

*AGEING BRAINS AND MINDS, AGEING SENSES AND SENTIMENTS:  
LITERATURE, NEUROLOGY, PSYCHIATRY*

May 26-27, 2016

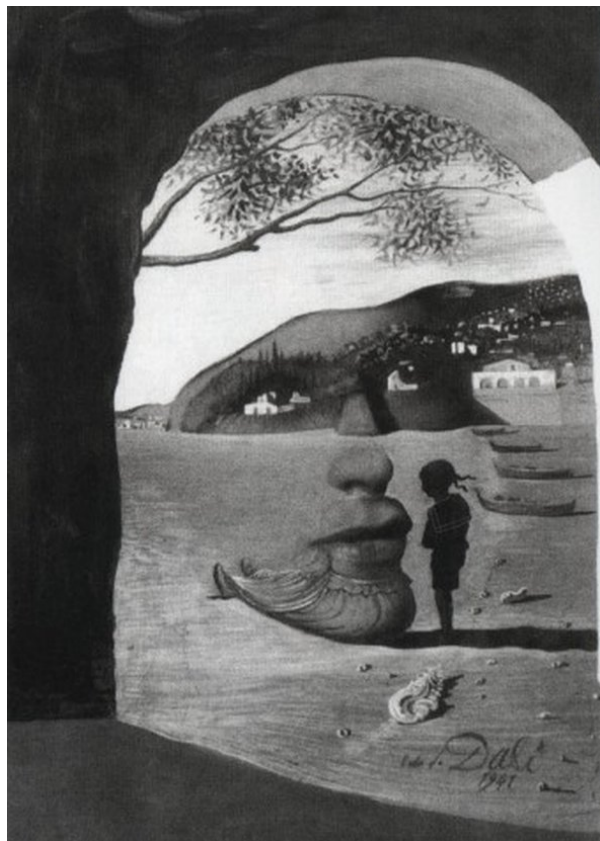


Alfred Eisenstaedt

The Bergen Literature and Science Research group invites scholars of the humanities, neurologists and psychiatrists to explore the phenomenology of the ageing self. This research seminar encourages topics that intrinsically connect especially literary texts on ageing and old age with the realms of neurology and psychiatry. It will allow us to study comparatively some physical and psychological aspects of ageing, as they are perceived through the lenses of medicine, literature (imaginative, autobiographical, reflective) and also visual media, in any historical period. While we do not expect literary scholars to be medically trained or neurologists and psychiatrists to be experts in literary critique, we do hope to enable a lively dialogue. In this way the event will give various responses to some inherent challenges in an interdisciplinary approach to ageing. How can fictions, images and testimonies of the ageing mind cohere with neurology's materialized conceptions of neuro-degeneration? How do the weakened senses of senescence affect sensitivity, and how is this rendered in our divergent discourses? What conceptual frameworks and critical tools can the humanities adopt to study ageing in synergy with the scientific approaches pursued by medicine and psychiatry?

| <p><i>AGEING BRAINS AND MINDS, AGEING SENSES AND SENTIMENTS:<br/>LITERATURE, NEUROLOGY, PSYCHIATRY</i></p> |  |
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| Thursday<br>May 26   | Centre Universitaire de Norvège à Paris<br>Fondation Maison des Sciences de l'Homme<br>190, Avenue de France, 75013 Paris Salle B  |
| 10.00  | Introduction by the Director of the Norwegian University Centre in Paris,<br><b>Bjarne Rogan</b>   |
| 10.15  | <b>Jan Frich</b> (University of Oslo), <i>Literary Myths about Neuro-degeneration:<br/>The Case of Huntington's Disease</i>  |
| 11.15  | <b>Bernt Engelsen</b> (University of Bergen), <i>The Ageing Self in an Epileptological<br/>and Neuropsychiatric Setting</i>  |
| 12.15  | Lunch at the Norwegian University Centre   |
| 13.15  | <b>Marlene Goldman</b> (University of Toronto), <i>Re-Imagining Age-Related<br/>Dementia: Alice Munro's "In Sight of the Lake"</i>   |
| 13.45  | <b>Elizabeth Barry</b> (University of Warwick), <i>Towards A Neurophenomenology<br/>of Dementia</i>  |
| 14.15  | Pause  |
| 14.30  | <b>Hanna Serkowska</b> (University of Warsaw) <i>Before the Speech Balloons Go<br/>Blank: Dementia in Cartoons</i>   |
| 15.00  | <b>Svein Atle Skålevåg</b> (University of Bergen), <i>Psychiatry and Life Narratives</i>   |
| 15.30  | Pause  |
| 15.45  | <b>Nora Simonhjell</b> (University of Stavanger), <i>Ageing and Dementia in<br/>Children's Literature</i>  |
| 16.15  | <b>Maya Hauptman</b> (Haifa University), <i>Ageing in Tahar Ben Jelloun's Fiction<br/>and Autofiction: Expression and Impact of Dementia in About My Mother</i>  |
| 16.45  | Pause  |
| 17.00  | <b>Hemlata Giri Loussier</b> (University of Sorbonne Nouvelle – Paris III), <i>Ageing<br/>and sentiment of alienation in Fire on the Mountain by Anita Desai and The<br/>Namesake by Jhumpa Lahiri</i>   |
| 17.30  | <b>Georgia Mavragani</b> (Director of Happy End Company) and <b>Eugenia<br/>Grammatikopoulou</b> (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki) <i>Old Age - A<br/>Choral Ode</i>                                |
| 19.30  | The director of the Centre, Professor Bjarne Rogan, has the pleasure of inviting<br>you to an aperitif at his flat: 14, Avenue des Gobelins, code 28*04, left<br>staircase, call ROGAN, 1st floor right. |
| 20.30  | Dinner offered by the Norwegian University Centre<br>Le Refuge du Passé, 32, rue du Fer à Moulin, 75005 Paris, tél.<br>0147072991  |

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| Friday<br>May 27   | Centre Universitaire de Norvège à Paris<br>Fondation Maison des Sciences de l'Homme<br>190, Avenue de France, 75013 Paris Salle B  |
| 10.00  | Introduction   |
| 10.15  | <b>Samuel Lepastier</b> (Université de Paris Diderot), <i>Ageing Hysterics: Fictional and Clinical cases</i>   |
| 11.15  | <b>George Rousseau</b> (Oxford University) reads from his new memoir in progress entitled <i>Sleepless</i>   |
| 12.15  | Lunch at The Norwegian University Centre   |
| 13.15  | <b>Lillian Helle</b> (University of Bergen) " <i>Love on the final Slopes of Life": Senescence, Sentiments and Sensuality in Fyodor Ivanovich Tyutchev's "Denisieva Cycle"</i>   |
| 13.45  | <b>Pierre Laszlo</b> (École polytechnique, Palaiseau, France and University of Liège, Belgium), <i>Neurochemistry of Cognitive Loss in the Elderly and Self-estrangement in Samuel Beckett's Writings</i>  |
| 14.15  | Pause  |
| 14.30  | <b>Marco Marchetti</b> and <b>Laura Tommaso</b> (Università degli Studi del Molise) " <i>The sensual enjoyment of life": Old Age and Sexual Desire in Philip Roth's The Human Stain</i>  |
| 15.00  | <b>Emanuela Ettorre</b> (University "G. d'Annunzio" Chieti-Pescara), " <i>Now my life is rounded": The Art of Equanimity in George Gissing's The Private Papers of Henry Ryecroft</i>  |
| 15.30  | Pause  |
| 15.45  | <b>Adrian Tait</b> (Independent scholar), <i>Rudyard Kipling and the Unravelling Dialectic of 'Old Age'</i>  |
| 16.15  | <b>Erika Natalia Molina García</b> (University of Toulouse II, Jean Jaurès & University Charles de Prague), <i>Riot and Levity: De Beauvoir and Borges on Ageing</i>   |
| 16.45  | Pause  |
| 17.00  | <b>Gunn Inger Sture</b> (University of Bergen), <i>Memory and Ageing in Proust's À la recherche du temps perdu</i>   |
| 17.30  | <b>Margery Vibe Skagen</b> (University of Bergen), <i>How Can Literature Complement other Disciplines in the Study of Ageing? The Art of Being Useful to other Disciplines and Loyal to one's own</i>  |
| 18.00  | <b>Margareth Hagen</b> (University of Bergen) closes the seminar   |
| 20.00  | Dinner offered by the Bergen Literature and Science Research group's Network project: <i>Defining frameworks and tools for an interdisciplinary approach to ageing</i><br>L'Auberge de Notre Dame, 69, Quai de la Tournelle, 75005 Paris, 0143259998 |

**Venue:**

Centre Universitaire de Norvège à Paris  
Fondation Maison des Sciences de  
l'Homme

190, Avenue de France, 75013 Paris

Tél. 0149542216 [www.paris.uio.no](http://www.paris.uio.no)

**Link to Bergen Literature and Science  
Research Group:**

[http://www.uib.no/en/rg/lit\\_sci](http://www.uib.no/en/rg/lit_sci)

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