

BEN LERNER PARIS CONFERENCE 2023

"Let me walk to the edge of the genre"
Poetry, Fiction, Artistic Collaborations
Conference, Readings, Interviews.

Paris - June 28th-July 1st 2023

<https://benlernerparisconference2023.weebly.com>

Conference Venues

June 28th 2023

Postgraduate Workshop

Université Paris Cité, 8 place Paul Ricoeur,
Olympe de Gouges, (Second floor), Room 265
Métro 14: Bibliothèque Nationale de France
(exit3: Goscinny)
Tramway T3a - Avenue de France

June 29th 2023

Conference and Reading

University of Chicago Center in Paris
6 rue Thomas Mann, 75013 Paris
Métro 14: Bibliothèque Nationale de France
(exit3: Goscinny))

June 30th 2023

Conference

University of Chicago Center in Paris
6 rue Thomas Mann, 75013 Paris
Métro 14: Bibliothèque Nationale de France
(exit3: Goscinny)

June 30th 2023

Poetry Reading

Atelier Michael Woolworth,
2 rue de la Roquette, cour Février, 75011 Paris
www.doublechange.org
Métro 1, 5, 8: Bastille (Exit 1: rue de la Roquette)

July 1st 2023

Conference and Q & A with Ben Lerner

Université Paris cité, 5 rue Thomas Mann,
La Halle aux Farines, Amphi 12 E (third floor).
Métro 14: Bibliothèque Nationale de France
(exit3: Goscinny))

Conference Banquet

Bouillon Racine

3 rue Racine, 75006 Paris
Métro: Odéon (4 and 10), St Michel (4), Cluny Sorbonne (10)
RER: Saint Michel - Notre Dame (B, C)

Organizing committee:

Yannicke Chupin (CY Cergy Paris Université)
Karim Daanoune (Université Paul Valéry - Montpellier 3)
Daniel Katz (University of Warwick)
Anne-Laure Tissut (Université de Rouen)

The organizing committee wishes to thank the following institutions and organizations:



CONFERENCE READINGS INTERVIEWS
JUNE 28 - JULY 1st 2023 PARIS

Université Paris Cité

University of Chicago Center in Paris

Atelier Michael Woolworth

BEN LERNER
EDGE OF GENRE
POETRY - FICTION - ARTISTIC COLLABORATIONS

ORGANIZED BY CY CERGY PARIS UNIVERSITÉ - UNIVERSITÉ PARIS CITÉ
UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK - UNIVERSITÉ DE ROUEN - UNIVERSITÉ PAUL VALÉRY-MONTPELLIER 3



BEN LERNER PARIS CONFERENCE PROGRAM

“Let me walk to the edge of the genre”
Poetry, Fiction, Artistic Collaborations

Paris, June 28th-July 1st 2023

Wednesday, June 28th

Université Paris Cité, Place Paul Ricoeur,
Olympe de Gouges, Room 265

Post-Graduate Workshop

With **Mary K. Holland** (State University of New York,
New Paltz),

Daniel Katz (University of Warwick)

Anne-Laure Tissut (Université de Rouen).

(Auditors welcome).

Time: 2.00-4.00

Participants:

❖ **Sean Sokolov** (University of Western Ontario,
London, Canada)

‘The same but totally different’: Apprehending
the Post-Commodity in Ben Lerner’s *10:04*

❖ **Paul Enequist** (Stockholm University, Sweden)

Making the Negative Readable:
Autonomous Art at the Brink of Nothing

❖ **Marta Zanucco** (University of Liverpool, UK)

‘[T]he problem of other minds’:
Disappropriation and the Limits of Polyphony
in Ben Lerner’s *The Topeka School*

❖ **Valentine Alloing** (Université Paris Cité, France)

Paranoia in the Works of Thomas Pynchon,
Don DeLillo and John Kennedy Toole:
Questioning the Borderline between Reality
and Fiction

❖ **Wesley Moore** (Friedrich-Alexander-Universität
Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany)

Blurring Boundaries: Late-Modern Structures,
Authenticity, and the Role of Fiction in Jennifer
Egan and Ben Lerner

Thursday, June 29th

Ben Lerner and Fiction

The University of Chicago Center in Paris,
6 rue Thomas Mann, 75013 Paris

9.00-9.30 **Registration and Opening**

With **Cécile Roudeau** (Université Paris Cité)
Director, LARCA UMR 8225

9.30-10.30 **Plenary Address**

❖ **Mary K. Holland** (State University of New York,
New Paltz, USA)

‘Love // more avant-garde than shame’: Ben
Lerner’s Ethical Aesthetics

Chair: **Yannicke Chupin** (CY Cergy Paris Université)

10.30-11.00 **Coffee break**

11.00-12.20 **Lerner in Theory**

Chair: **Béatrice Pire** (Université Sorbonne Nouvelle)

❖ **Marc Farrant** (University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands)

After Theory: Ben Lerner and the Essayistic
Turn in Contemporary Literature

❖ **Matt Prout** (University of Bristol, UK)

‘I was disturbed by the Contradiction’: Theory
and Practice in Ben Lerner’s Autofictions

Lunch break

2.00-5.00 **Mirroring the Contemporary**

Chair: **Sylvie Bauer** (Université Rennes 2)

❖ **Maud Bougerol** (Université de Rouen, France)

‘Bodies, streetlights, mixed media’: *10:04* and
the Mediated Experience

❖ **Alexander Scherr** (Justus Liebig University, Giessen,
Germany)

Speech into Stutter – a Deleuzian Reading of
Ben Lerner’s *The Topeka School*

3.20-3.40 **Coffee break**

❖ **Ryan Lackey** (University of California, Berkeley, USA)

Ben Lerner and the Promises of Parasociality

❖ **Simon Smith** (University of Kent, UK)

“Life’s White Machine”

Friday, June 30th

Ben Lerner and Poetry

The University of Chicago Center in Paris,
6 rue Thomas Mann, 75013 Paris

9.30-10.30 **Plenary Address**

❖ **Daniel Katz** (University of Warwick, Coventry, UK)

The Instrument With Which It’s Cut: Ben
Lerner’s Bildung

Chair: **Olivier Brossard** (Université Gustave Eiffel/Institut
Universitaire de France)

10.30-11.00 **Coffee break**

11.00-12.20 **Textual echoes**

Chair: **Marie Olivier** (Université Paris-Est Créteil)

❖ **Sean Mark** (Université Catholique de Lille, France)

Ben Lerner and the Poetics of Conspiracy

❖ **Stephen Ross** (Concordia University, Montréal, Canada)

On the Conversation Partner: Celan, Waldrop, Lerner

Lunch break

2.00-5.00 **Lerner, Far and Near**

Chair: **Antoine Cazé** (Université Paris Cité)

❖ **Joseph Shafer** (Auburn University, Alabama, USA)

Determining Art as Thrice Removed

❖ **Chloé Thomas** (Université d’Angers/Université Paris
Cité, France)

From the Hatred of Poetry to the (Self-)hatred of
the Poet

3.20-3.40 **Coffee break**

❖ **Caroline Magnin** (Sorbonne Université, Paris, France)

Tragedy and the Possibility of Community in Ben
Lerner’s *10:04*

❖ **Kyra Sutton** (University of Berkeley, California, USA)

‘Between the Terrestrial and the Divine’:
Ben Lerner and the Post Secular

Saturday, July 1st

Ben Lerner and Art

Université Paris Cité,
5 rue Thomas Mann, Halle aux Farines – Amphi 12E

1.00-2.00 **Plenary Address**

❖ **Yasna Bozhkova** (Université Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris,
France)

‘Crucial Betweens’: Ben Lerner’s Dialogic Poetics

Chair: **Karim Daanoune** (Université Paul Valéry -
Montpellier 3)

2.00-2.30 **Coffee break**

2.30-3.50 **Ways of Seeing, Ways of Listening**

Chair: **Mathieu Duplay** (Université Paris Cité)

❖ **James Strowman** (Durham University, UK)

‘heard melodies are sweet, but those unheard are
sweeter’: Music in Ben Lerner’s Poetics

❖ **Sharon Zelnick** (University of California, Los Angeles, USA)

The Photo/Text as a Medium of Jewish American
Memory: Collaboration and Critique in Ben Lerner,
Barbara Bloom, and Adam Golfer

4.00-5.00 **Question and Answer with Ben Lerner**

7.15 pm **Conference Banquet**

Bouillon Racine, 3 rue Racine, 75006 Paris

IN-PERSON EVENTS WITH BEN LERNER

Thursday, June 29th

Writing and Translating *The Topeka School*
Ben Lerner and Jakuta Alikavazovic in conversation
with Adam Biles

Jakuta Alikavazovic, French novelist and translator
Adam Biles, Literary Director at Shakespeare and Company

Venue: University of Chicago Center in Paris,
6 rue Thomas Mann, 75013 Paris

Time: 7.00 –8.00

The event will be followed by a cocktail

Friday, June 30th

Bilingual Poetry Reading

Ben Lerner and Virginie Poitrasson, French poet and translator
Event in collaboration with Double Change

Venue: Atelier Michael Woolworth,
2 rue de la Roquette, 75011 Paris

Time: 7.00 –8.00

The event will be followed by a cocktail

Saturday, July 1st

Question and Answer with Ben Lerner

Venue: Université Paris cité,
5 rue Thomas Mann, 75013 Paris
La Halle aux Farines, Amphi 12 E (third floor)

Time: 4.00 –5.00