



Talks at the Labyrinth



THE BODY: History, Politics, Health and Mortality. Indian and Western perspectives

FIND – Tagore Auditorium Colle Labirinto,24, Zagarolo, Rome

June 23 -24 2013

Chaired by Isabella Thomas







THE BODY: History, Politics, Health and Mortality. Indian and Western perspectives

Sunday 23rd June

- 9:30- Bus departure from Rome
- 10:30- Arrival (Zagarolo) and check in
- 11:00- Opening session: Isabella Thomas

• PANEL 1: HISTORY AND ART

- Do East & West manifest a fundamentally different attitude towards the body? What historical and cultural factors have been at play?
- How did the denigration of the Body (and the insistence we are something other than a Body) emerge in the intellectual and religious traditions of both the East and West?
- How did a different metaphor and discourse for the body evolve from our respective traditions?
- What does the history of Art in both India and Europe reveal about the attitudes towards the Body?

11:10- Naman Ahuja

11:25- Heather Elgood

11:40- Dipankar Gupta

11:55- Panel Discussion

• 12:30- 14:00-LUNCH

PANEL 2 THE POLITICS OF THE BODY

- How did the West come to embody radically changing attitudes towards dress while in India, traditional dress codes remained the norm? Was this because of highly differentiated attitudes towards the body? Or a need to differentiate towards the West?







- How have attitudes towards love and sex changed the way we present the body in public, and how has this played out in India?
- Does a differing understanding of the body explain the political furore over the covering of women's bodies which sometimes divides East and West (or those within the West whose cultural references remain Eastern)?
- How have Indians themselves used body exposure to shock the West in its time? (Gandhi etc.)

14:15- Aveek Sen

14:30- Joseph Alter

14:45- Ashish Nandy

15:00- Ruchira Gupta

15:15- Panel Discussion

• 15:45 Coffee Break

• PANEL 3: HEALTH

- What contributions to ideas about Health does India offer the west, in particular in terms of its tradition of dealing with mental health, nutrition, addictions and spiritual healing?
- What effects do cultural differences about the body affect attitudes to mental health, nutrition, and life/work balance?
- How well known are these methods? Some practices, such as yoga, are well advanced in the west

16:15- Sudhir Kakar

16:30- Shoma Chaudhury

16:45 Fabrizio Petri

17:00- Koldo Martínez

17:15- Panel Discussion

17:45-END AND DEPARTURE







Monday 24th June

- 9:30- Bus departure from Rome
- 10:30- Arrival

• PANEL 4: INFLUENCE OF INDIA ON WEST

- How great is the influence of India in cultural terms on the West?
- Does India's influence grow in proportion to the growth of its economic prestige? Or has it actually declined?
- Was India's influence at its height during the 1960s and 1970s when the subcontinent was discovered?
 - 11:00- Sunil Khilnani
 - 11:15- Tarun Tejpal
 - 11:30- Patrick French
 - 11:45- Roberto Toscano
 - 12:00- Parvati Nair
 - 12:15- Panel Discussion

- 12:45-14:30-LUNCH

• PANEL 5: DEATH AND AGEING IN INDIA

- What is the difference between attitudes to ageing in India and in Europe? How is it that the elderly maintain respect amongst younger people whereas in Europe, this is far from the case?
- Can this remain the case in a rapidly changing India?

What can the Europeans learn from the Indian way of Death

- 14:45- Katherine Kakar
- 15:00- Dhananjai Pandey
- 15:15- Lady Mohini Kent Noon
- 15:30- Panel Discussion







- 16:00 Coffee Break
- PANEL 6: AD WORK
 - 16:30- Samuel Berthet
 - 16:45- Panel Discussion
 - 17:15- CLOSING SESSION: DIRECTOR AMBASSADOR ION DE LA RIVA
 - 17:30-DEPARTURE



