

## 21st ANNUAL DAY IN APPLIED PSYCHOANALYSIS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2017 · 9AM to 4PM

George Ignatief Theatre, University of Toronto, 15 Devonshire Place, Toronto, Ontario

# Gender through the Looking Glass:

*Whose perspective? Gender Fluidity in Culture, Literature,  
and Psychoanalysis – Contemporary Viewpoints*



### **Paul Lynch**

MD Psychoanalyst, Boston

### **Emma Donoghue**

PhD Acclaimed Irish-Canadian Writer/Literary Historian

### **Sheila Cavanagh**

PhD Associate Professor, Sociology, Toronto

### **Oren Gozlan**

PsyD Clinical Psychologist/Psychoanalyst

### **Marco Posadas**

MSW Clinical Social Worker/Psychoanalyst

By crossing the gender divide, the shared, lived experience of people of transgender identity has infiltrated mainstream consciousness and radicalized questions surrounding gender. What does it mean to be a man or a woman? How fluid an experience IS gender?

This symposium will look at the way in which the concept of *gender fluidity* informs developmental considerations of gender identity and gendered identifications; how it both supports a progressive understanding of gender, while presenting a challenge to the notions of binary gender ingrained in the social order. How do we respond to shifting gender mores and previously unthought possibilities of gender change? Is psychoanalysis ready for such a transition? We will explore these questions through case material and characters in literary fiction.

*Join us for an inspiring day of dialogue from the interweaving perspectives of literary, sociological, and psychoanalytic thinkers.*

## PROGRAM

- 8:30 Registration
- 9:00 Welcome and Introductions
- 9:10 **Paul Lynch MD**
- 9:55 **Sheila Cavanagh PhD**
- 10:25 Coffee Break
- 10:45 **Sheila Cavanagh in conversation with Paul Lynch**
- 11:05 Open Discussion with audience
- 12:00 Lunch break (on your own)
- 1:30 **Oren Gozlan PsyD**
- 2:00 **Emma Donoghue PhD**
- 2:40 **Marco Posadas MSW in response**
- 3:05 Open Panel and Audience Discussion
- 4:00 Closing Remarks

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Following this symposium, attendees will:

- Have gained an understanding of the concept of gender fluidity
- Be able to distinguish between gender fluidity and gender rigidity
- Have knowledge of the developmental factors affecting gender identification, including the roles of mind, body and relationship
- Be more familiarized with current debates in the field of transsexuality/identity
- Be more mindful of gender based alternatives to the traditional Canadian family unit.
- Identify alternative axes of sexual difference using the myth of Tiresias, the first transgendered individual in folklore.
- Describe trans development as appreciated from within the cultural and clinical milieu.

### Paul E. Lynch, M.D.

A psychoanalyst in private practice in Boston, MA, Dr. Lynch is on the faculty of the Boston Psychoanalytic Society and Institute (BPSI), the Massachusetts Institute for Psychoanalysis, the China American Psychoanalytic Alliance, and Tufts University School of Medicine. He co-edited the book, *Sexualities, Contemporary Psychoanalytic Perspectives*, with Alessandra Lemma (Routledge, 2015). As a candidate at the American Psychoanalytic Association, Dr. Lynch became very active in the American's effort to reverse decades of anti-homosexual bias in American psychoanalysis. In 1997, he chaired the American's successful Public Forum, "Homophobia; Analysis of a Permissible Prejudice." In 2002, he received the American Psychoanalytic Association's Karl A. Menninger Award for the best paper written by a candidate: "Yearning for Love and Cruising for Sex; Returning to Freud to Understand Some Gay Men". At BPSI, Dr. Lynch is an active member of the Committee on Gay and Lesbian Issues, and for many years co-chaired their Discussion Groups on "Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity." He has presented internationally on sexuality at the meetings of the American and the IPA, and in London at the British Psychoanalytic Alliance and Tavistock Centre for Couple Relationships.

### Sheila L. Cavanagh, PhD

*Tiresias and Psychoanalysis: Transgender, the Clinic and the problem of Sexual Difference*

Associate Professor of Sociology at York University and co-editor of *Somatechnics* journal, Prof. Cavanagh co-edited *Skin, Culture and Psychoanalysis* (2013) and is editing a special double-issue on Transgender and Psychoanalysis in *Transgender Studies Quarterly*. Prof. Cavanagh has published her scholarship in gender, cultural studies and psychoanalytic journals. She wrote *Sexing the Teacher* (UBC, 2007), *Queering Bathrooms* (UTP, 2010) and is completing a third monograph titled *Transgender and the Other Sexual Difference: Bracha L. Ettinger and Jacques Lacan*. She has recently published a paper on Tiresias in *The International Journal of Psychoanalysis*.

This presentation on Tiresias (a transgender character in the Oedipal trilogy) will ask what psychoanalysis would look like had it been imagined from a Tiresian, as opposed to an Oedipal perspective. Prof. Cavanagh will use the dramatis personae as an image and metaphor for transgender subjectivity in the clinic and in culture more broadly and will draw upon transgender studies and psychoanalytic theories engaging gender, sexuality and sexuation.

## Emma Donoghue PhD

The recipient of numerous international literary awards, Emma Donoghue is an Irish-Canadian playwright, literary historian, novelist, and screenwriter. Best known for her fiction, which has been translated into over forty languages, her newest venture fiction for middle-grade readers (8 to 12): [The Lotterys Plus One](#) (2017), is the first in a series about a big family. [The Wonder](#) (2016) was a finalist for Canada's Giller Prize. [Room](#) (2010) an international bestseller, was shortlisted for the Man Booker and Orange Prize, the Trillium English Book Award, and International Author of the Year and won numerous international literary awards. Room was adapted into a [film](#), for which Emma wrote the screenplay and was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Adapted Screenplay. Room won the Canadian Screen Award for Best Film and Best Adapted Screen Play and the Grolsch People's Choice Award at Toronto International Film Festival.

Emma's short stories, including *Touchy Subjects* (2006) and *Kissing the Witch* (1997, shortlisted for the James L. Tiptree Award) have been widely published and broadcast. Her historical fiction includes: *Slammerkin* (2000, which won the 2002 Ferro-Grumley Award for Lesbian Fiction), *The Woman who gave Birth to Rabbits* (2002), *Life Mask* (2004), and *The Sealed Letter* (US/Canada 2008, UK 2011). Emma's drama, written for both stage and radio, includes, *I Know My Own Heart* (1993), *Ladies and Gentlemen* (1996), *Kissing the Witch* (2000), *Don't Die Wondering* (2005), and *The Talk of the Town* (2012). One of her radio plays, *Mix* (BBC Radio 3, 2003), is an hour-long drama about an intersexed girl.

As a literary historian, Emma's writings include *Passions Between Women: British Lesbian Culture 1668-1801* (1993/1996) and *We Are Michael Field* (1998, a biography of a pair of Victorian women writers). She has edited two anthologies of poetry (1997) and short stories (1999), as well as publishing a range of scholarly articles.

Emma read English and French at University College Dublin in 1990 and in 1997 received her PhD (on the concept of friendship between men and women in eighteenth-century English fiction) from the University of Cambridge, UK. She is a member of the Society of Authors, and the Writer's Union of Canada.

## Oren Gozlan, Psy.D, C. Psych, ABPP

*Leaky sexuality, Dreamy Gender*

This presentation asks, is gender really a fluid experience? For whom? And addresses fluidity as an ethos that both opens and forecloses current debates on questions of transitioning and transsexuality. It centres on the ways in which the conception of gender as fluid has framed debates around questions of development, authenticity, continuity and mourning. The demand for hormone intervention in the case of the prepubescent transgender child will serve as a scene that animates a paradox in the conceptualization of gender fluidity: It both supports a progressive understanding of gender, yet introduces a new injunction that forecloses psychoanalytic conceptualization of gender.

Oren Gozlan is a clinical psychologist and psychoanalyst in private practice. He is currently a candidate at the Toronto Institute for Psychoanalysis and chair of the Gender and Sexuality Committee of the International Forum for Psychoanalytic Education. Dr. Gozlan has published numerous psychoanalytic papers on gender and sexuality. His recent publication, *Transsexuality and the Art of Transitioning: A Lacanian Approach* (Routledge Press) won the American Academy & Board of Psychoanalysis' annual book prize for books published in 2015. He is also the winner of the 2016 Symonds Prize from the Studies of Gender and Sexuality Journal for his paper, "The Transsexual turn: Uncanniness" at Wellesley College. He is currently working on an edited collection, titled "In Transition – Current Critical Debates in the Field of Transsexual Studies," for Routledge Press.

## Marco Posadas MSW, RSW

Psychoanalyst, clinical social worker, and PhD candidate at Smith College School of Social Work, Marco Posadas is a member of the Canadian Psychoanalytic Society, Mexican Psychoanalytic Association, and International Psychoanalytical Association. He is on faculty at the Toronto Institute Psychoanalysis where he focuses on integrating cultural, gender and sexual diversity, and anti-oppressive practice into psychoanalysis, and adjunct faculty at Smith College School of Social Work, Massachusetts, where he teaches theories of development, psychopathology and clinical practice with LGBTQ mental health from a psychoanalytic and anti-oppressive perspective. Marco is Chair of the International Psychoanalytic Association, Gender and Sexual Diversity Studies Committee.

## REGISTRATION

On-line: [torontopschoanalysis.com](http://torontopschoanalysis.com) OR Email: [info@torontopschoanalysis.com](mailto:info@torontopschoanalysis.com)

**Early Registration** (before Aug 1, 2017) \$150

**At the door** (after Aug 1, 2017) \$165

**Full-Time Students** \$75 (with proof of 2017/18 status in universities/colleges) Early bird, or \$85 after August 1.

**Mental-health trainees and retired seniors** eligible for a 25% fee reduction (Proof of 2017/18 status required)

*Refunds must be requested in writing 2 weeks prior to the event, after which fees cannot be returned. A handling fee of \$30 will be retained.*

*This event is an accredited group learning activity (section 1) as defined by the Maintenance of Certification Program of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, and approved by the Canadian Psychiatric Association (CPA). The specific opinions and content of this event are not necessarily those of the CPA, and are the responsibility of the organizer(s) alone.*

*« La présente activité est une activité d'apprentissage collectif agréée (section 1), au sens que lui donne le programme du Maintien du certificat du Collège royal des médecins et chirurgiens du Canada; elle a été approuvée par l'Association des psychiatres du Canada. Les opinions et le contenu spécifiques de cette activité ne sont pas nécessairement ceux de l'APC, et sont la responsabilité exclusive de l'organisateur ou des organisateurs. »*

## Between Hours/ Interdisciplinary Dialogues

Toronto Psychoanalytic Society

[www.torontopschoanalysis.com/between-hours](http://www.torontopschoanalysis.com/between-hours)



**Organizing Committee**

Vivienne Pasiaka PhD, Chair · Keith Haartman PhD · Gavril Hercz MD · Mandisa NKungu MD · Orit Zamir MD