

REGISTRATION

DR. CHRISTOPHER BOLLAS:

Character and Interformality

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Place: UCLA Faculty Center

480 Charles Young Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90095

Name

Address

City State Zip

Email Phone

\$95 Members, Colleagues & Friends / \$105 at the Door;
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\$80 ICP Candidates / \$85 at the Door; subject to availability

Fee includes Continental Breakfast and Refreshments

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The logo for the Institute of Contemporary Psychoanalysis (ICP) features the letters 'ICP' in a bold, white, sans-serif font, set against a solid red rectangular background.

ICP

Institute of
Contemporary Psychoanalysis

DR. CHRISTOPHER BOLLAS:

Character and Interformality

Artwork by Christopher Bollas, "Venice 1"

SATURDAY, JAN 30TH, 2010

9:00AM–12:00PM | registration at 8:30AM

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UCLA Faculty Center / Westwood, CA



DR. CHRISTOPHER BOLLAS, PH.D.

Christopher Bollas qualified from the Institute of Psychoanalysis in London in 1977. His supervisors were Paula Heimann and Marion Milner for Associate Membership; Clifford Yorke and Eric Brenman for Full Membership. He regards seminars with Herbert Rosenfeld, Hannah Segal, Harold Steward, Donald Meltzer, Moe Laufer, and Nina Coltart, as particularly important in his training.

From 1975 through 1978, he trained in the Adult Department of the Tavistock Clinic where he worked and studied with John Bowlby, David Malan, Robert Gosling, Francis Tustin, Matte Harris, Joseph Sandler and attended Wilfred Bion's seminar.

In London, he taught courses at Richmond College, the University of East Anglia, and the North East London Polytechnic. He taught a one year course on philosophy and regards Heidegger's *Being and Time* and the fiction of Faulkner as transformative moments in his thinking.

In the middle 1970's, he was invited by J.B. Pontalis to contribute to the *Nouvelle Revue de Psychanalyse*, which led to a long period of immersion in French psychoanalysis. He collected Andre Green's essays into *On Private Madness*, which disseminated Green's work through the English reading world and he developed close relations with French analysts, particularly Pontalis, Green, and Janine Chassaguet-Smirgel.

In the middle 1980's, he worked for three years back in the United States as Director of Education at the Austen Riggs Center, Professor of Literature at the University of Massachusetts, and Professor at Cambridge Hospital of Harvard University. He renewed his acquaintance with Erik Erikson with whom he had studied in 1972 and he taught courses in Melville, Shakespeare, and Bion at the University of Massachusetts.

Throughout his thirty-five year residency in England, he elected to find psychoanalytic "homes" outside of what he felt were the overly political and acrimonious debates in the British Psychoanalytical Society. From 1978 through 1998, he was Visiting Professor of Psychoanalysis at the University of Rome where he lectured every two months for long weekends and for weeks at a time. Since 1982, he has been invited by 30 psychoanalysts in Sweden to conduct a weekend workshop in Arild—southern shores of Sweden—and they have constituted a working group of now some 27 years. He conducted a workshop for 16 years in Chicago where some 50 analysts and therapists met during this same period of time.

Christopher Bollas' father was French, his mother Californian. He grew up in a farming community next to the San Gabriel Mountains and then in Laguna Beach. He studied at the Univer-

sity of Virginia (Politics), UC-Berkeley (B.A. History), the University of Buffalo (Ph.D. English) and Smith College.

He counts himself fortunate to have been taught by some of the most inspiring teachers in applied psychoanalysis. Carl Schorske, Alan Dundes, and Frederick Crews at Berkeley. Heinz Lichtenstein, Michel Foucault, Rene Girard, Norman Holland, Leslie Fiedler, Murray Schwartz, Robert Rogers, Kenneth Burke and Robert Haas at the University of Buffalo.

THE CONFERENCE

Christopher Bollas will develop a series of distinctions on the topic of character. A character disorder is not the same thing, for example, as human character. The character of a person's mind, or their mentality, is also not the same thing as a person's character, but mentality and sensibility are terms that help us to understand the movement of the self's mental structure and way of thinking into ways of being and relating.

After describing what he means by the *Freudian Moment*, Bollas will ask that we consider what might be described as *The Winnicottian Moment* in the history of human subjectivity. This will allow an important distinction to be made in our considerations of character as an intersubjective process. If we communicate the axioms of our character through the way we engage others—and if this is part of our character—such axioms still do not identify that very specific quality of being that constitutes character. Bollas will argue that use of the term *interformality*—to describe how we as forms affect and engage others as forms—adds to our identification of what we mean by character.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

1. To consider the difference between a character disorder and character.
2. To discuss how mental life and sensibility relate to a self's character.
3. To consider the meaning of the Winnicottian Moment in human history.
4. To differentiate between axiomatic communications and formal communications (interformality) in the field of intersubjectivity.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

- 8:30AM - 9:00AM – Registration & Continental Breakfast
- 9:00AM - 9:15AM – Welcome & Introductions
- 9:15AM - 10:30AM – Lecture
- 10:30AM - 10:45AM – Break
- 10:45AM - 12:00PM – Discussion & Questions

PSYCHOLOGISTS:

ICP is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. ICP maintains responsibility for this program and its content. Psychologists attending this program in its entirety may report 3 hours of Mandatory Continuing Education for Psychologists Credit.

SOCIAL WORKERS & MFTs:

This course meets the qualifications for 3 hours of Continuing Education Credit for MFTs and/or LCSWs as required by the California Board of Behavioral Sciences (Provider #PCE7).

ABOUT ICP

The Institute of Contemporary Psychoanalysis was founded in 1991 by a group of senior psychoanalysts who saw the need for a new approach to psychoanalytic training. There are currently over 350 members, candidates and students at ICP. ICP is a center for inquiry, clinical training and research. We offer a full scope of psychoanalytic training to individuals with those personal, intellectual, and ethical qualities that make a good psychoanalyst. ICP welcomes from a variety of disciplines who wish to obtain psychoanalytic training that incorporates the principles of academic freedom and participatory democracy.

ICP 4-year Academic Program offers a weekday and weekend track. The weekend track consists of a Friday-Sunday session, 6 times per academic year.

ICP FUTURE CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

- Feb. 13, 2010 – Dr. Louis Breger at ICP
- Feb. 20, 2010 – ICP Founders Conference at ICP
- March 20, 2010 – ICP Open House, Los Angeles
- March 21, 2010 – Dr. Louis Breger, Bay Area
- Series on Medical Psychoanalysis**
- July 10, 2010 – Infertility Issues & Treatment at UCLA
- Nov. 13, 2010 – Pain Management at UCLA