

# PAL

Duke's Center for Philosophy, Arts, and Literature

## Annual Report 2010-2011



*PAL is located in Bay 5 of Smith Warehouse*

## Letter from the Director of PAL:

PAL's purpose is to explore the connections between philosophy, literature and other arts. We kicked off our second year by turning to the the question of reading. What comes after the hermeneutics of suspicion? The question must be timely, for over 90 people turned up for our "Beyond Critique" symposium.

PAL's 2nd Annual Young Scholars Workshop focused on the often neglected subject of writing. Organized with the support of the Thompson Writing Center and the Graduate School, "Writing is Thinking" was a resounding success, which confirmed that graduate students have a genuine need for high-level reflections and dialogue on what it means to lead a writing life.

PAL's other activities spanned from the turn to affect in the humanities to questions of moral sentience in philosophy and film. PAL's listserv, which publicizes these events, now has over 200 subscribers.

No figure embodies the PAL vision better than Simone de Beauvoir, who was both a first rate philosopher and a major writer. I am delighted to announce that next year's PAL symposium, co-sponsored with Women's Studies, will be "Simone de Beauvoir Today." In keeping with the French theme, PAL will kick off the semester with an informal talk on "Wittgenstein in France" by Sandra Laugier, the first woman to hold the Chair of Philosophy of Language at the Sorbonne. I hope to see you all at PAL events next year!

Sincerely,



Toril Moi  
Director, Center for Philosophy, Arts and Literature  
Professor of English, Theater Studies and Philosophy  
James B. Duke Professor of Literature and Romance Studies



## Leonore Fleming

Leonore Fleming is a graduate student at Duke University working on a Ph.D. in Philosophy and an M.S. in Biology. She works on philosophy of biology but also has an interest in Wittgenstein and Ordinary Language Philosophy. She designed the PAL website, and is the Center's webmaster. She is PAL's assistant director, and is responsible for publicity and outreach. Pictured here with Stanley Cavell.



## Kaila Brown

Kaila Brown is a graduate student in the PhD program in English Literature at Duke University. Her interests are rooted in Modernism and Phenomenology. She also integrates the debates and history of the philosophy of religion and moral philosophy within her work on Modernist writers, artists, directors, and philosophers. She was the PAL assistant for the 2010-2011 year.



## FALL 2010 EVENTS

**09/10/10 -**

*Beyond Critique Symposium:  
Reading after the Hermeneutics  
of Suspicion*

Speakers were Rita Felski (English, UVA Charlottesville), Sharon Marcus (English, Columbia), Stephen Best (English, Berkeley), Katherine Hayles (Literature & English, Duke). Respondent: Toril Moi (Literature, Duke).

**09/14/10 -**

*PAL Forum Discussing the  
Beyond Critique Symposium*



**PAL**  
Presented with the Franklin  
Humanities Institute

### Beyond Critique: Reading after the Hermeneutics of Suspicion

 <b>Rita Felski</b> <small>UVA Charlottesville</small> <i>"Suspicious Minds"</i>	 <b>Sharon Marcus</b> <small>Columbia</small> <i>"Celebrity: A Surface Reading"</i>
 <b>Katherine Hayles</b> <small>Duke</small> <i>"Hyper Reading: Pattern versus Meaning"</i>	 <b>Stephen Best</b> <small>Berkeley</small> <i>"The History of People Who Did Not Exist"</i>

**September 10th 2pm - 6pm**  
 A symposium followed by a reception

Duke University Rare Book Room  
 located in Perkins Library

**What are the alternatives to the hermeneutics of suspicion?  
 Can literary studies move beyond critique?**

Four distinguished scholars come together to discuss the way we read now. Sharon Marcus and Stephen Best are the co-editors of the recent issue of *Representations* entitled "The Way We Read Now." Rita Felski has received a Guggenheim Fellowship to work on the hermeneutics of suspicion. Kate Hayles is world renowned for her work on the modes of reading and writing in the digital age.

## FALL 2010 EVENTS

**10/19/10 -**

*PAL Forum Discussing Robert Bresson's  
Film, Au hasard Balthazar*



**11/16/10 -**

*Moral Understanding and  
Animal Sentience in Literature  
and Film*

Lecturers were Professor Sharon Cameron (Johns Hopkins) and Professor Raimond Gaita (King's College, London).

Co-sponsored with the Franklin Humanities Institute Seminar.

## Moral Understanding and Animal Sentience in Literature and Film

**Tuesday, November 16, 2010 5:00 – 7:30 PM**  
 C106, Bay 4, Smith Warehouse Franklin Humanities Institute Duke University

Presented by  
*Expression/Performance/Behavior*,  
 the 2010-11 Franklin Humanities  
 Institute Annual Seminar with the  
 Center for Philosophy, Arts, &  
 Literature (PAL)



**5:00 – 6:00 PM**  
 Literature and Moral Understanding  
 Raimond Gaita  
 King's College London & Australian Catholic University


**6:30 – 7:30 PM**  
 Animal Sentience:  
 Robert Bresson's *Au hasard Balthazar*  
 Sharon Cameron  
 Johns Hopkins University

**Related Event:**  
 Screening of *Au hasard Balthazar*  
 with introduction by Anne-Cécile Ballot  
 Tuesday, October 19, 2010, 2:00 pm  
 B108, Bay 5, Smith Warehouse  
 RSVP to balla.browa@duke.edu by Friday October 15

**Location, directions, parking:** The Franklin Humanities Institute is now located at Bay 4 and 5 of the Smith Warehouse (1400 Buchanan Blvd). Visitors parking for this event is available at the Smith South parking lot, west of Buchanan and Maxwell. The Warehouse is served by the C-1 Duke campus bus and the Bull City Connector.

**For more information on this and other events at the Franklin Humanities Institute, please visit or contact us at:**  
[www.fhi.duke.edu](http://www.fhi.duke.edu) fah@duke.edu 919.924.1901

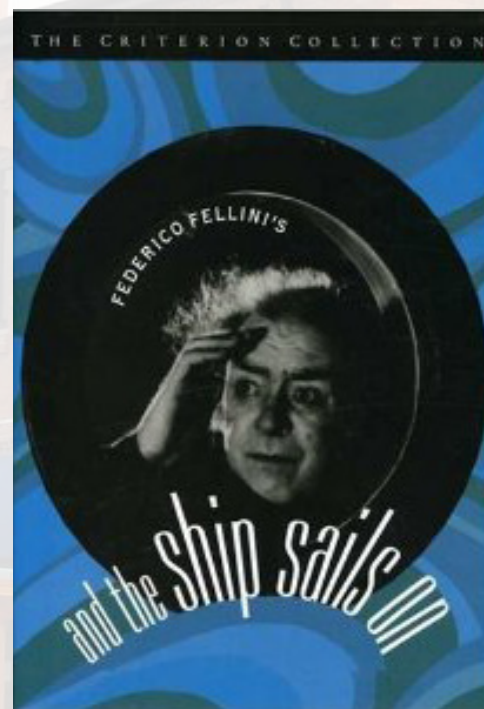


## SPRING 2011 EVENTS

**01/25/11 -**

*The Turn To Affect: A Critique*

A lecture by Ruth Leys, Henry Wiesenfeld Professor of Humanities, Johns Hopkins University. Professor Leys argued that the recent turn to affect in the humanities and social sciences is marred by untenable assumptions about the absence of intention, signification and meaning in affect.



**02/28/11 -**

*PAL Forum Discussing Federico Fellini's film, And the Ship Sails On*

SMITH  
WAREHOUSE  
111 SOUTH BUCHANAN BLVD

## The 2nd Annual Young Scholars Workshop

*Writing is Thinking: Writing as a Way of Life in the Academy*

This 2-part writing event and workshop was sponsored by the Center for Philosophy, Arts and Literature (PAL), The Thompson Writing Program and the Graduate School at Duke University.

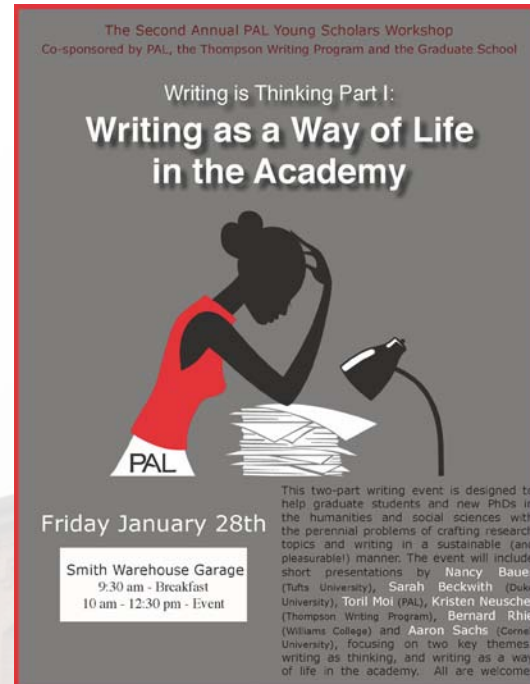
The 2nd Annual PAL Young Scholars Workshop was designed to help graduate students and new PhDs in the humanities and social sciences with the perennial problems of crafting research topics and writing in a sustainable (and pleasurable!) manner. It provided a unique opportunity for young scholars at Duke to develop their craft and to get inspiration for their future life of writing and thinking. Two day-long sessions were held – on Friday January 28th and Friday April 8th in 2011. Each day was divided into two parts: the morning event, which was free and open to the public; and the afternoon workshop, which was limited to 15 participants (Duke Graduate Students).



# Writing is Thinking Part I

01/28/11

Short presentations were given by Nancy Bauer (Tufts University), Sarah Beckwith (Duke University), Toril Moi (PAL), Kristen Neuschel (Thompson Writing Program), Bernard Rhie (Williams College) and Aaron Sachs (Cornell University), focusing on two key themes: writing as thinking, and writing as a way of life in the academy. The speakers then conducted a workshop in the afternoon with the fifteen Young Scholars Workshop participants.



See the March Graduate School Newsletter to read the text of Professor Toril Moi's presentation.



## Writing is Thinking: Writing as a Way of Life in the Academy

The first part of a two-part writing event and workshop sponsored by the Center for Philosophy, Arts and Literature (PAL), The Thompson Writing Program, and the Graduate School was held on Friday, January 28, 2011. Titled "Writing as Thinking: Writing as a Way of Life in the Academy," the event was designed to help graduate students and new Ph.D.s in the humanities and social sciences with the perennial problems of crafting research and writing in a sustainable manner. Duke University presenters included **Toril Moi** (Literature, Romance Studies, Theater Studies, PAL), **Kristen Neuschel** (History, Thompson Writing Program), and **Sarah Beckwith** (English and Theater Studies). Invited speakers included **Nancy Bauer** (Philosophy, Tufts University), **Bernard Rhie** (English, Williams College), and **Aaron Sachs** (History, Cornell University). The second part of event will be held on Friday, April 8, 2011. Invited guest speakers include Joan Bolker, author of *Writing Your Dissertation in 15 Minutes a Day*. The text of Professor Toril Moi's remarks on January 28 is printed here.



## Writing is Thinking Part II


04/08/11

Joan Bolker, author of *Writing Your Dissertation in 15 Minutes A Day* gave a free lecture open to the public, followed by a workshop and individual conversations with the fifteen workshop participants.

Dr. Bolker is a clinical psychologist who specializes in working with writers. She has helped hundreds of doctoral students and many academic writers at other stages in their careers. She has taught writing at several colleges, cofounded the Harvard Writing Center and consulted to physicians and scientists writing at the MD Anderson Cancer Center.

The Second Annual PAL Young Scholars Workshop  
Co-sponsored by PAL, the Thompson Writing Program and the Graduate School

Writing is Thinking Part II:  
**Writing as a Way of Life  
in the Academy**



Friday April 8th

Perkins Library 217  
10 am - 12 pm  
Please bring pen and paper!

This two-part writing series is designed to help graduate students and new PhDs in the humanities and social sciences with the perennial problems of crafting research topics and writing in a sustainable (and pleasurable!) manner. Dr. Joan Bolker, author of *Writing Your Dissertation in 15 Minutes A Day* will conduct a writing event for interested Duke students. Dr. Bolker is a clinical psychologist who specializes in working with writers. She has helped hundreds of doctoral students and many academic writers at other stages in their careers. All are welcome.



## PAL Graduate Certificate

The Duke Graduate Certificate in Philosophy, Arts, & Literature seeks to connect the study of specific works of art and specific art forms (such as literature, music, theater, painting, film, and soon) to questions concerning creativity, the nature of specific art forms, the relationship between knowledge and art, and between ethics and aesthetics. The Certificate aims to make students conversant with philosophical reflections on literature and the arts. The Certificate seeks to foster an understanding of the historical nature of different art forms, and of aesthetics and philosophy, and to encourage exploration of philosophy, art and literature from different historical periods.

The Certificate is designed to provide students with a firm grounding in the research skills required to enable them to intervene in contemporary debates within the field and to encourage them to consider their own field of study from an inter- or cross-disciplinary approach.

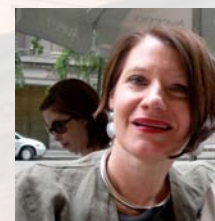
For more information visit:  
<http://www.duke.edu/web/philartslit/certificate.html>



## Certificate Steering Committee

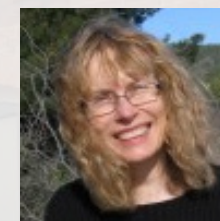
### Sarah Beckwith

Professor of English and Theater Studies  
 Chair of Theater Studies



### Toril Moi

Professor of Literature, Romance Studies, Philosophy, English and Theater studies; Dir. of (PAL)



### Owen Flanagan

Professor of Philosophy and Neurobiology



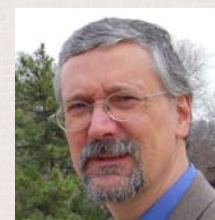
### Thomas Pfau

Professor of English and German; DGS-German Studies



### Neil McWilliam

Professor of Art History



### Jacqueline Waeber

Professor of Music



## Certificate Courses

### Fall 2010 -

LIT 281S.01 /FR 366S.01 / WST 210S.01 - Simone de Beauvoir: Literature, Philosophy, Feminism (Moi)

ENG 241S - Romantic Aesthetics: Kant, Hegel, Marx, Deleuze (Mitchell)

### Spring 2011 -

PHIL 331S - Seminar Philosophy and Literature (Flanagan)

ENG 220S - Shakespeare, Tragedy, Philosophy, Romance (Beckwith)

### Fall 2011 -

MUS 317D - The Enemy of Music: re-reading Rousseau in twenty-first century (Waeber)

FR 210, LIT 201.01, AMI 203.01, VMS 205.01 - Citizen Godard (Saliot)

### Future Courses -

Please visit:

[http://www.duke.edu/web/philartslit/courses\\_future.html](http://www.duke.edu/web/philartslit/courses_future.html)

## Coming Fall 2011

**September 23rd** - Simone De Beauvoir Today

*A symposium to mark the 25th anniversary of Simone de Beauvoir's death*



**PAL** **WOMEN'S STUDIES**  
The Center for Philosophy, Arts, and Literature and the Women's Studies Program present:

**Simone De Beauvoir Today**

**Friday September 23, 2011**  
**9:30 AM – 5:00 PM**  
**The FHI Garage, Bay 4 First Floor**  
**Smith Warehouse**  
Please RSVP to: [womenstudies@duke.edu](mailto:womenstudies@duke.edu)

**Visiting Speakers:**  
Emily Apter, *New York University*  
Stella Sandford, *Kingston University*  
Ursula Tidd, *University of Manchester*  
Linda Zerilli, *University of Chicago*

**Duke Graduate Students:**  
Amey V. Adkins (*Divinity, Women's Studies*)  
Azeen Khan (*English, Women's Studies*)  
Ali Mian (*Religion, Women's Studies*)  
Ashley King Scheu (*French*)

**Respondents:**  
Nancy Bauer, *Tufts University*  
Toril Moi, *Duke University*

**September 22nd** - Wittgenstein in France

*Lecture by Sandra Laugier, holder of the Chair of Philosophy of Language at the University of Paris I (Sorbonne), and deputy scientific director at the Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences at the French National Centre for Scientific Research*

## Coming Spring 2012

### **January 20th** - n+1 Magazine Event

*A symposium surrounding n+1, a magazine of politics, literature, and culture founded in 2004 and published three times yearly*

### **April 5th** - Cora Diamond and James Conant

*Two lectures by the distinguished philosophers Cora Diamond (University of Virginia) and James Conant (University of Chicago)*

### **April 6th** - PAL's 3rd Annual Young Scholars Workshop

*PAL's Young Scholars Workshop takes place every spring. It provides a space for young scholars to work on ordinary language philosophy in relation to literature and other arts, or in relation to more general problems in the humanities.*

*For more information visit:*

*<http://www.duke.edu/web/philartslit/YSW.html>*

**Visit the PAL website for more information about PAL's upcoming events:**

*<http://www.duke.edu/web/philartslit/>*