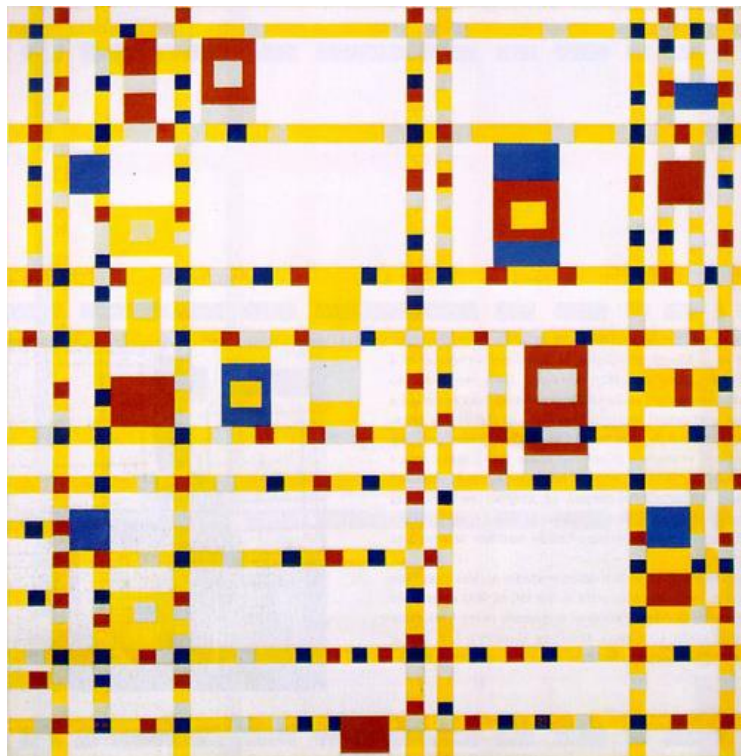


Theosophy and the Arts

Texts and Contexts of Modern Enchantment

Columbia University, New York
9-10 October 2015



Piet Mondrian, *Broadway Boogie Woogie*, 1942-43

Program

Kellogg Conference Center (Room 1501)
International Affairs Building



COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

DAY 1 – FRIDAY OCTOBER 9

8.30am

Registration (Foyer)

9.00am

Conference welcome: Gauri Viswanathan (Columbia University)
(Room 1501)

9.30am

Keynote Address 1 (Room 1501)
Wouter Hanegraaff (University of Amsterdam)
“The Theosophical Imagination”
Chair: Gauri Viswanathan

10.30am-12.15pm

Panel 1: Art, Media, and Aesthetics
Chair: Christopher Scheer (Utah State University)
Respondent: Stefan Andriopoulos (Columbia University)
(Room 1501)
Christopher White, “Claude Bragdon and the Art of Invisible Dimensions”
**Jeremy Stolow, “Astral Bodies: From Clairvoyant Perception to Technological
Mediation”**
**Emily Gephart, “My Theory of Soul Atoms’: Theosophy and Occult Mysticism in
Sadakichi Hartmann’s Aesthetics”**

12.15pm-2.00pm

***Lunch Break* and Fry Street Quartet Concert
with introduction by Christopher Scheer (Room 1501)**

2.00pm-3.45pm

Panel 2: Canons and Margins
Chair: Gauri Viswanathan
Respondent: Sarah Cole (Columbia University)
(Room 1501)
Giuliano D’Amico, “Henrietta Frances Lord – a Translator of Ibsen for the Theosophical Movement”
**Mimi Winick, “Theosophy in Jessie L. Weston’s *From Ritual to Romance*: Historical Continuity, Narrative
Coherence, and Modern Enchantment”**
Michael Gomes, “Unveiling Isis and Other Victorian Literary Pastimes”

3.45pm-4.15pm

*** Coffee Break ***

4.15pm-6.00pm

Panel 3: Self and Affect

(Room 1512)

Chair: Rachel Cowgill (University of Huddersfield)

Respondent: Christopher Scheer

J. Barton Scott, "Practical Asceticism: On Theosophy's Astral Ethics"

Christina Iglesias, "'Oneness with the Infinite': Self and Symbol in D.H. Lawrence's *The Rainbow* (1915)"

Annika Forkert, "Serialism Enchanted: The Theosophical Basis of
Elisabeth Lutyens's Modernism"

4.15pm-6.00pm

Panel 4: Color and Sound

(Room 1501)

Chair: Carmel Raz (Society of Fellows)

Respondent: James Mansell (University of Nottingham)

Pia van Gelder, "Alexander Hector's Color Music Instruments and Unified Theories of Sonic and Visual
Frequencies"

Massimo Introvigne, "Every Picture Tells a Story: Édouard Schuré's *The Great Initiates*: Theosophy, Text,
Context, and Influence on the Visual Arts in France"

Paul Ivey, "Theosophical Impulses in the Work of John Varian: Mystic, Poet, Inventor, Masseur"

6.00pm-7.15pm

Reception (Foyer)

7.30pm

*** Speakers' Dinner***

DAY 2 – SATURDAY October 10

9.00am

Registration (Foyer)

9.30am

Keynote Address 2 (Room 1501)

Joy Dixon (University of British Columbia)

"After Theosophy"

Chair: James Mansell

10.30am-12.15pm

Panel 5: Intellectual History via Theosophy

(Room 1501)

Chair: James Mansell

Respondent: Susan Pedersen (Columbia University)

Corinna Treitel, "Enchanting the Farm: Anthroposophy and the Origins of German Organic Agriculture"

Shiben Banerji, "Woodrow Wilson's Great Mistake: Self-Determination and the Theosophical Concept of Peace"

Gauri Viswanathan, "Theosophy as Cultural Translation: Mediating Hinduism"

12.15pm-1.30pm

*** Lunch Break***

Enchanted Modernities project activities on display (Room 1501)

1.30pm-3.15pm

Panel 6: Theosophy's Transculturalism

(Room 1501)

Chair: Helena Capkova (Waseda University)

Respondent: Wouter Hanegraaff

Devin Zuber, "The Colors of Conversion: Swedenborg, Theosophy, and Transcultural Mysticism"
Serena Keshavjee, "Images of Buddha and Christ in French Symbolist Art: Interpreting East and West through a Theosophical Lens"

Chien Hui Chuang, "The Reception and Propagation of Theosophy in China"

1.30pm-3.15pm

Panel 7: Politics and Institutions

(Room 1512)

Chair: Marco Pasi (University of Amsterdam)

Respondent: Cólín Parsons (Georgetown University)

Colin Duggan, "Theosophical Individualism and the Politics of Neutrality"
Toshio Akai, "The International Lodge Reconsidered: The Theosophical Network and its Impact on Japanese Interbellum Modernity"

Yuri Stoyanov, "Transmutations of Theosophy in Russian and East European Literary and Philosophical-Scientific Contexts (c.1880s-1950s)"

3.15pm-3.45pm

*** Coffee Break ***

3.45pm-5.00pm

Panel 8: The Public Sphere

(Room 1512)

Chair: Rachel Cowgill

Respondent: Matt Hart (Columbia University)

**Christine Ferguson, "The Theosophical Gothic: Propaganda and Positive Epistemology
in H.P. Blavatsky's *Nightmare Tales* (1892)"**

Ayla Lepine, "Revivalism as "Beautiful Necessity": Tracing a Transatlantic Gothic Spirit"

**Marta Ferrer, "Fables of Enchantment: Spiritualism, Anarchism and the Politics of Affection
between Women in Spain and Latin-America"**

3.45pm-5.00pm

Panel 9: Futurism, Art, and Theosophy

(Room 1501)

Chair: Sarah Victoria Turner (Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art)

Respondent: Marco Pasi

**Linda D. Henderson, "Kandinsky, Boccioni, and the Ether in the International Cultures
of Science and Theosophy"**

Jennifer Griffiths, "A Theosophical Portrait of Ruzena Zatkova, Futurist"

Fae Brauer, "Evolving Androgynous Astrobodies: H el ene Dufau's Occult Transformism"

5.00pm-6.00pm

Roundtable Discussion - Enchanted Modernities Project Team

Chairs: Gauri Viswanathan and James Mansell

(Room 1501)

Helena Capkova

Rachel Cowgill

James Mansell

Marco Pasi

Christopher Scheer

Sarah Victoria Turner

Gauri Viswanathan

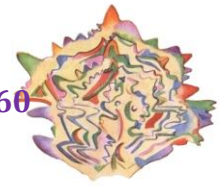
6.00pm

Conference close

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Enchanted Modernities

A research network on theosophy, modernism and the arts, c. 1875-1960



Conference Organization Team

Lead Conference Organizer/Network Partner: **Gauri Viswanathan** (Columbia University)

Co-Conference Organizer/Network Partner: **James Mansell** (University of Nottingham)

Conference Administrator/Network Facilitator: **Katie J. T. Herrington** (University of York)

For further information please contact:

Katie J. T. Herrington

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Please check the conference website for updates, registration, and practical information:
<http://www.york.ac.uk/history-of-art/newyork-theosophy-conference/>

This conference has been made possible with the support of the following sponsors:

The Leverhulme Trust International Network Grant awarded to Sarah Victoria Turner and held by the University of York for the development of the *Enchanted Modernities: Theosophy, modernism and the Arts c. 1875-1960* network.

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