6

Representing Psychotherapy and Behavioral Health

Moderator: **Catherine Bortolon**, Université Grenoble Alpes
9:00-9:45: **Trysh Travis**, University of Florida
Behavioral Health and the Narrative Arts

9:45-10:30: **Yasna Bozhkova**, Université Sorbonne Nouvelle
Psychotherapy and its Limits in Ben Lerner's *The Topeka School*

10:30-10:45 – Coffee Break

10:45-11:30: **Béatrice Pire**, Université Sorbonne Nouvelle
The Depiction of Psychotherapy in Jonathan Franzen's *Crossroads*: the "Depressed" Wallace Effect

12:00-14:00 – Lunch Break

Session 7

Pathogenic and Postgenomic Cultures: Utopian and Dystopian Worlds

Moderator: **Jean-Daniel Collomb**, Université Grenoble Alpes
14:00-14:45: **Jean-Paul Rocchi**, Université Gustave Eiffel
"Save My Mind – and Yours": Pathogenic Culture and Psychoanalysis in Colson Whitehead's *The Nickel Boys* and African-American Literature

14:45-15:30: **Martin Halliwell**, University of Leicester

Embryonic Entanglements: Postgenomic Life Cultures in the United States

15:30-16:00 – Coffee Break

Session 8

"Physical" or "Mental" Health: Medical Sciences in the Nineteenth Century

Moderator: **Mark Niemeyer**, Université de Bourgogne

16:00-16:45: **Thomas Constantinesco**, Sorbonne Université
Blood Sugar: Food, Health, Race, and Literature in the Nineteenth-Century United States

16:45-17:30: **Michael Jonik**, University of Sussex
"To restore your lost energy": Medical Science and Vitalism in Herman Melville's *The Confidence-Man*

18:00-20:00 – Theatrical Workshop
Julie Vatain, Sorbonne Université

Friday June 16

8:45-9:00 Coffee

Session 9

The Critique of Therapeutic Categories

Moderator: **Samuel Lézé**, École normale supérieure de Lyon

9:00-9:45: **Timothy Aubry**, Baruch College, CUNY

Therapy in Public: Lionel Trilling and the Power of Neurosis

9:45-10:30: **Nicholas Manning**,

Université Grenoble Alpes/Institut universitaire de France

Against a Diagnostic Criticism? On the “Pathologizing” of Fictional Characters

10:30-10:45 – Coffee Break

Session 10

Therapeutics of Reception: Reading, Talking, Translating

Moderator: **Sébastien Scarpa**, Université Grenoble Alpes

10:45-11:30: **Isabelle Blondiaux**, Groupe Hospitalier Universitaire de l'AP-HP/ Université Paris Est

Pratiques de la lecture et culture thérapeutique

11:30-12:15: **Jean-Christophe Cloutier**,

University of Pennsylvania

The Therapeutics of Self-Translation: The Case of Jean-Louis “Jack” Kerouac

12:15-14:00 - Lunch Break

Session 11

Modernist Poetics of Therapeutics

Moderator: **Vincent Bucher**, Université Grenoble Alpes

14:00-14:45: **Célia Galey**, Université Gustave Eiffel

What's Happening? Poetry Performance as Social Therapy

14:45-15:30: **Samantha Lemeunier**,

École normale supérieure – Ulm

“Art was Williams’s Therapy”: William Carlos Williams’s Maieutic Process

15:30-15:45 – Coffee Break

Session 12

From Vulnerability to Influence

Moderator: **Christine Vandamme**, Université Grenoble Alpes

15:45-16:30: **Alwena Queillé**, Université Sorbonne Nouvelle

“My Year of Rest and Relaxation”: Vulnerability and Therapeutic Imaginations in the Contemporary Fiction of Ottessa Moshfegh

16:30-17:15: **Victoria Robert**, Sorbonne Université

Self-Help, New Religions, Cults:

Therapeutic Cultures of Influence in Coming-of-Age Novels by Emma Cline, Jeffrey Eugenides, R.O. Kwon and Alison Wisdom