

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

**Wednesday, October 31st 2018
10.00 – 18.00hrs**

The seminar is organised by the [Aesthetics in Mental Health Network](http://valuesbasedpractice.org/) of the Collaborating Centre for Values-Based Practice in Health and Social Care, St. Catherine's College, Oxford and the Institute for Social Aesthetics and Mental Health, Sigmund Freud University, Vienna. <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
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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. The day will include papers from a variety of areas in healthcare linked with clinical practice, phenomenology and contemplative work along with other disciplines such as connective and contemporary aesthetics as examples of aesthetic engagement.

We will be organising a **pre-conference social event** on Tuesday October 30rd 2018 for those who wish – please see the details below.

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 Brooks 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 Brooks 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

19.30 Dinner at the Cherwell Boathouse, Bardwell Road Oxford OX2 6ST

Whilst refreshments and lunch at High Table will be funded on the Advanced Study Day, please note that this optional Cherwell Boathouse dinner the night before will be self-funded and cost between £55-60 a head.

RSVP: Please let us know if you will be attending so we can book numbers at the restaurant.

Academic sponsors: International Network for Philosophy and Psychiatry; Philosophy Special Interest Group, Royal College of Psychiatrists; Philosophy and Humanities Section of the World Psychiatric Association; Philosophy Section of the European Psychiatric Association

Funding: we are grateful to the Laces Fund for financial support

St Catz Advanced Studies Seminars

This is the fourth Advanced Study Seminar for the Aesthetics in Mental Health (AiMH) Network within the St Catz series. We will welcome feedback as well as ideas for possible future events. There are no restrictions on topics within the overall aim of cross-disciplinary discussion and development of ideas in cutting edge providing a forum for areas of R&D in health and social care

Funding and Accommodation: the seminars are fully funded for hospitality on the day (generously provided by the Laces Trust) but we have no funding for travel or overnight expenses. Delegates will need to make their own accommodation plans. Please note that as this will be in term time, there are no available rooms in the college.

