

University of Milan

Research Network Aesthetics Unlimited – Séminaire d'Esthétique Européen

May 17-18 2018

International Conference

## ***Revisiting the Sublime***

In the past few years, the international academic community has developed a renewed interest in the sublime. More than for any other aesthetic category, the relation between its modern and postmodern meanings has been emphasized. Emily Brady<sup>1</sup> and Baldine Saint-Girons<sup>2</sup> are the keynote speakers for this symposium which aims at investigating the most recent interpretations on the sublime.

We especially welcome contributions offering a new interpretation of the sublime from the eighteenth-century aesthetic, or advancing an original and innovative approach to the theories of Freud (uncanny) or Lyotard (*Anima Minima*) or from the postmodern theories. We also welcome proposals offering a theoretical and conceptual approach of the sublime and its relationships with negative sentiments, environment or technology.

Finally, we will consider proposals focusing on the relationship between the sublime and the arts, particularly with the theatre. Indeed, sublime is an experience of release and loss which captures the subject who experiences it, as reflected in much contemporary theatre. A theatre who interrogates the spectator's place and questions *mimesis*. These performances, whereby, as underlined by Carole Talon-Hugon, transgression and expression of the self prevail over "the organization of the sensible according to mimesis' rules" can be enlightened by the sublime.

### **Submission Guidelines**

Paper proposals should include a 300-word abstract, a list of key-words (5 max.) and a short biography (50 words max.)

Abstracts can be submitted in English or French and should be sent in pdf format to Maddalena Mazzocut-Mis ([maddalena.mazzocut-mis@unimi.it](mailto:maddalena.mazzocut-mis@unimi.it)) and Anne Elisabeth Sejten ([sejten@ruc.dk](mailto:sejten@ruc.dk))

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<sup>1</sup> Emily Brady is Professor of Environment and Philosophy at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. Her research interests span aesthetics and philosophy of art, environmental ethics, eighteenth-century philosophy, environmental humanities, and animal studies. Her most recent book is *The Sublime in Modern Philosophy: Aesthetics, Ethics, and Nature*, Cambridge UP, 2013.

<sup>2</sup> Baldine Saint Girons is a French philosopher, Professor of seventeenth and eighteenth centuries at the University Paris X-Nanterre. Her research concentrates on aesthetics and the philosophy of sublime, with particular attention to Giambattista Vico and Edmund Burke. She is a member of the Institut universitaire de France.

The deadline for submissions is 31 December.

Presentations (in English or French) are scheduled for **20** minutes. Accommodation and transportation costs are at the expense of the participants. The research network may however offer a limited number of grants. Please apply, if needed.

**Academic committee**

Maddalena Mazzocut-Mis  
Carole Talon-Hugon  
Danielle Lories  
Salvador Rubio Marco  
Anne Elisabeth Sejten  
Maria Filomena Molder

**Contact**

Maddalena Mazzocut-Mis (**[maddalena.mazzocut-mis@unimi.it](mailto:maddalena.mazzocut-mis@unimi.it)**)