

Advanced Studies Conference: Aesthetic Moments in Everyday Clinical Practice: Inspiration and Innovation for Connected Humane Care (draft programme)

**Collaborating Centre for Values-based Practice, St. Catherine's College, University of Oxford,
Wednesday October 31st 2018**

The seminar is organised by the Aesthetics in Mental Health Network of the Collaborating Centre for Values-Based Practice in Health and Social Care, St. Catherine's College. <http://valuesbasedpractice.org/>

Conference Place: St. Catherine's College, University of Oxford, Manor Rd, Oxford OX1 3UJ

Organisers: Helena Fox - Oxford Brookes University & Martin Poltrum - Sigmund Freud University

For Registration and Questions: Helena Fox, helena.fox@nightingalehospital.co.uk
Martin Poltrum, m.poltrum@philosophiepraxis.com

ABSTRACT – Aesthetic Moments in Everyday Clinical Practice:

The aim of the conference is to explore the following: Medicine is replete with emotive images and processes. These occur in everyday practice, from small day-to-day interactions as well as more pronounced issues of life and death. People immersed in healthcare environments can be deeply moved and respond in aesthetic ways. Here the meaning of the word aesthetic refers to sensory perception and imaginative engagement arising from experiential participation.

What happens in such moments of aesthetic experience for healthcare workers in everyday clinical work? What happens when we pay attention to this aesthetic experience? What happens in descriptive detail? Can reflection on such aesthetic engagement relate to values in daily clinical work? And can it provide a resource for reflecting on and steering best humane and connected practice?

This advanced study day will explore these and further questions. Papers will be given from a variety of healthcare disciplines such as clinical practice, phenomenology, contemplative and mindfulness-based work, connective and contemporary aesthetics, and other examples of aesthetic engagement.

We will be organising a **pre-conference social event** with evensong and dinner on Tuesday October 30th 2018 for those who wish – please see the details below

Conference day: Wednesday October 31st 2018 – 10.00-18.00

Registration: 10.00-10.20

10.20-10.30
Helena Fox Welcome Address and Introduction

Chairman: Helena Fox, Martin Poltrum

10.30-11.00
Martin Poltrum Aesthetic theory: opinions and doctrines of the great philosophers (Sigmund Freud University Vienna)

11.00-11.30
Michael Musalek The will to beauty and its impact on treatment (Institute for Social Aesthetics and Mental Health, Sigmund Freud University Vienna)

11.30-12.00
Coffee Break

12.00-12.30
Kathleen Galvin Reflecting on aesthetic moments (University of Brighton)

12.30-13.00
Shelley Sacks "The aesthetic mode and instruments of consciousness" (Social Sculpture Research Unit, Oxford Brookes University)

13.00-14.00 **High Table lunch in College**

Chairman: Michael Musalek, Kathleen Galvin

- 14.00-14.30
Alison Kahn Digital Children – considered aesthetic responses to textual and audio-visual narratives (Oxford Brookes University)
- 14.30-15.30
Helena Fox The Heart of the Matter. An invitation to an experiential and reflective process (Collaborating Centre for Values-Based Practice and Oxford Brookes University)
- 15.30-16.30
Guenda Bernegger "We are such stuff as foam is made of": paying attention to fragility, imagination and hope in everyday clinical practice (University of Southern Switzerland)
- 16.30-16.45
Coffee Break

Chairman: Helena Fox, Martin Poltrum

- 16.45-17.15
Andrew West Exploration of the aesthetic moment in the clinical encounter, using musical improvisation as a model (Collaborating Centre for Values-Based Practice)
- 17.15-17.45
Lazare Benaroyo "The aesthetic moment of care: a challenge to step aside for transformation" (University of Lausanne, Switzerland)
- 17.45-18.00 Conclusion and final discussion about where next

Details for the Pre-conference social event:

For those who wish to attend, there will be a pre-conference social event on Tuesday October 30th 2018

18.15-19.00: Evensong, Merton College, Merton Street, Oxford OX1 4JD, Admission 18.00, Meet at Merton College, please be prompt for admission to be allowed. Followed by:

19.30 Dinner at the Cherwell Boathouse, Bardwell Road Oxford OX2 6ST Please note that this event will be self-funded and cost between £55-60 a head.

Please let us know if you would be attending either or both of these for bookings.

