**PROGRAMME**

**Questioning Aesthetics Symposium, Dublin 12-13 May 2016, Newman House, St Stephen’s Green, Dublin 2**

**Organizers:**
Professor Maeve Cooke
School of Philosophy
University College Dublin

Professor Michael Kelly
Transdisciplinary Aesthetics Foundation
*Encyclopedia of Aesthetics* (Oxford UP)
Philosophy, UNC Charlotte

Dr. Francis Halsall
National College of Art and Design, Dublin

Dr. Danielle Petherbridge
Irish Research Council (IRC)/Marie Curie Research Fellow
Barnard/Columbia University and
University College Dublin

Our two-day symposium explores questions relating to the potential for social critique and transformation in aesthetic (and related) practices and experiences, focusing on the interplay of minds and bodies. The symposium begins with presentations of an excerpt from *This Situation* by the celebrated artist Tino Sehgal and of Sufi whirling; it continues with reflections by invited philosophers and theorists, who will address the topic in panel discussions under several headings.

Generously sponsored by the Irish Research Council, The Transdisciplinary Aesthetics Foundation, UCD-NCAD Seed Funding, The Goethe Institute, Dublin, UCD School of Philosophy and The National College of Art and Design

**Thursday, 12 May: Transformations in Situations: Moving Minds in Bodies**
Attendance on Thursday morning STRICTLY BY INVITATION ONLY. NO GENERAL ADMISSION.

**9.45am**: Welcome by **Maeve Cooke**

**10am-12.30pm**: Tino Sehgal’s *This Situation* meets Sufi “Whirling” (Leaders: Descha Daemgen and Naïma Ferré)

**12.30pm-2pm:** Break

**2pm-3.10pm: Panel Discussion**, *Transformations in Situations – Moving Minds in Bodies*
**Chair:** Declan Long

**Descha Daemgen**, *Decided Forms: Tino Sehgal and the Freedom of Prescribed Criticality* **Katalin Makkai***, How to do Things with Words: This Situation and Conversation***Naïma Ferré**, *Sufi Whirling*

**3.10pm-3.30pm:** Break

**3.30pm-4.40pm: Panel Discussion**, *Art – as Act, as Reparation, as Transformation*
**Chair:** Maeve Cooke

**Ciaran Benson,** *The Power of Acts*
**Katherine O’Donnell**, *Touching Trauma: A Weak Theory of the Power of a Reparative Response to Testimonies of Trauma*
**Anita Chari**, *Sensation, Subjectivity and the Arts of Embodied Attention*

**4.45pm-5.55pm: Panel Discussion**, *Moving Together – in Situations***Chair:** Francis Halsall

**Fred Cummins**, *Speaking in Unison and Collective Intentionality*
**Joe Dunne*,*** *Dancing Minds and Bodies*
**John McGuire**, *On the Poverty of Student Life: Revisiting Situationism in the wake of Black Lives Matter*

**Friday 13 May: Transforming Art: The Power of Aesthetic Constructions**

**9.45am-10am:** Welcome by **Michael Kelly**

**10am-11.10am: Panel Discussion**, *Aesthetic Spaces and Practices – of Normalization and Critique*
**Chair:** Michael Kelly

**Dorothea von Hantelmann,** *The Art of Liberal Government*
**Ruth Sonderegger,** *Normalizing as opposed to Social Critique in the Field of Art***Danielle Petherbridge & Luna Dolezal,** *Questioning Social Encounters in the Work of Marina Abramovic: Performance Art as Embodied Critical-Reflexive Space*

**11.10am-11.30am:** Break

**11.30am-12.40pm: Panel Discussion**, *The Power of Art Works – Perception, Judgment,
Agency***Chair:** Maeve Cooke

**Tim Mooney**, *Body and Movement in the Painting* **Carmen Dege**, *The Communication of Taste, the Sublime, and Aesthetic Truth*
**Jonathan Owen Clark**, *Art and Historicity*

**12.40pm-2.10pm:** Break

**2.10pm-3.20pm: Panel Discussion**, *Experiencing Art – Attunement, Shock, Estrangement***Chair:** Francis Halsall

**Rita Felski**, *In Sync: Art and Attunement*
**Brian O’Connor**, *Aesthetic Shock*
**David Roden**, *Dark Posthumanism*

**3.20pm-3.40pm:** Break

**3.40pm-4.50pm: Panel Discussion**, *Aesthetic Representation – and Beyond*Chair: Tim Stott

**Caitríona Leahy**, *Examining Kleist’s Marionettentheater* **Annie Hanlon** *Performing Radical Feminist Aesthetics in Popular Music***Francis Halsall**, Thinking the Unthinkable: Aesthetics and Hans Blumenberg's Absolute Metaphors

**4.50pm-5.10pm: Concluding discussion** (Moderator: **Maeve Cooke)**

**5.10pm-6.15pm: Reception hosted by the Goethe Institute, Dublin**