

# SYMPOSIUM

9 am–4:30 pm

February 19, 2016

Geballe Room, 220 Stephens Hall

## TOWNSEND CENTER

for the Humanities

UC Berkeley

## PROGRAM

Natura morta, Giorgio Morandi, 1956, Yale University Art Gallery



### PANEL ONE

9–11 am

#### AMY HOLLYWOOD

Harvard Divinity School

**‘O make me real!’: The Real, the True, and the Imagination in Clover Adams, Henry Adams, and Henry James**

#### MARY ANN SMART

Music, UC Berkeley

**Who’s Afraid of Imagination? The Case of Robert Schumann**

#### ELLIOT WOLFSON

Religious Studies, UC Santa Barbara

**Imagination, Theolatriy, and the Compulsion to Worship the Invisible**

#### CHARLES F. ALTIERI

English, UC Berkeley

**Why a Robust Concept of Imagination Matters for Social Life**

Respondent

#### ANTHONY LONG

Classics, UC Berkeley

**BREAK 11–11:15 am**

### PANEL TWO

11:15 am–1 pm

#### DAVID BATES

Rhetoric, UC Berkeley

**Imagination and Automation**

#### PAULA VARSANO

East Asian Languages & Cultures,

UC Berkeley

**Imagination and Empathy in Classical Chinese Poetics**

#### SANJAY

#### SUBRAHMANYAM

History, UCLA

**Imagination and Identity: On a Seventeenth-Century Mughal Author**

Respondent

#### VICTORIA KAHN

English, Comparative Literature,

UC Berkeley

**LUNCH 1–2 pm**

### PANEL THREE

2–3:45 pm

#### JANE TAYLOR

Drama & Theater Studies, University of Leeds

**The Varieties of Secular Experience: Wittgenstein, Magical Thinking, and Puppetry**

#### ANAND PANDIAN

Anthropology, Johns Hopkins

**Creative Imagination: Between Literature and (Tamil) Cinema**

#### MARIA MAVROUDI

History, Classics, UC Berkeley

**Histories of the Imagination in the Cultural Peripheries of the ‘Western’ World: What Can Be Gained from Engaging Them?**

Respondent

#### ROBERT SHARF

Buddhist Studies, East Asian Languages &

Cultures, UC Berkeley

**BREAK 3:45–4 pm**

### FINAL RESPONSE

4–4:30 pm

#### DAVID SHULMAN

Asian Studies, Comparative Religion,

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

**Comments**

# The Imagination

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## PARTICIPANTS

**Charles Altieri** teaches in the Department of English at UC Berkeley. His most recent book is *Reckoning with the Imagination*.

**David Bates** teaches intellectual history in the Department of Rhetoric at UC Berkeley. He recently coedited (with Nima Bassiri) *Plasticity and Pathology: On the Formation of the Neural Subject* (Fordham University Press, 2016).

**Amy Hollywood** teaches in Harvard's Committee on the Study of Religion and at the Divinity School. Her new book, *Acute Melancholia and Other Essays*, will be published by Columbia University Press in March.

**Maria Mavroudi** is professor of History and Classics at UC Berkeley. Her research focuses on the interaction between Byzantium and the Arabs and the transmission of science (especially its occult variety) between these two medieval civilizations.

**Anand Pandian** teaches anthropology at Johns Hopkins University. His most recent book, *Reel World: An Anthropology of Creation*, was published by Duke University Press in 2015.

**David Shulman**, Renee Lang Professor of Humanistic Studies at The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, has written capaciously on Indian thought and religion, language, poetics, theater, and aesthetics. His most recent book is *More than Real: A History of the Imagination in South India* (Harvard University Press, 2012).

**Mary Ann Smart** teaches in the Department of Music at UC Berkeley. She is the author of *Mimomania: Music and Gesture in Nineteenth-Century Opera*. Her

new book, *Waiting for Verdi: Opera and Political Opinion in Italy*, will be published by the University of California Press next spring.

**Sanjay Subrahmanyam** teaches history at UCLA and the Collège de France. His work focuses mainly on the period from 1400 to 1800, including two books authored jointly with David Shulman and V. Narayana Rao: *Symbols of Substance* and *Textures of Time*.

**Jane Taylor** works between creative and scholarly domains. Over the past several decades she has examined the illusionistic arts of puppetry and object theatre in relation to questions of agency, representation, and authenticity. Her current research draws upon her previous work on transition and transformation at the end of the Apartheid regime, in an enquiry into the aesthetics of disruption.

**Paula Varsano** teaches classical Chinese poetry and poetics at UC Berkeley. She is the author of *Tracking the Banished Immortal: The Poetry of Li Bo and its Critical Reception* (Hawaii, 2003), and is currently at work on a book tentatively titled *Coming to Our Senses: Locating the Subject in Traditional Chinese Literary Writing*.

**Elliot Wolfson** is the Marsha and Jay Glazer Endowed Chair of Jewish Studies at UC Santa Barbara. He specializes in Jewish mysticism and philosophy, with a particular interest in the psychoanalytic construction of gender and the body, hermeneutics, and the phenomenology of religion. His most recent books are *A Dream Interpreted Within a Dream: Oneiropoiesis and the Prism of Imagination* (2011) and *Giving Beyond the Gift: Apophasis and Overcoming Theomania* (2014).