

UNIVERSITY
of
OTAGO



Te Whare Wānanga o Ōtāgo
NEW ZEALAND

VULNERABILITY: A SYMPOSIUM

26–28 November 2010
University of Otago

Keynote Speakers:

Rosalyn Diprose (UNSW)

Rebecca Stringer (Otago)

Ewa Plonowska Ziarek (SUNY Buffalo)

Hosted by the Postcolonial Studies Research Network | University of Otago | Dunedin | New Zealand

Co-sponsored by the Film, Media and Literature Network | University of Otago

Day 1: Friday 26 November 2010

8.30–9.00	CONFERENCE PACK PICK-UP; COFFEE available from 8.30 (Te Tumu, Level 1)
9.00–9.15	WELCOME (Te Tumu, Ground Floor: Te Riu Lecture Room)
9.15–10.30	KEYNOTE 1 Ewa Plonowska Ziarek: Feminist Aesthetics of Vulnerability: The Case of Nella Larsen
10.30–11.00	COFFEE
11.00–1.00	Session 1: Vulnerability, Levinas & Literature (Chair: Chris Prentice) Josie Carter (University of Otago): The Desire to Connect: An Issue of Vulnerability? Simone Drichel (University of Otago): “In a society of masters and slaves, no one is free”: Ethical Subjectivity in J. M. Coetzee’s <i>Disgrace</i> Mike Marais (Rhodes University): The Trauma of Reading Magdalena Zolkos (University of Western Sydney): Violent Exposures and (In)Vulnerable Selves in Benjamin Percy’s <i>Refresh, Refresh</i>
1.00–2.00	LUNCH
2.00–3.00	Session 2: Vulnerability as Fantasmatic Investment (Chair: Jennifer Lawn) Joanne Faulkner (University of New South Wales): The Vulnerability of Virtual Subjects: Childhood, and the Cultural Value of Innocence Jennifer M. Schmidt (Rhodes University): Exposing Glances, ‘Model (White) Girl’ Good Looks: Beautiful Vulnerability, Race, and the Gaze in Two Post-apartheid Novels by Lauren Beukes
3.00–4.00	Session 3: Reading beyond Familial Violence: Literature & Ethical Potentiality (Chair: Josie Carter) Jennifer Lawn (Massey University): “Enigmatic Signifiers” and the Reproduction of Intra-Familial Violence in Christos Tsiolkas’ Novel <i>The Slap</i> Isabel Michell (Massey University): The Art of Disclosure: Mothers and the Ethical Potentiality of the Maternal in Mansfield and Frame
4.00–4.30	COFFEE
4.30–5.30	Session 4: Vulnerability & Performance (Chair: Catherine Robinson) Mark Seton (Australian Film Television and Radio School): Treasuring Vulnerability, Nurturing Resilience: Negotiating Embodied Sensitivities while Training the Actor to Enact Trauma Jules Sturm (University of Amsterdam): Aesthetic Vulnerability
5.30–6.00	Rebecca Stringer: Response to Day 1; Open Discussion
6.00–7.30	DRINKS

Day 2: Saturday 27 November 2010

From 8.45	COFFEE available
9.15–10.30	KEYNOTE 2 Rebecca Stringer: Vulnerability After Wounding: Agency, Rape Law and the Differend
10.30–11.00	COFFEE
11.00–12.00	Session 1: Gendered Vulnerability (Chair: Katrina Jaworski) Joey Macdonald (University of Otago): Levinas and Butler on Being Vulnerable to the Other: Trans Theory, Ethical Relationships and Counteracting Phobic Violence Natalie Nenadic (University of Kentucky): Heidegger's Phenomenology, Modernity, and Sexual Objectification
12.00–1.00	Session 2: Vulnerability & Homelessness (Chair: Laurence Simmons) Catherine Robinson (University of Technology Sydney): The Re-Making of Vulnerability within Homelessness Elizabeth Treep (University of Auckland): Creativity as Shelter: Outsider Architecture and Eve Langley's Literary Construction
1.00–2.00	LUNCH
2.00–3.00	Session 3: Resilient Subjects (Chair: Campbell Jones) David Chandler (University of Westminster): Insecure Subjects: Vulnerability, Empowerment and Resilience Julian Reid (University of Lapland): A 'New Bodily Ontology'? Cutting the Political Subject off its Life Support
3.00–4.00	Session 4: Vulnerability & Justice (Chair: Magdalena Zolkos) Campbell Jones (University of Leicester/University of Auckland): Relative Vulnerability Kate Schick (Victoria University of Wellington): Gillian Rose and Speculative Political Thought
4.00–4.30	COFFEE
4.30–5.30	Session 5: Vulnerability & Academia (Chair: Avril Bell) Linda Devereux (University of Canberra): Being Vulnerable Adisorn Juntrasook/Karen Nairn (University of Otago): Becoming Vulnerable in Academia: Re-Considering Vulnerabilities in a Research Interview with a 'Marginalised' Academic
5.30–6.00	Rosalyn Diprose: Response to Day 2; Open Discussion
7.30	SYMPOSIUM DINNER at Bacchus (Level 1, 12 The Octagon, Dunedin)

Day 3: Sunday 28 November 2010

From 8.45	COFFEE available
9.15–10.30	KEYNOTE 3 Rosalyn Diprose: Vulnerability, Passivity, Responsibility
10.30–11.00	COFFEE
11.00–12.00	Session 1: Geopolitical Vulnerability: Guyana and Pitcairn Island (Chair: Mark Cariston Seton) Maria Amoamo (University of Otago): The Mitigation of Vulnerability: Mutiny, Resilience and Reconstitution—A Case Study of Pitcairn Island Sarah E. Vaughn (Columbia University): Hybrid Interventions: Exhausting Climates and Racial Politics in Postsocialist Guyana
12.00–1.00	Session 2: Facing (up to) Vulnerability: Levinas & Cultural Politics (Chair: Simone Drichel) Avril Bell (Massey University): <i>Te Tiriti</i> – An Invitation to Vulnerability Claire Loughnan (University of Melbourne): Towards a Politics of Affect
1.00–2.00	LUNCH
2.00–3.30	Session 3: Being Vulnerable/Vulnerable Being (Chair: Fiona Jenkins) Sonja Boon (Memorial University of Newfoundland): “A lack of eyelids on the face of the soul”: Vulnerability, Longing and Stigma in Hélène Cixous’ <i>The Day I Wasn’t There</i> Laurence Simmons (University of Auckland): <i>Comment ne pas trembler?</i> : Derrida’s Earthquake Krzysztof Ziarek (University at Buffalo): A Vulnerable World: Humans and Finitude
3.30–4.00	COFFEE
4.00–5.30	Session 4: Corporeal Vulnerability: Dead & Alive (Chair: Joanne Faulkner) Nadine Ehlers (Georgetown University): Towards an Ethics of Vulnerability: Cancer and the Body in Risk Katrina Jaworski (University of South Australia): The Breath of Life and Death Fiona Jenkins (Australian National University): Dead and Alive: Vulnerability and the Image
5.30–6.00	Ewa Plonowska Ziarek: Response to Day 3; Open Discussion