

# NYC WORKSHOP IN EARLY MODERN PHILOSOPHY: EXPANDING THE CANON

ORGANIZED BY:

LAUREN KOPAJTIC (FORDHAM UNIVERSITY)

REED WINEGAR (FORDHAM UNIVERSITY)

OHAD NACHTOMY (TECHNION, ISRAEL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY)

NYCEARLYMODERN.WEEBLY.COM

MAY 17-19, 2022



**KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:**  
COREY DYCK,  
WESTERN UNIVERSITY

JULIA JORATI,  
UNIVERSITY OF  
MASSACHUSETTS  
AMHERST

JUSTIN E. H. SMITH,  
PARIS DIDEROT  
UNIVERSITY

The workshop, which is now in its 12th year, aims to foster exchange and collaboration among scholars, students, and anyone with an interest in Early Modern Philosophy (roughly the period from 1600-1800).

This year's workshop will be entirely online. To register for the workshop (and receive the Zoom link for the online sessions) please send an email by May 16, 2022 to: [newyorkcityearlymodern@gmail.com](mailto:newyorkcityearlymodern@gmail.com)

For updates and further information, visit the workshop webpage at [nycearlymodern.weebly.com](http://nycearlymodern.weebly.com)

## Program

(all listed times follow NYC time)

May 17th

Chair: Don Garrett (NYU)

10:00–11:00 Daniel Garber (Princeton University) – Tales of the Not-So Mighty Dead: Descartes and the Case for Reading Outside the Canon

11:00–12:00 Jonathan Head (Keele University) – Conway's World Soul and Monism

Chair: Jessica Gordon-Roth (University of Minnesota)

1:00–2:00 Olivia Branscum (Columbia University) – Against the "Empty Fiction" of Senseless Matter: Some Systematic and Historical Implications of Anne Conway's Panpsychism

2:00–3:00 Julia Jorati (UMass Amherst) – Early Modern Theories of Racism

May 18th

Chair: Allison Aitken (Columbia)

10:00–11:00 Guenter Zoeller (LMU Munich) – How (Not) to Write the First Polylogic Epistolary Novel: Philosophy and Fiction in Montesquieu's *Persian Letters*

11:00–12:00 Manuel Fasko (Universitaet Basel) – 'The complicate being self': Mary Shepherd and the Difference between Self and Mind

Chair: Dwight Lewis (University of Minnesota)

1:00–2:00 Alex Barrientos (University of Utah) – Mary Shepherd's Defense of Miracles against Hume

2:00–3:00 Justin Smith (Paris Diderot) – Must a Philosopher Have Existed in Order to Be Canonical? The Case of Zera Yacub

May 19th

Chair: Nabeel Hamid (Concordia)

10:00–11:00 Fabrizio Baldassari (Ca' Foscari University of Venice and Indiana University-Bloomington) – An Overlooked Section of Early Modern Philosophy: The Philosophy of Plants and the Roots of Life

11:00–12:00 Izhiah Topete (Penn State) – Amo on Freedom and Impediment

Chair: Courtney Fugate (American University of Beirut)

1:00–2:00 Pierpaolo Betti (KU Leuven) – Baumgarten on the Impenetrability of Monads

2:00–3:00 Corey Dyck (Western University) – Amalia Holst and the Education of the Human Race