



CMPS

Center for Modern Psychoanalytic Studies

Extension Division Presentation

Love is Giving What You Don't Have: *A Commentary on Lacan's Reading of Plato's Symposium*

What is love and what part does it play in psychoanalysis? Where are the analyst and the analysand situated in relation to the roles defined as “lover” and “beloved”? Jacques Lacan explores these and other questions in *Seminar VIII: Transference* (Cambridge, UK, and Malden, MA: Polity Press, 2015), providing an extensive commentary on Plato's most famous dialogue on love, the *Symposium*. This talk will outline some of the major points about love that grow out of Lacan's reading of the dialogue and examine their relevance to the analytic setting. Can the analyst be characterized as a sort of modern-day Socrates?

4 CE Credits for Licensed Psychoanalysts, Social Workers, and Psychologists

■ SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2017 • 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM ■

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PRACTITIONERS AND GENERAL PUBLIC: \$120 | STUDENTS: \$60



Bruce Fink is a practicing Lacanian psychoanalyst and analytic supervisor who trained in France at the psychoanalytic institute Jacques Lacan created shortly before his death, the *École de la Cause freudienne* in Paris. He has translated several of Lacan's works into English, including *Écrits: The First Complete Edition in English*; *Seminar XX: Encore*; and *Seminar VIII: Transference*. He is the author of numerous books on Lacan, including *The Lacanian Subject: A Clinical Introduction to Lacanian Psychoanalysis*; *Lacan to the Letter*; *Fundamentals of Psychoanalytic Technique*; *Against Understanding (2 volumes)*; and, most recently, *Lacan on Love*. A board member of the *Pittsburgh Psychoanalytic Center*, he has also penned several mysteries involving a character loosely based on Jacques Lacan: *The Psychoanalytic Adventures of Inspector Canal*; *Death by Analysis*; *Odor di Murderer*, *Scent of a Killer*; and *The Purloined Love*.

CONTINUING EDUCATION INFORMATION

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: Participants will be able to (1) describe Lacan's thesis that “love is giving what you don't have,” (2) describe Lacan's interpretation of certain parts of Plato's *Symposium*, (3) describe the many facets of what we mean by the word “love,” (4) explain why love involves loving the partner's “warts” (or flaws or defects), and (5) explain why Freud said that it is impossible to “love thy neighbor.”

Licensed Psychoanalysts: The Center for Modern Psychoanalytic Studies (CMPS) is recognized by the New York State Education Department's State Board for Mental Health Practitioners as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed psychoanalysts (#P-0032).

Psychologists: CMPS is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. CMPS maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

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