

# “Virginia Woolf: For a Poetics & Politics of Intimacy”

Thursday May 11<sup>th</sup> & Friday May 12<sup>th</sup> 2023

Jean Monnet University, Saint-Etienne, France

Campus Manufacture - Bâtiment des Forges

11 Rue Dr Rémy Annino, 42000 Saint-Étienne



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International Conference organised by  
ECLLA, St Etienne UJM, France

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en Littératures, Langues, Arts  
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## Thursday May 11<sup>th</sup> 2023

Room L 219, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Bâtiment des Forges  
Campus Manufacture

9.00-9.30: *Conference Opening*

9.30-10.30: **Keynote Christine Reynier** (EMMA, Montpellier 3)  
“Virginia Woolf’s Material Intimacies”

Chair: Floriane Reviron-Piégay

10.30-11.00: *coffee break*

### The Politics of Intimacy and the Body

Chair: Elsa Högberg

11.00-11.30: Claire Davison (PRISMES EA 4398, Paris 3, Sorbonne Nouvelle)  
“Habeas corpus? – ‘intimacies of extreme intensity’ in *Three Guineas*”

11.30-12.00: Judith Allen, (Kelly Writers House, University of Pennsylvania)  
“Virginia Woolf – ‘Those Dangerous Acts: Reading and Writing’”

12.00-12.30: Antoine Perret (Paris 3, Sorbonne Nouvelle)  
“Virginia Woolf’s Wardrobe: From the Private ‘clothes complex’ to the  
Published ‘frock consciousness’”

*Lunch 12.30-14.00*

### Narrating Intimacy

Chair: Christine Reynier

14.00-14.30: Laurent Mellet (CAS, Université de Toulouse Jean Jaurès)  
“The Narrative Politics of Intimate Time in *The Years*”

14.30-15: Nina Eldridge (Université Bordeaux-Montaigne)  
“Indirect Description: Narration & Ethical Representations of Intimacy in *To  
the Lighthouse*”

15.00-15.30: Adrien Chiroux (Université Catholique de Louvain)  
“A Window on Intimacy: The Phantasmagorical Figure of the ‘Lady Writing’  
in *The Waves* (1931)”

15.30-16.00: *coffee break*

16.00-17.30: **Panel around Recently Published Books**

Chair: Anne Besnault

- Chantal Delourme (Université Paris-Nanterre)  
“Sites of intimacy: *Three Guineas* and *The Waves*.”
- Maggie Humm (East London University)  
“Biofiction and Intimacy: *Talland House* and *Radical Woman: Gwen John & Rodin*”
- Mark Hussey (*Emeritus* Prof. Pace University New York)  
“The ‘Purple Light’ of Sex: Clive Bell Reading Virginia Woolf”

17.30-17.45: *break*

**The Secrecy of Intimacy**

Chair: Marie Laniel

17.45-18.15: Xavier Le Brun (CIRPaLL, Université d’Angers)  
“Interiority and Intimacy in ‘The Lady in the Looking-Glass’”

18.15-18.45: Anne-Marie Smith Di Biasio (Institut Catholique de Paris)  
“‘We might all sit down and cry, she felt. But she did not know what for’;  
Woolf and the Intimacy of Not Knowing”

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Conference Dinner  
L’Escargot D’or  
5 Cours Victor Hugo

## Friday May 12<sup>th</sup> 2023

Room L 219, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Bâtiment des Forges  
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### Intimacy Revisited

Chair: Anne-Marie Smith Di Biasio

9.00-9.30: Elizabeth Abel (University of California, Berkeley)  
“The Aura of Intimacy: Virginia Woolf and Roland Barthes”

9.30-10.00: Marie Laniel (CORPUS, Université de Picardie-Jules Verne)  
“Writing with the Flow: Intimate Reflections on Virginia Woolf’s Diaries and Fiction in *To the River: A Journey Beneath the Surface* (2011) by Olivia Laing”

10.00-10.30: Jane Goldman (University of Glasgow)  
“Pethood’s Creative/Critical Intimacies: Canine Poetics and Doggy Intertexts between Virginia Woolf’s *Flush: A Biography* and Eileen Myles’ *Afterglow (A Dog Memoir)*—a Rejoinder to Jack Halberstam”

10.30-10.45: *coffee break*

10.45-12.15: **Two parallel sessions:**

### Session I: Intimacy and Gender (Room L 219)

Chair: Jane Goldman

10.45-11.15: Nicolas Boileau (LERMA, Aix-Marseille Université)  
“The Risk of Intimacy in *Night and Day*: Fancy, Couples and the Heteronormative Norms”

11.15-11.45: Marlene Dirschauer (University of Hamburg)  
“‘Nuptials in Darkness.’ Intertextual Intimacy in Virginia Woolf’s *The Waves* and *Between the Acts*”

11.45-12.15: Valérie Favre (Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne)  
“Undoing the Madwoman in the River? The Question of her ‘Madness’ and Suicide in Virginia Woolf’s Feminist Reception”

## Session II: Interpreting/ Translating Woolf's Intimacy (Room L 217)

Chair: Claire Davison

10.45-11.15: Catherine Delesalle-Nancey (IETT, Université de Lyon 3)  
"The Art of Weaving as Poethics of Intimacy in Michael Cunningham's Representation of Virginia Woolf in *The Hours*"

11.15-11.45: Sophie Levin (Washington University St Louis)  
"Translation and Textual Intimacy: Virginia Woolf's *The Waves* and Marguerite Yourcenar's *Les Vagues*"

11.45-12.15: Sandra Cheilan, (Paris Ouest-Nanterre)  
« Woolf intime : portraits et visages de Woolf dans la bande dessinée contemporaine »

*12.15-13.45: lunch*

13.45-14.45: **Keynote Elsa Högberg** (Uppsala University, Sweden)  
"“A Pleasure in Intimacy”: Virginia Woolf and the Potentialities of the Intimate”

Chair: Elizabeth Abel

### Woolf's Intimacy through the Generic Lens

14.45-15.45: **Panel on “Virginia Woolf's Reading Notebooks: Reading, Writing and Intimacy”**

Chair: Mark Hussey

– Frédérique Amselle ITEM/ DeSripto-LARSH, Université Polytechnique Hauts-de-France  
“Reading and Writing: an Ongoing Dialogue”

– Anne-Laure Rigeade ITEM/ CNRS/ Université Paris-Est Créteil  
“Reading/Writing Maurois: a Forced Intimacy”

*15.45-16.00: coffee break*

### Artistic Intimacy

Chair: Maggie Humm

16.00-16.30: Nadia Fusini (Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa)  
“Virginia Woolf, Bloomsbury: Inventing Life” (visio-conference)

16.30-17.00: Teresa Brus (Wroclaw University, Poland)  
“Face to Face Encounters: Essayistic (Mis)Apprehension of the Other”

17.00-17.30: Kika Kyriakakou (University of Athens, Greece),  
“Virginia Woolf's Intimate Rooms, Sheds and Sheltered Gardens”

### **Scientific committee:**

Elizabeth Abel (University of California, Berkeley)  
Anne Béchard-Léauté (Jean Monnet, St Etienne)  
Catherine Bernard (Paris-Cité)  
Anne Besnault (Rouen)  
Rachel Bowlby (University College London)  
Adèle Cassigneul (Toulouse)  
Rémi Digonnet (Jean Monnet, St Etienne)  
Claire Davison (Sorbonne Nouvelle)  
Chantal Delourme (Paris-Nanterre)  
Nadia Fusini (École Normale Supérieure, Florence)  
Maggie Humm (East London)  
Mark Hussey (Pace University-New York)  
Catherine Lanone (Sorbonne Nouvelle)  
Marie Laniel (Picardie, Jules Verne)  
Frédéric Regard (Paris-Sorbonne)  
Floriane Reviron-Piégay (Jean Monnet, St Etienne)  
Anne-Marie Smith-Di Biasio (Institut Catholique de Paris)

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