

The Mimetic Condition: A Transdisciplinary Approach

Institute of Philosophy, KU Leuven (Belgium)

December 5-6, 2019

Keynote: Prof. Gunter Gebauer (Free University of Berlin)

Since the publication of Gunter Gebauer and Christoph Wulf's seminal book *Mimesis: Culture—Art—Society* in 1992, the realization that mimesis is constitutive of the *human condition* has become central to the humanities, the arts, and the social sciences, stretching to inform the hard sciences as well. Furthering Gebauer and Wulf's call to examining the productive aspect of mimesis as a "human condition," the ERC-funded *Homo Mimeticus: Theory and Criticism* (HOM) project (www.homomimeticus.eu) convokes a two-day transdisciplinary workshop at the Institute of Philosophy, KU Leuven, to explore the afterlives of the *mimetic condition* in the twenty-first century. Careful not to impose a unitary perspective to a protean concept, we will be attending to the heterogeneous connections that have been forged since the publication of *Mimesis*, those that remained unexplored by the authors, and those still to be discovered. Disciplines represented include, continental philosophy, performance studies, sociology, literary theory, film studies, science of communication, phenomenology, media studies, theater studies, musicology, among other perspectives.

The two-day workshop is organized by HOM Team members Niki Hadikoesoemo, Daniel Villegas Vélez, Wojciech Kaftanski, and Nidesh Lawtoo and will be hosted by the Husserl Archives. It will consist of seventeen 20-minute papers, a keynote talk by Prof. Gunter Gebauer (Free University of Berlin) and a screening of a video-interview with Prof. Christoph Wulf, co-authors of *Mimesis: Culture, Art, Society* (U. of California Press, 1992).

With support from the European Research Council, Institute of Philosophy KU Leuven, and the KU Leuven Doctoral School for the Humanities & Social Sciences OJO Initiative.

All welcome!

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Sara Belo (University of Lisbon)
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THURSDAY, 5/12

TIME	
9:30 AM	Coffee (Raadzaal)
10:00 AM	Welcome Remarks: Nidesh Lawtoo

10:15 AM—11:45 AM: Papers Session 1 (Room S)

Chair: Wojciech Kaftanski

10:15 AM	<i>Mimesis and Social Avalanche</i> Christian Borch (Copenhagen Business School)
10:45 AM	<i>Between Mask and Uniform</i> Sara Belo (University of Lisbon)
11:15 AM	<i>Birth of Homo Mimeticus: A Genealogy</i> Nidesh Lawtoo (KU Leuven)
11:45 AM — 1:30 PM: Lunch Break	

1:30 PM—3:00 PM: Papers Session 2 (Room S)

Chair: Nidesh Lawtoo

1:30 PM	<i>Trans-imitation: Translating Imitation and Derushbage</i> Zeigam Azizov (Alpen-Adria Universität, Klagenfurt)
2:00 PM	<i>Taking Back Mimesis to Save the Planet</i> Carrie Giunta (University of the Arts, London)
2:30 PM	<i>Mimetic Annihilation</i> Hannes Opelz (Trinity College, Dublin)
3:00 PM—3:30 PM: Coffee Break (Raadzaal)	

3:30 PM—5:00 PM: Papers Session 3 (Room S)

Chair: Christian Borch

3:30 PM	<i>Adumbration vs. Images: A Mimetic Nature of Reality?</i> Annabelle Dufourcq (Radboud U. Nijmegen)
4:00 PM	<i>A Critique of Mimesis</i> Emanuelle Antonelli (University of Turin)
4:30 PM	<i>Mimesis Unbound? Myth, Politics and the Literary in the 21st Century</i> James Corby (University of Malta)

5:00 PM	Screening: <i>HOM Interview with Christoph Wulf</i> (Raadzaal)
5:30 PM	Reception (Raadzaal)
7:00 PM	Conference Dinner

FRIDAY, 6/12

TIME	
10:00 AM	Coffee (Raadzaal)

10:15 AM—11:45 AM: Papers Session 1 (Room S)

Chair: Esa Kirkkopelto

10:15 AM	<i>Whitehead, Empathy, and Mimesis</i> Irene Scicluna (Cardiff University)
10:45 AM	<i>Kierkegaard and Ethics: Imitation, Admiration, and Exemplars</i> Wojciech Kaftanski (KU Leuven)
11:15 AM	<i>The Imitation of Affects in Spinoza</i> Roland Breuer (KU Leuven)
11:45 AM — 12:00 PM: Coffee Break (Raadzaal)	

12:00 PM—1:00 PM: Papers Session 2 (Room S)

Chair: Niki Hadikoesoemo

12:00 PM	<i>Apparatus of Capture: Music and the Mimetic Construction of Social Reality in the Early Modern/ Colonial Period</i> Daniel Villegas Vélez (KU Leuven)
12:30 PM	<i>Alteration and Alterity: the Time of Mimesis, the Mimesis of Time</i> Teresa Projecto, (University of Lisbon)
1:00 PM—2:15 PM: Lunch Break	

2:15 PM—3:45 PM: Papers Session 3 (Room S)

Chair: Daniel Villegas Vélez

2:15 PM	<i>'Mime de Rien': The Actor's Imitation Without a Model</i> Niki Hadikoesoemo (KU Leuven)
2:45 PM	<i>Mimesis and/ is/ as Restoration of Behavior</i> Fabrizio Deriu (University of Teramo)
3:15 PM	<i>Mimetism and Language in the Scenic Performance</i> Esa Kirkkopelto (University of the Arts, Helsinki)
3:45 PM—4:15 PM: Coffee Break (Raadzaal)	

4:15 PM—5:15 PM: Keynote (Kardinal Mercierzaal)

4:15 PM	Keynote by Gunter Gebauer <i>Worldmaking of the Hand. The Mimetic Creation of Human Culture</i> (Free University of Berlin)
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5:00 PM	Q & A / Concluding Remarks
5:30 PM	Reception