

The Department of French and Italian at UW-Madison presents:

SOLITUDES/MULTITUDES, 18TH – 21ST CENTURIES

October 14-15, 2022

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Pyle Center Room 213
702 Langdon Street, Madison, WI 53706

This event is free and open to the public



"The Hive" is on display at the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, in London, England, through the end of 2017. Photo by Dacian Groza, courtesy of Wolfgang Buttress

Friday, October 14

9:15 am-9:30 am: Welcome & Opening remarks

9:30 am-11:15 am: Panel 1. Solitude in 20th- and 21st-Century French & Francophone Literature

Joshua Armstrong (UW-Madison): "Two Solitudes: Houellebecq and Haenel"

Louis Betty (UW-Whitewater), "Solitude and Sin: Michel Houellebecq's *Sérotonine* and the Limits of the Therapeutic"

Mark Lee (Mount Allison University), "Reading Mourning, Loneliness and Solitude in *L'Étranger*"

11:30 am-12:45 pm: Keynote lecture

Daniel Desormeaux (Johns Hopkins University), "The Solitude of a Nation: Post-Revolutionary Haiti." *Talk available via Zoom.*

2:00 pm-5:15 pm: Panel 2. Group Behavior: Models, Problems, Possibilities

Jim Coons (UW-Whitewater), "Passionate Frondeur, Intemperate Foreigner: Emotion, Community, and Politics in Civil War (1648-1653)"

Anne Vila (UW-Madison): "From *Solitaires* to Agitated Crowd: the Many Faces of the 18th-Century French Jansenist Convulsionary Movement"

3:30 pm-4:45 pm: Panel 2 continued

Rick Keller (UW-Madison), "Solitude within Multitudes: Isolation and Risk in the Modern City"

Ivan Ermakoff (UW-Madison), "Critical Decisions and Collective Alignments"

Saturday, October 15

9:30 am-10:45 am: Keynote lecture

Ziad Elmarsafy (King's College London). "The Loneliest People in the World: Racism and Slavery in Contemporary Gulf Arabic Fiction." *Talk given via Zoom.*

11:00 am-12:45 pm: Panel 3. Poursuites solitaires/collectives, du XIX^e au XXI^e siècle

Ronan Chalmin (Auburn University): "Égalité et multitude: 'Le Manifeste des plébéiens' (1795) de Gracchus Babeuf"

Florence Vatan (UW-Madison), "Solitudes/Multitudes : le modèle des insectes"

Soraya Tlatli (University of California, Berkeley), "Psychanalyse et Islam : La notion de foule chez Freud et Fethi Benslama"

2:15 pm-3:30 pm: Panel 4. UW-Madison graduate student workshop

Katie Terry, "Melancholy, Redemption, and Damnation: Solitary Siblings in François-René de Chateaubriand's *René*"

Roodmerlynn Pierre, "'Ne suis-je pas une femme noire ?' : Understanding Solitude and Black Womanhood in Claire de Duras' *Ourika*"

Peter Russella, "Iconostasis and Isolation: Solitudes and Multitudes in Emmanuel Lepage's *Ar-men : l'Enfer des enfers* (2017)"

3:45 pm-5:00 pm: Panel 5. Solitude, Multitudes, and the Making of Art

Malina Stefanovska (UCLA), "How to populate your solitude or the art of writing memoirs"

Nevine El Nossery (UW-Madison), "From the Singularities to the Multitude in the Making of Revolutionary Art during the Arab Spring"

5:00 pm-5:20 pm: Synthesis, wrap-up discussion



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