**Virginia Woolf’s *Orlando: A Biography*. Affirming Liberty**

**10 October, 2024**

**Université Paris Nanterre**

**Bâtiment Max Weber**

**Amphithéâtre**

**Organised by Naomi Toth (**[**ntoth@parisnanterre.fr**](mailto:ntoth@parisnanterre.fr)**)**

**and Charlotte Estrade (**[**cestrade@parisnanterre.fr**](mailto:cestrade@parisnanterre.fr)**)**

**Draft Programme**

8:30 — Coffee, registration

8:45 — Welcome : Françoise Kral

**Session 1: Strange biography**

Chair: Marie Laniel (Picardie-Jules Verne)

9:00 — Jane Goldman (Glasgow)

‘The Queen herself can have seen only a head’. Gendered ways of seeing and reading in *Orlando: A Biography.*

9:30 — Xavier LeBrun (Angers)

A Life Seen ‘Without a Self’: Paralepsis and ‘Unobserved Sensibilia’ in *Orlando*

10:00 — Olivier Hercend (Paris Nanterre)

The Rhetoric of Honesty: Realism, Biographical Conventions and the “Reader’s Part” in Virginia Woolf’s *Orlando*.

10:30 — Aude Haffen (Paul Valéry -Montpellier3)

‘[I]t has been necessary to speculate, to surmise, and even to use the imagination’: Sexual Truth and Queer Experiments in *Orlando.*

COFFEE BREAK

**Session 2: Playing with History**

Chair: Charlotte Estrade (Paris Nanterre)

11:30 — Anne Besnault (Rouen)

Writing History and Literary History in *Orlando*: The Historian, the Critic and the ‘Oak Tree’

12:00 — Monica Latham (Lorraine)

Vampirism and Intertextuality: Virginia Woolf’s and Christine Orban’s Geneses of *Orlando*

12:30 — Marie Laniel (Picardie – Jules Verne)

Anemomorphosis: The Workings of the Wind in Chapter V of *Orlando*

LUNCH BREAK

**Session 3: Politics and Ethics**

Chair: Naomi Toth (Paris Nanterre)

2:00 – Mia Carter (University of Texas at Austin)

Virginia Woolf’s Dark Continents: Dead Ends and Imagined Inroads

2:30 — Valérie Favre (Panthéon Sorbonne)

From Androgyny to Performativity, Queerness and Transidentity: The Heuristics of Anachronistic Reading in Woolf's *Orlando* and its Reception

3:00 — Christine Regnier (Paul Valéry – Montpellier3)

*Orlando*’s Ethical and Aesthetic Principles: Virginia Woolf’s Response to G.E. Moore

COFFEE BREAK

**Session 4: “the book I planned then as an escapade”[[1]](#footnote-1)**

Chair: Xavier Giudicelli (Paris Nanterre)

4:00 — Juliana Lopoukhine (Sorbonne)

Time and the Urban Poetics of Woolf’s *Orlando*

4:30 — Anne-Marie Smith (Institut Catholique de Paris)

‘A voice answering a voice … the intercourse of lovers’ ; Trans-textual vocality or Orlando recalled through Woolf’s other texts.

5:00 — Floriane Reviron-Piégay (Jean Monnet - Saint-Etienne)

Otherness in *Orlando*: Woolf’s exploration of sameness, identity and alterity

APERITIF

1. Woolf, diary entry, 20 December 1927. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)