

## ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS

Affiliated Psychoanalytic Workgroups,  
in conjunction with Lacan Toronto,  
announces its 12th annual conference

# ON DESIRE

in Toronto, Canada  
17 – 19 October 2014

In conjunction with the recent French publication of Lacan's sixth seminar, *Desire and Its Interpretation*, APW raises the question of desire for its twelfth annual conference.

A revolution in psychoanalysis occurs when Lacan transforms Freud's concept of the *wish*, which is transient and temporary, into *desire*. Perhaps surprisingly, for a man who was fond of drawing a bar across any reified concept, Lacan—following upon Hegel and Spinoza—promotes desire as the distinctive status of the human subject. In this early period of Lacan's career, the restitution of the subject's desire, wresting the subject's desire from the Other, is the therapeutic goal of psychoanalysis. And then there follows the gradual demotion of desire, seen in the later Lacan as a barrier to *jouissance*.

Desire is one of those concepts inferred from the evidence. Just as language is extrapolated from speech, just as the unconscious is deduced from the phenomena of consciousness, just as the fundamental fantasy is assumed to structure particular fantasies, desire is interpreted, first of all, from wishes and from the formations of the unconscious.

But then, as Lacan announces in Seminar 11, "Desire, in fact, is interpretation itself" (161). Desiring to interpret desire, then, will perhaps lead us down the rabbit hole, but we want to do it anyway.

Join APW in Toronto as we interpret desire. Our keynote speakers will be Ian Parker and Olga Cox-Cameron. We'll hear clinical and theoretical papers and case presentations that investigate and exemplify this important Lacanian concept.

If you're interested in submitting a paper to the conference. Please send a title and abstract to Dan Collins at [dcollins716@verizon.net](mailto:dcollins716@verizon.net).

Early registration for the conference, through 1 September, will be US\$200 payable through PayPal on the APW website. Registration after 1 September and at the door will be US\$250. For further information and announcements about the conference, visit [apwonline.org](http://apwonline.org).