

(Neuro)psychoanalysis, its critique, its critics

Wednesday 24 June 2015

One-day symposium at The Centre for Critical Philosophy – Ghent University, Belgium

Venue: [Ghent University, Blandijnberg 2, B-9000 Gent](#)

Room: 120.012 ([click here](#))

Psychoanalysis is a critique: a critique of psychiatry (e.g. Freud), a critique of psychology (e.g. Lacan), or, more broadly, a critique of society (e.g. Adorno, Marcuse... Žižek). Psychoanalysis has also always been a critique of psychoanalysis. And, recently, psychoanalysis can also be, besides a critique of neuroscience, a critique of neuropsychology

But, of course, neuroscience itself is a critique: a critique of our humanistic, psychologistic conceptions and illusions such as free will, love or the unified Ego (e.g. Dennett, Metzinger) and their effects on society. And clearly, neurosciences can also be, besides a critique of psychoanalysis, a critique of neuropsychology.

And finally, neuropsychology is a critique: especially, besides a critique of neuroscience, a critique of psychoanalysis (the scanner might prove Freud wrong on certain points).

At the very least there is no lack of critique! No lack of critics neither. Or should one even say: we are all so critical now? Then it is not clear what it would take to save us now.

There is no registration fee, but please register via e-mail.

For lunch there will be sandwiches (free of charge).

Registration: mail to: janr.devos@ugent.be

PROGRAM

09h00 – 09h30: Welcome & Introduction to the symposium

09h30 – 10h15: **Henk Vandaele** (KULeuven & Vives, Kortrijk): Towards a critique of pure neurophysiology, a Fichtian approach

10h15 – 11h00: **Ed Pluth** (Chico State University, USA): Must a Materialism Be a Naturalism? On Adrian Johnston's Immanent Critique of the Neurosciences

11h00 – 11h15: *Coffee Break*

11h15 – 12h00: **Ariane Bazan** (Université Libre de Bruxelles, ULB) & **Gertrudis Van de Vijver** (Ghent University): Neuropsychology and the notion of mental reality: an epistemological challenge

12h00 – 13h00: Response by **Jens De Vleminck** (Ghent University), followed by a round table.

13h00 – 14h00: *Lunch*

14h00 – 14h45: **Jan De Vos** (Ghent University): What is Critique in the Era of the Neurosciences? Reading Brassier's "view from nowhere" and Sellars' "manifest image" from a psychoanalytic perspective

14h45 – 15h30: **Charles Wolfe** (Ghent University): Brain Theory Between Utopia and Dystopia: Neuronormativity Meets the Social Brain

15h30 – 15h45: *Coffee break*

15h45 – 16h45: Response by **Marc De Kesel** (Saint Paul University, Ottawa, CA) followed by a round table.