

“Architects are needed. Architects of beauty who fashion jouissance—a very subtle material. Letting it be and building with it, while respecting the approach, the threshold, the intensity” (ESD, 214).

Call for Papers and Creative Works

“Architects of beauty” wanted for the
11th Meeting of the Luce Irigaray Circle

Thresholds of Difference

June 19-21, 2020

Mercer University, Cecil B. Day Campus
Atlanta, Georgia, USA

Featuring:

Keynote Speakers

Lynne Huffer, Emory University, USA

Kristin Sampson, University of Bergen, Norway

George Yancy, Emory University, USA

Book Panel at Charis Books (the South’s oldest independent feminist bookstore):

Fanny Söderbäck, DePaul University, USA: *Revolutionary Time: On Time and Difference in Irigaray and Kristeva* (SUNY 2019)

Poetry Reading by Gwen Benaway (University of Toronto, CAN), recipient of Canada’s 2019 Governor General’s Literary Award for Poetry

Borderstone: A Theatrical Performance by Atlanta Playwright Natasha Patel

Symposium on Irigaray and Pedagogy: Shaireen Rasheed (Long Island University, USA), Laura Roberts (Flinders University, AUS), and Tomoka Toraiwa (Nagoya University, JPN)

Mentoring Lunch and Workshop for Graduate Students and Early Career Academics

Irigaray Circle Banquet

The 11th meeting of the Luce Irigaray Circle is a three-day interdisciplinary conference devoted to the scholarship and creative work on, or inspired by, the thought of Luce

Irigaray. Luce Irigaray's work has influenced scholarship across multiple fields including Philosophy, Gender Studies, Queer Theory, Trans Studies, Literary Studies, Indigenous Studies, Classics, Religious Studies, Political Theory, Linguistics, Art, Architecture, Music, Performance Studies, and Legal Theory, etc. The Circle cultivates a space for honoring and interrogating the question of sexual difference by supporting the multiple research trajectories, methods, and projects inspired by Irigaray's thought.

This year's conference draws its theme from Irigaray's invocations of the *threshold*, evoking notions of limits, boundaries, intervals, crossings, and expansions, that constitute and are constitutive of differences. The theme of thresholds gestures to the materiality and porosity of borders in Irigaray's work and is meant to encourage consideration of Irigaray's work in relation to the contestation of bodies as sites of the production and reproduction of knowledges. While the Circle welcomes all submissions that explore the work of Luce Irigaray, the theme of thresholds of difference solicits queer, trans, feminist, crip, critical race, de-colonial, and other perspectives on Irigaray's work in relation to the following topics:

- Temporalities
- Ethics and eros
- Place, relations, and the inhabitation of difference
- Race, racism, and racialization
- Fugitivity, precarity, resistance
- Indigeneity
- Coloniality, war
- Immigration, migration
- Mass incarceration, prison-industrial complex
- Politics, political movements, political recognition
- Placental economies, maternity, the sensible transcendental
- Posthuman ecologies and sexual difference
- Climate crisis
- Social, environmental, and reproductive justice, rights and the law
- Teachers, Students, and Pedagogies of Sexual Difference

Papers should be delivered in 20 minutes to leave 10 minutes each for discussion. Please note that the IC conference organizers are planning an edited volume based on the conference and request the right of first review on all accepted papers.

If you would like to submit a proposal, please send the following information to TheIrigarayCircle@irigaray.org by ~~February 1, 2020~~ **February 22, 2020**:

- **For individual papers:** the title of your paper, an abstract (500 words maximum); 5 keywords; a list of no more than six references (not to be included in the word count)
- **For complete panels (3 papers per panel):** the title of the panel; an abstract explaining the theme of the panel (300 words maximum); 5 keywords for the panel; titles and individual abstracts for each paper (300 words each maximum, plus a list of up to six references for each paper).

In addition to academic presentations, the Circle invites proposals for creative work related to the work of Luce Irigaray. Past events have included theatrical and musical performances, poetry readings, art installations, and more. Submissions should include an abstract describing the work, materials that represent it (for example, poetry excerpts or photos) and an explanation of the technical needs related to presenting the work.

Karen Burke Memorial Prize: in addition, the Irigaray Circle will sponsor the 8th Annual Karen Burke Memorial Prize, awarded to the best paper submitted by a graduate student or recent PhD (PhD awarded in 2015 or later). The winner of the competition will give the Karen Burke Memorial Prize Lecture at a keynote session of the 2020 conference. Submission instructions:

- complete papers of no more than 4000 words should be submitted to TheIrigarayCircle@irigaray.org in an email with the subject line: 'Burke Prize'.
- papers should be prepared for anonymous review and submitted in *.doc or *.rtf format.
- accompanying email should list the paper title and the applicant's name, affiliation, and email address.
- Deadline for submissions: ~~January 15, 2020~~ **February 15, 2020.**

About the Luce Irigaray Circle: The Luce Irigaray Circle is an interdisciplinary society dedicated to stimulating and supporting scholarly and creative endeavors that are inspired by or informed by the philosophy of Luce Irigaray. The Circle was established at Stony Brook University in 2006 by the philosophers Sabrina L. Hom, Serene J. Khader, and Mary C. Rawlinson with support from the Office of the President. Scholars and artists from all disciplines who are interested in the Circle's activities and research are invited to join the Circle. For more information, see the Luce Irigaray Circle website: <http://www.irigaray.org>

Special thanks to Mercer University's Office of the Provost, and the College of Professional Advancement for generously hosting the 11th meeting of the Irigaray Circle.

Please contact Wesley Barker, Conference Director, if you would like help arranging childcare at the conference. Dr. Barker can be reached at barker_wn@mercer.edu.