

**MERLEAU-PONTY CIRCLE**  
**13th Annual International Conference**  
**September 15-17, 1988**  
**Conference Director: Thomas W. Busch**  
**Villanova University**  
**Villanova, Pennsylvania**

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**SESSION I:**

**A: THE PLACE OF REASON**

**Moderator: Anthony Godziebs, *Catholic University of America***

**Veronique Foti, *Pennsylvania State University***

**"Re-thinking the Rationalists: Descartes, Spinoza, and  
Leibniz in Merleau-Ponty's Later Thought"**

**Ernest Sherman, *Pace University***

**"Merleau-Ponty's Topos-Logos"**

**B: FREUD/LACAN**

**Moderator: Carol W. Anthony, *Villanova University***

**P. Christopher Westra, *McMaster University***

**"Merleau-Ponty's Freudian Turn"**

**Stephen Michelman, *SUNY Stony Brook***

**"Narcissism and the Fate of the Other: The Early Constitution of the Psyche in Lacan and  
Merleau-Ponty"**

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**SESSION II:**

**A: AESTHETICS**

**Moderator: Barbara E. Wall, O.P., *Villanova University***

**Phillips Young, *Pennsylvania State University***

**"Embodiment and Kinaesthetic Power: Merleau-Ponty and  
the Aesthetics of Dance"**

**Galen Johnson, *University of Rhode Island***

**"The Absence of Picasso: Merleau-Ponty and Malraux"**

**B: LANGUAGE/WRITING**

**Moderator: Kathleen Wright, *Haverford College***

**Hugh Silverman, *SUNY Stony Brook***  
**"The Text of the Speaking Subject: From Merleau-Ponty  
to Kristeva"**

**Michael Smith, *Barry College***  
**"Merleau-Ponty as Writer"**

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**SESSION III**

**A: SPACE**

**Moderator: TBA**

**Edward Casey, *SUNY Stony Brook***

**"On the Sensation of the Voluminous"**

**David Pettigrew, *SUNY Stony Brook***

**"Space as Problematic in Merleau-Ponty and Heidegger"**

**B: REVERSIBILITY**

**Moderator: Dennis O'Connor, *Concordia University***

**Glen A. Mazis, *Wesleyan University***

**"Merleau-Ponty and the 'Backward Flow' of time: The  
Temporality of Reversibility and the Reversibility of  
Temporality"**

**Duane Davis, *Pennsylvania State University***

**"Reversible Subjectivity: The Problem of Transcendence and Language"**

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**SESSION IV:**

**Moderator: Stephen Watson, *University of Notre Dame***

**Speaker: Jacques Taminiaux, *Boston College***

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**SESSION V**

**A: MERLEAU-PONTY IN DIALOGUE I**

**Moderator: Joseph Betz, *Villanova University***

**Kazashi Nobuo, *Yale University***

**"On the Notions of 'Flesh' and 'Pure Experience': Merleau-Ponty and James on Perception and  
Conception"**

Catherine W. Kaha, *University of Illinois*

"Wittgenstein, Merleau-Ponty, and the Poetic Gestalt"

Patrick L. Bourgeois, *Loyola University*

"Merleau-Ponty, Scientific Method, and pragmatism"

**B: KNOWLEDGE**

Moderator: Hugh Lacey, *Swarthmore College*

Tony O'Connor, *University College (Cork)*

"Intentionality, Ontology, and Empirical Thought"

John Compton, *Vanderbilt University*

"Merleau-Ponty's Thesis of the Primacy of Perception and the Meaning of Scientific Objectivity"

Jeffrey Turner, *Bucknell*

"Empirical Skepticism and Merleau-Ponty's Phenomenology of Perception"

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## SESSION VI

**A: MERLEAU-PONTY IN DIALOGUE II**

Moderator: Alreen Dallery, *LaSalle University*

Shaun Gallagher, *Canisius College*

"Language and Imperfect Consensus: Merleau-Ponty's  
Contribution to the Habermas-Gadamer Debate"

Frederic Bender, *University of Colorado at Colorado Springs*

"The Phenomenology of Perception as a Text of Hegelian Marxism"

**B: MERLEAU-PONTY AND DERRIDA**

Moderator: Robert Dostal, *Bryn Mawr College*

Martin Dillon, *SUNY Binghamton*

"Temporality: Merleau-Ponty and Derrida"

Mark Yount, *St. Joseph University*

"Two Reversibilities: Merleau-Ponty and Derrida"

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## SESSION VII

**A: MERLEAU-PONTY IN DIALOGUE III**

Moderator: John A. Doody, *Villanova University*

Dorothea Olkowski-Laetz, *College of Charleston*

**"Merleau-Ponty and Bergson: The Character of the Phenomenal Field"**

**Patrick Burke, *Seattle University***

**"Merleau-Ponty and the new Biology: The Importance of  
Raymond Ruyer"**

**B: PERCEPTION/TRANSCENDENCE**

**Moderator: Charles Dyke, *Temple University***

**Gary Madson, *McMaster University***

**"Does Merleau-Ponty Have a Philosophy of Perception"**

**Wayne Froman, *George Mason University***

**"Ciphers of Transcendence"**

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**SESSION VIII**

**Moderator: John Caputo, *Villanova University***

**Joseph Margolis, *Temple University***

**"Overcoming Philosophical Strabism and Philosophical Diplopia"**

**SESSION IX**

**A: BODY/POLITICS**

**Moderator: John Cavalho, *Villanova University***

**Panos Alexakos, *Pennsylvania State University***

**"Homo Faber"**

**Algis Mickunas, *Ohio University***

**"Merleau-Ponty: Discourse of the Anonymous Body"**

**George Free, *York University***

**"On the Politics of Expression"**

**B: THEMES FROM PHENOMENOLOGY OF PERCEPTION**

**Moderator: Terrence Wright, *Bryn Mawr College***

**Clifford Hancock, *Ohio University***

**"Getting a Grip on Depth"**

**Gail Weiss, *Yale University***

**"Context and Perspective"**

**James Buchanan, *University of Akron***

**"Merleau-Ponty's Shoemaker"**