

Lacan Circle of Melbourne

STUDY DAYS 2009

The labyrinth of obsessional neurosis

Saturday 16 May 9.30am – 1.00pm

The Australian Institute of International Affairs, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne 3002 (both parking-friendly and public transport-accessible).

A continuation of the study of Freud's classic case of the Rat Man with Lacan's subsequent contribution to the study of obsessional neurosis.

9.30 – 11.00 *The Rat Man*

The close reading of Freud's classic text on the Rat Man, *Notes upon a case of obsessional neurosis*, *Standard edition* volume 10, will focus on section 1, part (F) "The precipitating cause of the illness" and part (G) "The Father Complex and the Solution of the Rat Idea".

11.30 – 1.00 *The Name-of-the-Father*

The Rat Man's relationship with his father is both prominent and problematic; this question of the father is central to obsessional neurosis, as Freud realized. Lacan gives a central place to what he calls the Name-of-the-Father both in obsessional neurosis as elsewhere. This issue of the Name-of-the-Father is thus the focus of our work at the Study Days in April, May and June. To prepare for this discussion, we recommend the three articles by Eric Laurent, listed below, along with other readings.

Alongside these monthly Study Days the Lacan Circle also offers a fortnightly seminar on Wednesdays on *Fundamental texts in psychoanalysis*, which this year is on Lacan's *Seminar V, Formations of the unconscious*. The theme of the labyrinth of obsessional neurosis is complemented by this seminar; particularly relevant is the discussion of Lacan's extensive analysis of the Oedipus complex. Details available on the Lacan Circle website.

In the second half of the year the Study Days will combine a continued discussion of Freud's Rat Man case with Lacan's analysis of obsessional neurosis from the last section of *Seminar V*.

Reading

Sigmund Freud, 'Notes upon a Case of Obsessional Neurosis', Section 1, part (D) "Initiation into the nature of the treatment" and part (E) "Some obsessional ideas and their explanation". In *Standard Edition* vol. 10

Pierre-Gilles Guéguen, "From Anxiety to the Name-of-the-Father", *Lacanian Compass* vol. 1, issue 5 (July 20, 2005). www.amp-nls.org/Lacaniancompass5.pdf

Eric Laurent, “How to recompose the Names-of-the-Father?” *International Lacanian Review*. Translated by Rivka Warshawsky from: “Comment recomposer les Noms-du-Père?” *Élucidation* n° 8/9, Paris, Verdier, 2004. <http://lacancircle.net/archives.html>

Eric Laurent, “The Name-of-the-Father: Psychoanalysis and democracy”, *Lacanian Compass* (2006), vol 1, no. 7. Translated by Maria Cristina Aguirre. <http://lacancircle.net/archives.html>

Eric Laurent, “Symptom, discourse: In/out”. Translated by Russell Grigg. <http://lacancircle.net/archives.html>

Alexandre Stevens, “The Names-of-the-Father”, *Bulletin of the NLS* 3 (2008): 57-65.

Registration for the Study Day is \$30 (\$20 full-time students).

Contact Russell Grigg rgri8998@bigpond.com.au if you have any queries.