

lacan analysis

Deconstructing Desire: A Comprehensive Guide to Lacan Analysis

Introduction:

Jacques Lacan's psychoanalytic theory, while complex and often challenging, offers a profound and insightful lens through which to understand the human psyche. His work, a dense tapestry woven from linguistics, philosophy, and psychoanalysis, revolutionized the field and continues to inspire debate and discussion. This comprehensive guide will unravel the intricacies of Lacan analysis, exploring key concepts like the mirror stage, the symbolic order, and the phallus, to provide a clearer understanding of this influential body of work. Whether you're a seasoned psychoanalyst, a curious student, or simply interested in exploring the depths of human subjectivity, this post will equip you with the tools to navigate the fascinating world of Lacanian thought. We'll delve into the core tenets of his theory, explore their practical applications, and address common misconceptions, leaving you with a firm grasp of this influential perspective.

Understanding the Fundamental Concepts of Lacan Analysis:

1. The Mirror Stage: The Genesis of the "I"

Lacan's mirror stage is arguably his most famous concept. It describes the crucial developmental stage where a child, typically around six months old, recognizes its own image in a mirror as a unified whole, distinct from its fragmented bodily experience. This recognition, however, is not a purely objective identification; it's a process of identification, a misrecognition that forms the basis of the ego. The child identifies with its image, creating a sense of self that's illusory yet foundational to its sense of identity. This initial identification with an external image lays the groundwork for future identifications and social interactions, shaping how we perceive ourselves and others throughout life. The perceived wholeness masks the underlying fragmentation and lack inherent in the subject.

2. The Symbolic Order: Language and the Construction of Reality

The symbolic order refers to the realm of language and social structures that shape our understanding of the world. Lacan argues that entry into this order is fundamental to becoming a subject. Through language, we acquire meaning, but this acquisition is also a process of alienation. The structures of language, with their inherent rules and limitations, precede and determine our understanding of reality. We don't simply express our thoughts through language; language itself structures our thoughts. This symbolic order, with its inherent patriarchal biases according to Lacan, profoundly impacts our sense of self and our relationships with others.

3. The Imaginary Order: The Realm of Images and Misrecognition

The imaginary order is the pre-symbolic realm of images and fantasies. It's the world of early childhood experiences, where the child's perception of reality is still largely driven by its own desires and perceptions. The mirror stage is a pivotal moment within the imaginary order, but it also highlights the gap between the child's subjective experience and the objective reality. Lacan distinguishes the imaginary from the real, which is the inaccessible and unknowable core of being. The imaginary, while illusory, profoundly shapes our perception and understanding of the real.

4. The Real: The Unattainable and the Traumatic

The real, for Lacan, is the untamed, unsymbolizable aspect of experience. It's the pre-linguistic, pre-Oedipal realm that resists symbolic articulation. The real is often experienced as traumatic, as it breaches the constructed reality we establish through language and the symbolic order. Encounters with the real can be profoundly unsettling, forcing us to confront the limits of our understanding and the inherent lack at the heart of being.

5. The Phallus: The Signifier of Lack and Desire

The phallus, in Lacanian theory, is not to be confused with the penis. It's a symbolic signifier representing power, lack, and desire. It signifies the elusive object of desire that drives our actions and shapes our relationships. This lack is inherent in the subject, driving us to seek fulfillment and wholeness that remain ultimately unattainable. The phallus's significance lies in its function as a symbolic stand-in for the unattainable object of desire; its absence drives the subject's quest for meaning and satisfaction.

Applying Lacan Analysis: Practical Applications and Examples

Lacan's theories are not merely abstract philosophical musings; they have practical applications in various fields, particularly in psychotherapy. By understanding the dynamics of the symbolic order, the imaginary, and the real, therapists can gain insight into a patient's unconscious motivations and patterns of behavior. For example, analyzing a patient's dreams or recurring fantasies can reveal underlying anxieties or unresolved conflicts related to the mirror stage or the symbolic order. This understanding can facilitate therapeutic intervention and help patients to achieve a more integrated sense of self.

A Sample Lacan Analysis Case Study Outline:

Title: Deconstructing Dissociation: A Lacanian Analysis of a Case Study

I. Introduction:

Brief overview of Lacan's key concepts (mirror stage, symbolic order, imaginary, real)

Introduction of the case study (patient's background, presenting issues)

Research Question: How can a Lacanian lens illuminate the patient's dissociative symptoms?

II. Main Chapters:

Chapter 1: The Mirror Stage and the fractured self. Analysis of the patient's early childhood experiences and how they relate to the formation of a fragmented ego.

Chapter 2: The Symbolic Order and Language. Exploration of how the patient's use of language reflects their struggles with identity and symbolic integration.

Chapter 3: The Imaginary and the Real. Analysis of the patient's fantasies, dreams, and recurring experiences within the framework of the imaginary and the real.

Chapter 4: The Phallus and Desire. Exploration of how the patient's desire for wholeness manifests in their behaviors and relationships.

III. Conclusion:

Summary of the analysis and findings

Implications of the findings for therapeutic intervention

Limitations of the study and suggestions for future research

Detailed Explanation of the Case Study Outline:

Each chapter would delve deeply into the relevant Lacanian concepts and apply them to specific details from the case study. For example, Chapter 1 might analyze the patient's early childhood experiences of neglect or trauma, demonstrating how these experiences could have disrupted the normal process of the mirror stage, leading to a fragmented sense of self. Chapter 2 would investigate how the patient's use of language—perhaps through fragmented speech or avoidance of certain topics—reveals their struggle with the symbolic order and its capacity to integrate experience. Chapter 3 would focus on dreams, recurring images, or specific behaviors that indicate the intrusion of the "real" into the patient's carefully constructed imaginary world. Finally, Chapter 4 would explore how the patient's desires manifest themselves, potentially linking those desires to an unattainable "phallus" reflecting a longing for wholeness and stability. The conclusion would summarize these findings and discuss their implications for clinical intervention, acknowledging the limitations of the Lacanian approach in the context of the specific case.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):

1. What is the difference between Lacan's theory and Freud's? Lacan built upon Freud's work but significantly shifted the focus from the drives to language and the symbolic order.
1. How is Lacan's concept of the "Real" different from reality? The Real is not simply "reality" but an inaccessible, unknowable dimension that resists symbolic representation.
1. What are some criticisms of Lacanian psychoanalysis? Criticisms include the theory's complexity, its lack of empirical evidence, and its potential to reinforce patriarchal structures.

1. Can Lacan's theories be applied outside of psychotherapy? Yes, his ideas have been applied in literary criticism, cultural studies, and other fields.
1. How does the mirror stage impact adult relationships? The mirror stage's impact on early identity formation can significantly influence how we perceive ourselves and relate to others later in life.
1. What is the role of the Other in Lacanian theory? The Other represents the symbolic order, society, and the collective unconscious that shapes the individual's identity.
1. How does Lacan's theory address the issue of trauma? Trauma is understood as a disruption of the symbolic order, an encounter with the Real that defies symbolic integration.
1. What is the significance of jouissance in Lacanian thought? Jouissance refers to a surplus of enjoyment that exceeds the limits of symbolic representation, often associated with intense experiences or transgressions.
1. Is Lacan's work relevant today? Absolutely. His insights into language, subjectivity, and desire remain highly relevant in understanding contemporary social and psychological phenomena.

Related Articles:

1. The Mirror Stage and the Development of Self: Explores the mirror stage in greater depth, examining its implications for self-development and identity formation.
1. The Symbolic Order and the Construction of Meaning: A detailed analysis of the role of language and social structures in shaping our understanding of the world.

1. Lacan and the Oedipus Complex: A Reinterpretation: Examines Lacan's reworking of Freud's Oedipus complex within the framework of the symbolic order.
1. The Imaginary and the Real: Unraveling Lacanian Ontology: Delves into the complex relationship between the imaginary and the real in Lacanian thought.
1. Lacan's Concept of the Phallus: Beyond the Penis: Clarifies Lacan's use of the term "phallus" and its symbolic significance.
1. Applying Lacanian Analysis to Literary Texts: Demonstrates how Lacanian concepts can be used to interpret and analyze literary works.
1. Lacan and Feminist Theory: A Critical Perspective: Examines the tensions and intersections between Lacanian psychoanalysis and feminist thought.
1. Lacanian Psychoanalysis in Clinical Practice: Explores the practical applications of Lacanian theory in psychotherapy and clinical settings.
1. Beyond the Symptom: A Lacanian Approach to Healing: Focuses on therapeutic interventions based on Lacanian concepts, highlighting their potential in addressing various psychological issues.

lacan analysis: *Analyzed by Lacan Betty Milan, 2023-11-02* Analyzed by Lacan brings together the first English translations of *Why Lacan*, Betty Milan's memoir of her analysis with Lacan in the 1970s, and her play, *Goodbye Doctor*, inspired by her experience. *Why Lacan* provides a unique and valuable perspective on how Lacan worked as psychoanalyst as well as his approach to psychoanalytic theory. Milan's testimony shows that Lacan's method of working was based on the idea that the traditional way of interpreting provoked resistance. Prior to *Why Lacan*, Milan wrote a play, *Goodbye Doctor*, based on her experience as Lacan's patient. The play is structured around the sessions of Seriema with the Doctor. Through the analysis, Seriema discovers why she cannot give birth, namely, an unconscious desire to satisfy the will of her father who didn't authorize her to conceive. She ceases to be the victim of her unconscious, grasps the possibility of choosing a father

for her child and thus becoming a mother. Goodbye Doctor has been adapted into a film, *Adieu Lacan*, by the director Richard Ledes. Analyzed by Lacan features an Introduction by Milan to both works as well as a new interview with Mari Ruti about her writing and Lacan.

lacan analysis: The Desire of Psychoanalysis Gabriel Tupinambá, 2021-02-15 The Desire of Psychoanalysis proposes that recognizing how certain theoretical and institutional problems in Lacanian psychoanalysis are grounded in the historical conditions of Lacan's own thinking might allow us to overcome these impasses. In order to accomplish this, Gabriel Tupinambá analyzes the socioeconomic practices that underlie the current institutional existence of the Lacanian community—its political position as well as its institutional history—in relation to theoretical production. By focusing on the underlying dynamic that binds clinical practice, theoretical work, and institutional security in Lacanian psychoanalysis today, Tupinambá is able to locate sites for conceptual innovation that have been ignored by the discipline, such as the understanding of the role of money in clinical practice, the place of analysts in the transformation of psychoanalytic theory, and ideological dead-ends that have become common sense in the Lacanian field. The Desire of Psychoanalysis thus suggests ways of opening up psychoanalysis to new concepts and clinical practices and calls for a transformation of how psychoanalysis is understood as an institution.

lacan analysis: Lacan's Clinical Technique Antonio Quinet, 2018-03-26 How do psychoanalysts act during analysis? When does treatment start? How long does a session or treatment last? How much does it cost? What does analytical interpretation entail? What is the final aim of analysis? These are the main issues Antonio Quinet addresses for clinical psychoanalysts and students in training. This is not a do-it-yourself book or a step-by-step manual, but rather an examination of Freudian and Lacanian techniques based on psychoanalytical theory and ethics. The ideas examined are grounded in the structure of subjectivity, and the basic assumption that analysts have taken their own analysis to the end. It is from thereon that they will have the analyst's desire as a practical tool for their own clinical practice. Antonio Quinet's contribution regarding the start of treatment comes from his updated examination of Freudian concepts through Lacanian mathemes. This approach has made this book's first version a best seller in Brazil, with over 30,000 copies sold.

lacan analysis: The Four Fundamental Concepts of Psycho-Analysis Jacques Lacan, 2018-05-08 The author's writings, and especially the seminars for which he has become famous, have provoked intense controversies in French analytic circles, requiring as they do a radical reappraisal of the legacy bequeathed by Freud. This volume is based on a year's seminar, which is of particular importance because he was addressing a larger, less specialist audience than ever before, amongst whom he could not assume familiarity with his work. For his listeners then, and for his readers now, he wanted to introduce a certain coherence into the major concepts on which psycho-analysis is based, namely the unconscious, repetition, the transference and the drive. In re-defining these four concepts he explores the question that, as he puts it, moves from Is psycho-analysis a science? to What is a science that includes psycho-analysis?

lacan analysis: From the Conscious Interior to an Exterior Unconscious David Pavón Cuéllar, 2018-04-24 This striking Lacanian contribution to discourse analysis is also a critique of contemporary psychological abstraction, as well as a reassessment of the radical opposition between psychology and psychoanalysis. This original introduction to Lacan's work bridges the gap between discourse-analytical debates in social psychology and the social-theoretical extensions of discourse theory. David Pavón Cuéllar provides a precise definition and a detailed explanation of key Lacanian concepts, and illustrates how they may be put to work on a concrete discourse, in this case a fragment of an interview obtained by the author from the Mexican underground Popular Revolutionary Forces (EPR). Throughout the book, Lacanian concepts are compared to their counterparts in psychology. Such a comparison reveals insuperable incompatibilities between the two series of concepts. The author shows that Lacan's psychoanalytical terminology can neither be translated nor assimilated to the terms of current psychology. Among the notions in actual or potential competition with Lacanian concepts, the book deals with those proposed by semiology, Marxism, phenomenology, constructionism, deconstruction, and hermeneutics. Taking a stand on

those theoretical positions, each chapter includes detailed discussion of the contribution of classical approaches to language; including Barthes, Bakhtin, Althusser, Politzer, Wittgenstein, Berger and Luckmann, Derrida, and Ricoeur. There is sustained reference in the body of the text to the arguments of Lacan and Lacanians, of Miller, Milner, Soler, and Žižek. At the same time, in the extensive notes accompanying the text, there is a systematic reappraisal and reinterpretation of debates and pieces of research work in social psychology, especially in a discursive and critical domain that has incorporated elements of psychoanalytic theory.

lacan analysis: A Clinical Introduction to Lacanian Psychoanalysis Bruce Fink, 1999-09-15 Arguably the most profound psychoanalytic thinker since Freud, and deeply influential in many fields, Jacques Lacan often seems opaque to those he most wanted to reach. These are the readers Bruce Fink addresses in this clear and practical account of Lacan's highly original approach to therapy. Written by a clinician for clinicians, Fink's introduction is an invaluable guide to Lacanian psychoanalysis, how it's done, and how it differs from other forms of therapy. While elucidating many of Lacan's theoretical notions, the book does so from the perspective of the practitioner faced with the pressing questions of diagnosis, which therapeutic stance to adopt, how to involve the patient, and how to bring about change.

lacan analysis: *Lacan's Clinical Technique* Antonio Quinet, 2018-03-26 How do psychoanalysts act during analysis? When does treatment start? How long does a session or treatment last? How much does it cost? What does analytical interpretation entail? What is the final aim of analysis? These are the main issues Antonio Quinet addresses for clinical psychoanalysts and students in training. This is not a do-it-yourself book or a step-by-step manual, but rather an examination of Freudian and Lacanian techniques based on psychoanalytical theory and ethics. The ideas examined are grounded in the structure of subjectivity, and the basic assumption that analysts have taken their own analysis to the end. It is from thereon that they will have the analyst's desire as a practical tool for their own clinical practice. Antonio Quinet's contribution regarding the start of treatment comes from his updated examination of Freudian concepts through Lacanian mathemes. This approach has made this book's first version a best seller in Brazil, with over 30,000 copies sold.

lacan analysis: *Lacan at the Scene* Henry Bond, 2012-09-21 A Lacanian approach to murder scene investigation. What if Jacques Lacan—the brilliant and eccentric Parisian psychoanalyst—had worked as a police detective, applying his theories to solve crimes? This may conjure up a mental film clip starring Peter Sellers in a trench coat, but in *Lacan at the Scene*, Henry Bond makes a serious and provocative claim: that apparently impenetrable events of violent death can be more effectively unraveled with Lacan's theory of psychoanalysis than with elaborate, technologically advanced forensic tools. Bond's exposition on murder expands and develops a resolutely Žižekian approach. Seeking out radical and unexpected readings, Bond unpacks his material utilizing Lacan's neurosis-psychosis-perversion grid. Bond places Lacan at the crime scene and builds his argument through a series of archival crime scene photographs from the 1950s—the period when Lacan was developing his influential theories. It is not the horror of the ravished and mutilated corpses that draws his attention; instead, he interrogates seemingly minor details from the everyday, isolating and rephotographing what at first seems insignificant: a single high heeled shoe on a kitchen table, for example, or carefully folded clothes placed over a chair. From these mundane details he carefully builds a robust and comprehensive manual for Lacanian crime investigation that can stand beside the FBI's standard-issue Crime Classification Manual.

lacan analysis: *The Aims of Analysis* Thomas Svolos, 2020-11-22 In his *Écrits*, Jacques Lacan evokes the figure of St. John the Baptist with a raised finger that points, though we do not know to where it compels us: What silence must the analyst now impose upon himself if he is to make out, rising from this bog, the raised finger of Leonardo's 'St. John the Baptist, ' if interpretation is to find anew the forsaken horizon of being in which its elusive virtue must be deployed. This is a clinical inquiry that psychoanalysis still pursues today: what is the direction of an interpretation, what is its aim, as we already recognize the impasses of the endless generation of meaning that can stagnate psychoanalysis? *The Aims of Analysis* explores the use of the aim to approach the clinical

implications of the later work of French psychoanalyst, Jacques Lacan. Through a close reading of key concepts from the later Seminars of Lacan, the work of Jacques-Alain Miller, and other contemporary psychoanalysts of the Lacanian orientation, Thomas Svolos demonstrates how psychoanalysis today is practiced beyond the normative conventions of the Oedipus Complex. Svolos writes about his own experience in analysis and the experiences of Analysts of the School who have given testimonies of the Pass. In the Schools of the World Association of Psychoanalysis, Analysts of the School are those analysands who have given testimony to the end of their own analysis. It is a specific dispositif developed by Lacan aimed directly at how knowledge in psychoanalysis may be transmitted. Svolos originally delivered this Seminar in Miami in October 2019 for the Lacanian Compass, a group of the New Lacanian School dedicated to the development and promotion of the Lacanian orientation of psychoanalysis in the United States. The text-published by Midden Press, the publishing house of Lacanian Compass-is intended for clinicians, psychoanalysts, and readers of psychoanalytic theory of all backgrounds. Visit <https://www.lacaniancompass.com/midden-press> for more information.

lacan analysis: A Clinical Introduction to Lacanian Psychoanalysis Bruce Fink, 1999-09-15 The goal of my teaching has always been, and remains, to train analysts. --Jacques Lacan, Seminar XI, 209 Arguably the most profound psychoanalytic thinker since Freud, and deeply influential in many fields, Jacques Lacan often seems opaque to those he most wanted to reach. These are the readers Bruce Fink addresses in this clear and practical account of Lacan's highly original approach to therapy. Written by a clinician for clinicians, Fink's Introduction is an invaluable guide to Lacanian psychoanalysis, how it's done, and how it differs from other forms of therapy. While elucidating many of Lacan's theoretical notions, the book does so from the perspective of the practitioner faced with the pressing questions of diagnosis, what therapeutic stance to adopt, how to involve the patient, and how to bring about change. Fink provides a comprehensive overview of Lacanian analysis, explaining the analyst's aims and interventions at each point in the treatment. He uses four case studies to elucidate Lacan's unique structural approach to diagnosis. These cases, taking up both theoretical and clinical issues in Lacan's views of psychosis, perversion, and neurosis, highlight the very different approaches to treatment that different situations demand.

lacan analysis: Wittgenstein and Lacan at the Limit Maria Balaska, 2019-06-11 This book brings together the work of Ludwig Wittgenstein and Jacques Lacan around their treatments of 'astonishment,' an experience of being struck by something that appears to be extraordinarily significant. Both thinkers have a central interest in the dissatisfaction with meaning that these experiences generate when we attempt to articulate them, to bring language to bear on them. Maria Balaska argues that this frustration and difficulty with meaning reveals a more fundamental characteristic of our sense-making capacities --namely, their groundlessness. Instead of disappointment with language's sense-making capacities, Balaska argues that Wittgenstein and Lacan can help us find in this revelation of meaning's groundlessness an opportunity to acknowledge our own involvement in meaning, to creatively participate in it and thereby to enrich our forms of life with language.

lacan analysis: Lacan, Discourse, and Social Change Mark Bracher, 2018-10-18 Convinced that cultural criticism need not merely be an academic exercise but can help improve people's lives, Mark Bracher proposes a method of cultural criticism which is based on the principles of psychoanalytic treatment and which aims to alter subjectivity and behavior. In this forceful and engagingly written book, Bracher first accounts for the failure of contemporary cultural criticism to achieve significant social impact. He then offers a model of analysis that draws on Lacan's theoretical insights into the structure of subjectivity and the psychological functions of discourse, asserting that the use of this model can promote collective psychological change. While cultural criticism has generally focused on texts, Bracher instead analyzes audiences' actual responses—to a variety of discourses from high as well as popular culture: the political speeches of Ronald Reagan and Jesse Jackson, anti-abortion propaganda, pornography, Keats's *To Autumn*, and Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*. Through analyzing these responses, Bracher is able to uncover the unconscious

identifications and fantasies of the respondents—an intervention that, he argues, has the potential for altering subjectivity. In his view, such a method of cultural criticism is both unusually powerful and ethnically defensible, since instead of attacking or upholding a group's values, it reveals the psychological conflicts manifest in responses to particular texts. *Lacan, Discourse, and Social Change* will be essential reading for students as well as specialists in such fields as cultural criticism, feminist theory, literary theory, psychoanalytic criticism, reader-response criticism, reader-response criticism, and Lacanian theory.

lacan analysis: *Lacan and the Political* Yannis Stavrakakis, 2002-09-11 The work of Jacques Lacan is second only to Freud in its impact on psychoanalysis. Yannis Stavrakakis clearly examines Lacan's challenging views on time, history, language, alterity, desire and sexuality from a political standpoint. It is the first book to provide an overview of the social and political implications of Lacan's work as a whole for students coming to Lacan for the first time. The first part of *Lacan and the Political* offers a straightforward and systematic assessment of the importance of Lacan's categories and theoretical constructions for concrete political analysis. The second half of the book applies Lacanian theory to specific examples of widely discussed political issues, such as Green ideology, the question of democracy and the hegemony of advertising in contemporary culture.

lacan analysis: Critique of Psychoanalytic Reason Dany Nobus, 2022-04-27 The highly arcane wisdom produced by the French psychoanalyst Jacques Lacan is either endlessly regurgitated and recited as holy writ by his numerous acolytes, or radically dismissed as unpalatable nonsense by his equally countless detractors. Contrary to these common, strictly antagonistic yet uniformly uncritical practices, this book offers a meticulous critique of some key theoretical and clinical aspects of Lacan's expansive oeuvre, testing their consistency, examining their implications, and investigating their significance. In nine interrelated chapters, the book highlights both the flaws and the strengths of Lacan's ideas, in areas of investigation that are as crucial as they are contentious, within as well as outside psychoanalysis. Drawing on a vast range of source materials, including many unpublished archival documents, it teases out controversial issues such as money, organisational failure, and lighthearted, gay thinking, and it relies on the highest standards of scholarly excellence to develop its arguments. At the same time, the book does not presuppose any prior knowledge of Lacanian psychoanalysis on the part of the reader, but allows its readership to indulge in the joys of in-depth critical analysis, trans-disciplinary creative thinking, and persistent questioning. This book will appeal to researchers and students alike in psychoanalytic studies and philosophy, as well as all those interested in French theory and the history of ideas.

lacan analysis: *Lacan* Alain Badiou, 2018-10-16 Alain Badiou is arguably the most significant philosopher in Europe today. Badiou's seminars, given annually on major conceptual and historical topics, constitute an enormously important part of his work. They served as laboratories for his thought and public illuminations of his complex ideas yet remain little known. This book, the transcript of Badiou's year-long seminar on the psychoanalytic theory of Jacques Lacan, is the first volume of his seminars to be published in English, opening up a new and vital aspect of his thinking. In a highly original and compelling account of Lacan's theory and therapeutic practice, Badiou considers the challenge that Lacan poses to fundamental philosophical topics such as being, the subject, and truth. Badiou argues that Lacan is a singular figure of the "anti-philosopher," a series of thinkers stretching back to Saint Paul and including Kierkegaard and Nietzsche, with Lacan as the last great anti-philosopher of modernity. The book offers a forceful reading of an enigmatic yet foundational thinker and sheds light on the crucial role that Lacan plays in Badiou's own thought. This seminar, more accessible than some of Badiou's more difficult works, will be profoundly valuable for the many readers across academic disciplines, art and literature, and political activism who find his thought essential.

lacan analysis: *Thresholds and Pathways Between Jung and Lacan* Ann Casement, Phil Goss, Dany Nobus, 2020-10-12 This groundbreaking book was seeded by the first-ever joint Jung-Lacan conference on the notion of the sublime held at Cambridge, England, against the backdrop of the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the Great War. It provides a fascinating range of in-depth

psychological perspectives on aspects of creativity and destruction inherent in the monstrous, awe-inspiring sublime. The chapters include some of the outcrop of academic and clinical papers given at this conference, with the addition of new contributions that explore similarities and differences between Jungian and Lacanian thinking on key topics such as language and linguistics, literature, religion, self and subject, science, mathematics and philosophy. The overall objective of this vitalizing volume is the development and dissemination of new ideas that will be of interest to practising psychoanalysts, psychotherapists and academics in the field, as well as to all those who are captivated by the still-revolutionary thinking of Jung and Lacan.

lacan analysis: *Lacan in Public* Christian Lundberg, 2012-11-26 Lacan in Public argues that Lacan's contributions to the theory of rhetoric are substantial and revolutionary and that rhetoric is, in fact, the central concern of Lacan's entire body of work. Scholars typically cite Jacques Lacan as a thinker primarily concerned with issues of desire, affect, politics, and pleasure. And though Lacan explicitly contends with some of the pivotal thinkers in the field of rhetoric, rhetoricians have been hesitant to embrace the French thinker both because his writing is difficult and because Lacan's conception of rhetoric runs counter to the American traditions of rhetoric in composition and communication studies. Lacan's conception of rhetoric, Christian Lundberg argues in *Lacan in Public*, upsets and extends the received wisdom of American rhetorical studies—that rhetoric is a science, rather than an art; that rhetoric is predicated not on the reciprocal exchange of meanings, but rather on the impossibility of such an exchange; and that rhetoric never achieves a correspondence with the real-world circumstances it attempts to describe. As Lundberg shows, Lacan's work speaks directly to conversations at the center of current rhetorical scholarship, including debates regarding the nature of the public and public discourses, the materiality of rhetoric and agency, and the contours of a theory of persuasion.

lacan analysis: Introductory Lectures on Lacan Astrid Gessert, 2018-05-15 Lacan developed his theory and practice of psychoanalysis on the basis of Freud's original work. In his return to Freud he not only elaborated and revised some of Freud's innovative ideas, but turned to important questions and problems in Freud's theory that had remained obscure and unresolved, and provided a new way of articulating these issues and their implication for psychoanalytic theory and practice. This book offers a selection of chapters about some of the fundamental concepts of psychoanalysis. The authors aim to explore the trajectory of the development of these concepts from their original basis in Freud's work to their elaboration by Lacan. The book will be of interest to readers from different backgrounds, including the clinical and academic field, social and cultural studies and the arts, for whom psychoanalytic ideas may be a relatively new field to explore, or who are looking for new perspectives to develop their ideas about psychoanalysis.

lacan analysis: A Liberating Use of Lacan's Analysis of Western Painting George Dimos, 2017-06-13 Essay from the year 1987 in the subject Psychology - Miscellaneous, , language: English, abstract: This text presents one of the very few opportunities one can have to escape from the eternal voyage round and round the moebius strip of psychoanalysis. This escape can be achieved in general by using the Lacanian construction. Lacan was the most authoritative psychoanalyst after Freud and maybe the last one; since his theory (although he never admitted it; always insisting that he is a follower of Freud) proved the limitations of the Freudian paradigm (not only from the point of view of logic) making clear that the annihilation of the possibility of a subject hood is unavoidable in psychoanalysis. Of course the avoidance of this annihilation might be not the purpose of psychoanalysis but it is a populist belief and a populist expected outcome of psychoanalysis. The use of (a) is the only reaction to the annihilation and in psychoanalysis this object (a) takes always the form of a secretion. This text describes what is involved in the process of creating and watching a Western Painting according to the Lacanian Theory. It also provides the means for the escape we mentioned before which is an escape from the 'Law' from the pair of the eyes that are always looking at us through a Western Painting. Reading this text requires a thorough knowledge of the Freudian and Lacanian literature but also of the French so called philosophical, postmodernist concepts.

lacan analysis: *Jacques Lacan (Volume I) (RLE: Lacan)* Michael P. Clark, 2014-02-05 This bibliography in two volumes, originally published in 1988, lists and describes works by and about Jacques Lacan published in French, English, and seven other languages including Japanese and Russian. It incorporates and corrects where necessary all information from earlier published bibliographies of Lacan's work. Also included as background works are books and essays that discuss Lacan in the course of a more general study, as well as all relevant items in various bibliographic sources from many fields.

lacan analysis: *Jacques Lacan and the Other Side of Psychoanalysis* Justin Clemens, Russell Grigg, 2006-05-23 This collection is the first extended interrogation in any language of Jacques Lacan's Seminar XVII. Originally delivered just after the Paris uprisings of May 1968, Seminar XVII marked a turning point in Lacan's thought; it was both a step forward in the psychoanalytic debates and an important contribution to social and political issues. Collecting important analyses by many of the major Lacanian theorists and practitioners, this anthology is at once an introduction, critique, and extension of Lacan's influential ideas. The contributors examine Lacan's theory of the four discourses, his critique of the Oedipus complex and the superego, the role of primal affects in political life, and his prophetic grasp of twenty-first-century developments. They take up these issues in detail, illuminating the Lacanian concepts with in-depth discussions of shame and guilt, literature and intimacy, femininity, perversion, authority and revolt, and the discourse of marketing and political rhetoric. Topics of more specific psychoanalytic interest include the role of objet a, philosophy and psychoanalysis, the status of knowledge, and the relation between psychoanalytic practices and the modern university. Contributors. Geoff Boucher, Marie-Hélène Brousse, Justin Clemens, Mladen Dolar, Oliver Feltham, Russell Grigg, Pierre-Gilles Guéguen, Dominique Hecq, Dominiek Hoens, Éric Laurent, Juliet Flower MacCannell, Jacques-Alain Miller, Ellie Ragland, Matthew Sharpe, Paul Verhaeghe, Slavoj Žižek, Alenka Zupancic

lacan analysis: What Lacan Said About Women Colette Soler, 2020-10-06 The definitive work on Lacan's theory of the feminine. With exquisite prose and penetrating insights, Colette Soler shares her theoretical and clinical expertise in this vibrant new text. She spins out seductive explications of Lacan's thought on the controversial question of sexual difference. With the subtlety that these topics deserve, she takes up Lacan's conception of woman and her relation to masochism, femininity and hysteria, love and death, and the impossible sexual relation. Following more than the usual suspects, *What Lacan Said About Women* also explores the mother's place in the unconscious, how Lacan understands depression, and why depressives feel unloved. Soler's analysis examines the cultural implications of the texts that Lacan produced from the 1950s to the 1970s, such as the effects of science on contemporary conceptions of the feminine. She gracefully bridges the gap still left open between psychoanalysis and cultural studies. Winner of the Prix Psyche for the best work published in the fields of psychology and psychoanalysis in 2003, this book will appeal to cultural critics, especially those in gender and women's studies, as well as to anyone involved in contemporary theory or clinical practice. This study will transform novices within the field of Lacanian theory into informed thinkers and it will substantially supplement and refine the knowledge of Lacanian veterans.

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systematic introduction to Lacan's views on love. It will be of great value to students and scholars of psychology and of the humanities generally, and to analysts of all persuasions.

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detailed, and wide ranging, Jacques Lacan and the Freudian Practice of Psychoanalysis will prove essential reading, not only for professionals and students within the fields of psychology and psychiatry, but for all those keen to discover a new Lacan.

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