

Lecture 

**Dagmar Herzog: Perversion and Love in Postwar Psychoanalysis  
Or: Why We Should Reread Robert Stoller**

Mar 11, 19:30, 2015

This paper considered the peculiarities of psychoanalysts' responses to the sexual revolution of the 1960s-1970s. Topics covered included the highly ideological (mis)uses of the ideal and dream of love in marginalizing nontraditional sexualities – as well as the strategies ultimately used by antihomophobic psychoanalysts to challenge the dominant norms, with particular attention to the late Robert Stoller's innovative ideas about sexual excitement.

**Dagmar Herzog** is Distinguished Professor of History and the Daniel Rose Faculty Scholar at the Graduate Center, City University of New York. She has published widely in the history of religion in Europe and the U.S., on the Holocaust and its aftermath, and on the histories of gender and sexuality. She completed *Sexuality in Europe: A Twentieth-Century History* (Cambridge UP, 2011), and is currently at work on a new project on the European and American histories of psychoanalysis, trauma, and desire. She is also the author of *Sex in Crisis: The New Sexual Revolution and the Future of American Politics* (Basic, 2008), *Sex after Fascism: Memory and Morality in Twentieth-Century Germany* (Princeton UP, 2005), and *Intimacy and Exclusion: Religious Politics in Pre-Revolutionary Baden* (Princeton UP, 1996; Transaction, 2007). She is the editor and coeditor of six anthologies, including, most recently, *Brutality and Desire: War and Sexuality in Europe's Twentieth Century* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2009) and *Lessons and Legacies VII: The Holocaust in International Perspective* (Northwestern UP, 2007).

The talk was organized in cooperation with and sponsored by Research Center Archive for Sex Research, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

Flyer ([PDF](#))

**Time:** Wednesday, 11 March 2015, 19:30

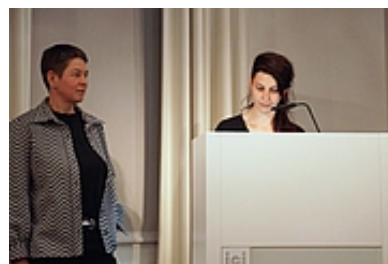
**Venue:** ICI Berlin

In English

**Desire's Multiplicity and Serendipity**

Desire, wandering about and forming assemblages, might be accompanied by serendipity or mate with jouissance or the power of the erotic, even as it fails to reach its presumed aim. Instead of running on a single track, we take desire to be functioning in a multiple manner. We call on desire's serendipity to grasp its illogical, contingent modes as a figure of fortunate errands. The lecture series looks for queer reconceptualizations of desire, its cultural articulations and lived realities. The key question is how to get from the critique of desire as a hierarchizing and normalizing force to the heterotopias of desire. What would it mean to understand or experience desire as opening up to alterity, undermining its own involvement in structural inequalities and normative violence?

The Lecture Series **Desire's Multiplicity and Serendipity** is a cooperation between the Institute for Queer Theory and the ICI Berlin.



**Related Record(s):**

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**Lecture: Leo Bersani: Sex. Just Say No, 18 Jun '15**

**Lecture: Serena Dankwa and Jafari Allen: Desire,...., 28 May '15**

**Lecture: Jelisaveta Blagojević: Politics of Unthinkable..., 28 Apr '15**

**Discussion: desire Conserves desire Transgresses desire, 4 Feb '15**

**Partner: Research Center Archive for Sex Research (HU Berlin)**

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**Lecture: Shaka McGlotten: Political Aesthetics of Drag, 15 Oct '14**

**Lecture Series: Desire's Multiplicity and Serendipity**

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