

Distinguished Lectures Series  
Walter Benjamin Kolleg  
Faculty of Humanities  
University of Bern

# ETHICS AND/O CONTIN. GENCY

**LAURA  
MARCUS**

**CARY  
WOLFE**

**ROSI  
BRAIDOTTI**

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UNIVERSITÄT  
BERN

# ETHICS AND/OFF CONTIN- GENCY

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## LAURA MARCUS

**The Meanings of 'Ambivalence': Its Origins and Ends**

Lecture **11 April 2016, 18.30–20.00**

Workshop **12 April 2016, 9.30–12.00**

Laura Marcus is the Goldsmiths' Professor of English Literature and Fellow of New College, University of Oxford. As the co-editor of *The Cambridge History of Twentieth-Century English Literature* (2004), her research and teaching expertise is not limited to the past century, but extends to early film, literature and culture of the nineteenth century, and contemporary fiction. She currently works on scholarly editions of the work of modernist writers Dorothy Richardson and Virginia Woolf and conducts a study of the concept of 'rhythm' in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century in a range of disciplinary contexts. Prominent publications include *The Tenth Muse: Writing about Cinema in the Modernist Period* (2007) and *Dreams of Modernity: Psychoanalysis, Literature, Cinema* (2014).

All workshops are open to Swiss and international graduate, post-graduate and post-doctoral students. If you would like to participate in a workshop, please write to [dls@wbkolleg.unibe.ch](mailto:dls@wbkolleg.unibe.ch)

Prof. Marcus' talk and workshop have been generously co-funded by the Department of English's Chair of Literatures in English/North American Literature and Culture.



## CARY WOLFE

**Ethics and the (Less than Divine)  
Comedy of the (Bio)Political**

Lecture **24 May 2016, 18.30–20.00**

Workshop **24 May 2016, 9.30–12.00**

Cary Wolfe is the Bruce and Elizabeth Dunlevie Professor of English at Rice University. He is also the director of 3CT: Center for Critical and Cultural Theory, which promotes intellectual synergy and community among Rice faculty and graduate students. While he is most prominently known for his work in animal studies and posthumanism, his research and teaching covers fields such as systems theory and pragmatism, biopolitics and biophilosophy as well as American literature and culture. He is the founding editor of the series *Posthumanities* at the University of Minnesota Press, to which he contributed the monograph *What is Posthumanism?* (2010). His latest publication is *Before the Law: Humans and Other Animals in a Biopolitical Frame* (2012).

## ROSI BRAIDOTTI

**Critique, Power, Affirmation**

Lecture **24 October 2016, 18.30–20.00**

Workshop **25 October 2016, 9.30–12.00**

Rosi Braidotti is Distinguished University Professor and founding director of the Centre for the Humanities at Utrecht University. A renowned scholar in the field of continental philosophy and a pioneer in women's studies, she combines social and political theory, cultural politics, gender, feminist theory and ethnicity studies to thoroughly challenge binary thinking about what it means to inhabit a globalized world. In four interconnected monographs (short titles: *Patterns of Dissonance*, *Nomadic Subjects*, *Metamorphoses*, *Transpositions*) pondering the constitution of contemporary subjectivity, she theorizes how difference can be approached productively. Her latest publication, *The Posthuman* (2013), embraces post-anthropocentric thought about alterity in order to examine the sustainability of our planet as a whole.

All lectures will take place at:  
Universität Bern  
Hochschulstrasse 4, 3012 Bern  
Room 201

All workshops will take place at:  
UniS, Schanzeneckstrasse 1,  
3012 Bern  
Room B-105