

Tokyo Modernism Research Seminar

モダニズム研究セミナー@東京

“Femininity, Masculinity, and Psychoanalysis”

January 9th (Saturday) 2021, 1:00pm-3:00pm [UTC+9]

2021年1月9日(土)午後1時～3時

Marie Géraldine Rademacher (Postdoctoral Researcher, The University of Tokyo)
“Homosociality, Femininity and Female Interests”

In *Dimity Convictions*, Barbara Welter observes that “The nineteenth century was confident that it knew the difference between the sexes and that these differences were total and innate. Women were inherently more religious, modest, passive, submissive and domestic than men, and were happier doing tasks, learning lessons and playing games that harmonized with their nature” (1976: 4). Under this strict Victorian ideology of the feminine, and its fervent belief in the ‘Cult of True Womanhood’, female homosociality became paramount to support women’s interests in a society that strived to heavily domesticate them. These issues are raised in Virginia Woolf’s *Mrs. Dalloway* (1925) and Henry James’ *The Bostonians* (1886). Both novels show that women look for solace in their female friends and that homosocial relationship can be a means of resistance. Through their depiction of homosocial bonding, these writers deconstruct the preconceived ideas about femininity and instead offer examples of ‘female masculinity’ to use Jack/Judith Halberstam’s coinage.

Udith Dematagoda (Assistant Professor, Waseda Institute for Advanced Study [WIAS], Waseda University)

“Empty Will: Recidivist Masculinity, Pathological Fascism and Modernist Aesthetics in the work of Wyndham Lewis and Louis Ferdinand Céline”

In this paper, I will attempt to define two original concepts which I intend to elaborate in my current book project, namely, ‘Recidivist Masculinity’ and its broader relations to what I term the ‘Ideological Aesthetic’. In order to do so I will briefly explore two works, with reference to Lacanian psychoanalysis: Wyndham Lewis’s *The Vulgar Streak* (1941), and Louis Ferdinand Céline’s *Journey to the End of the Night* (1932). This topic is related to my current book project *Machine Men, Machine Minds, Machine Hearts*, which is nearing completion. It is an exploration of the confluence of masculinity, technology and ideology in the work of several European writers associated directly or peripherally with literary modernism and the avant-garde. These include Lewis and Céline, but also Pierre Drieu La Rochelle, Henry de Montherlant, Filippo Tommaso Marinetti, and Gottfried Benn - among others.

This seminar is to be held on Zoom. If you’d like to participate, please contact Kunio Shin (kshin@g.ecc.u-tokyo.ac.jp)

このセミナーはZoomで開催します。参加ご希望のかたは秦(kshin@g.ecc.u-tokyo.ac.jp)までご連絡ください。

主催「英国モダニズムにおける反心理学の系譜に関する学際
的かつ国際的研究」(基盤研究(B)研究代表者・遠藤不比人)

