



You are invited to join a special opportunity with

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University of Verona

Room 570, Education Bldg, University of Haifa

PUBLIC LECTURE | 20.11.19 | 14:00

“The Freedom to Think of Things in Themselves”: on Italian Feminist Theory

Is there a specific Italian feminist philosophical tradition? an Italian feminist theory? If so, how does it relate to other strands of feminist and gender discourse elsewhere?

In this lecture I will attempt a genealogy of Italian feminist theory, by exploring its origins, its theoretical background, its philosophical purports. Through an intersection of history and theory, I will assess the specificity of Italy’s women’s movement in the early 70s, its impact on the philosophical development of the thought of sexual difference in the following decades, as well as its role in contemporary Italian political philosophy debates.

SEMINAR FOR RESEARCH STUDENTS | 21.11.2019 | 10:00

On Public Happiness: Rethinking Power and Politics with Hannah Arendt

In common sense language, happiness is normally understood as a private passion. There are of course historical oscillations between private and public happiness, within a larger and broader “geometry” of the political use of passions. Nevertheless, the crisis of democracy is perceived today with extreme preoccupation – especially in the European context – in the twofold dimension of a crisis of political institutions and a crisis of the political-participatory aspect, in face of the progressive strengthening of financial and economic actors of the neoliberal globalization. There is also a serious social tendency to private isolation.

In this context, the in-depth analysis of the Arendtian reflection on the “hidden tradition” of public happiness and public freedom, as she develops it in “On Revolution” (1963), assumes high relevance and originality on the philosophical-political level. Such analysis can contribute to define a political philosophy aimed not simply at proposing a new ethical appeal to the duty of participation and a new “Republican Spirit”, but returns to reflect on the very meaning of politics, starting from its fundamental experiences.