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Call for Abstracts

Deadline: 20th April, 2015

University College Cork, Ireland

Friday 17th – Saturday 18th July 2015

Aesthetics and the Feminine Conference

“[A]gainst the dispersed, contingent and multiple existences of actual women, mythical thought opposes the Eternal Feminine, unique and changeless. If the definition provided for this concept is contradicted by the behaviour of flesh and blood women, it is the latter who are wrong: we are told Femininity is not a false entity, but that the women concerned are not feminine.”

Simone de Beauvoir, *The Second Sex*

'Aesthetics and the Feminine' aims to provide a supportive and engaging environment for researchers working on the topic of the feminine in aesthetics, or the thought/work of female aestheticians/artists. BOTH females and males are encouraged to present!

Design by E.L. Putnam

Confirmed Keynote Speakers:

Stacie Friend (Birkbeck College)

Áine Mahon (University College Dublin)

E. L. Putnam (Performance Artist, Dublin)

Conference Organizers:

Mary Edwards (University College Cork)

Áine Mahon (University College Dublin)

Submissions:

Abstracts of 200 words for 20-minute presentations (allowing for 10 minutes Q&A afterward), in Word document format should be prepared for blind review (together with a separate cover sheet detailing institutional information etc.) and emailed to: marylouise.eds@gmail.com.

We welcome proposals from a broad range of disciplines including philosophy, comparative literature, art history, gender studies, cultural studies, the social sciences and other relevant disciplines. Interdisciplinary studies are encouraged as well as proposals for co-presentations and panels. We also invite artists, working on relevant themes/subjects, to discuss and present their work at this event.

Possible topics may include, but are by no means limited to:

- Studies on the work of female artist(s)
- Relevant topics in aesthetics generally and especially the work of female aesthetician(s)
- Representations of women in the visual arts
- Critical analyses of "feminine" characters in literature/film
- Analysis/Application of feminist criticism
- Analysis/Application of feminist psychoanalytic criticism
- The role of art in the creation and perpetuation of Myth of Woman
- "Feminine" beauty
- "Feminine" art
- Androgyny in art/literature/film
- Representations of female sexuality in art/literature/film
- Interpretations of the "feminine" in art as empowering/degrading
- Feminist art/literature/film
- "Masculine" or un-"feminine" females in art/literature/film
- Tragic heroines
- "Feminine" Vs. "Masculine" Art
- *Écriture féminine*
- The *femme fatale*
- "Chick-flicks" and "chick-lit": art for females?

The **deadline** for submissions is Monday 20th April 2015 and we aim to respond to applicants with the results of our selection processes in early May 2015. Please send any queries to: marylouise.eds@gmail.com.