Motherhood in post-1968 European Literature Network

Workshop 1: ‘Motherhood: Theories, Methods and Narratives’  
Friday 11 May 2012

9.30-9.45 Introduction: Gill Rye (French, IGRS, University of London)

9.45-11.25 Plenary session: interdisciplinary panel

Roberta Guerrina (Politics, University of Surrey)  
‘Gender, Ideology & the Political Economy of Austerity: The Mother War Continues…’

Lisa Baraitser (Psychosocial Studies, Birkbeck, University of London)  
The Maternal in Contemporary Psychoanalysis and Feminist Thought’

Clare Hanson (English Literature, University of Southampton)  
‘Maternal Texts and Subtexts’

Plenary discussion

Discussant: Deborah Cameron (Linguistics, University of Oxford)  
Chair: Adalgisa Giorgio (Italian Studies, University of Bath)

11.25-11.55 Coffee

11.55-1 pm 3 x parallel breakout sessions: discussions of passages from literature

(i) Text: Poem from Imagias (‘Only A Bit Of Goya: Letter To My Daughter’) by Ana Luisa Amaral  
Chair/facilitator: Claire Williams (Brazilian Studies/Portuguese, University of Oxford)

(ii) Text: Extract from Gut Genug (Good Enough) by Birgit Vanderbeke  
Chair/facilitator: Emily Jeremiah (German, Royal Holloway, University of London)

(iii) Text: Extract from Lo Raro es Vivir (Living’s the Strange Thing) by Carmen Martín Gaite  
Chair/facilitator: Maria-José Blanco (Spanish, King’s College London)

1-2 Sandwich lunch provided
Afternoon Sessions

2-3 Reports by summarisers on breakout sessions and general discussion

Summarisers:
(i) Pat Thane (Contemporary History, King's College London)
(ii) Amber Jacobs (Psychosocial Studies, Birkbeck, University of London)
(iii) Victoria Browne (Philosophy, University of Liverpool)
Chair: Cláudia Pazos Alonso (Portuguese and Brazilian Studies, University of Oxford)

3-3.10 Short break

3.10-4.30 Plenary session: interdisciplinary panel
Featured book: Beside the Sea by Véronique Olmi

Gill Rye (French, IGRS, University of London)
‘Infanticide, Ambivalence, Desperation: The Mother’s Voice in Véronique Olmi’s Beside the Sea’

Ruth Cain (Law, University of Kent)
‘Véronique Olmi’s Beside the Sea: Law, Psychiatry and the Moral Dilemmas of Ficide’

Plenary discussion

Discussant: Eija Sevón (Education, University of Jyväskylä)
Chair: Godela Weiss-Sussex (German, IGRS, University of London)

4.30-4.45 Tea

4.45-5.30 General discussion
Chair: Abigail Lee Six (Hispanic Studies, Royal Holloway, University of London)