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**CATHERINE
MALABOU**

Professor of Philosophy at the Centre for Research in Modern European
Philosophy, at Kingston University, UK, and in the Departments of
Comparative Literature and European Languages and Studies at UC Irvine
on

**PHILOSOPHY AND THE BRAIN: TOWARD A
CRITICAL APPROACH TO NEUROSCIENCE**

17TH JUNE, 2022,

7:30-8:30 PM IST/ 4:00-5:00 PM CEST

Meeting ID: [862 0110 5485](#)

Passcode: [lecturedls](#)

**Youtube Live: Department of English, Jamia
Millia Islamia**

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HEAD, DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
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Bio-note of Prof. Catherine Malabou

Catherine Malabou is a professor of philosophy at the Centre for Research in Modern European Philosophy (CRMEP), at Kingston University, U.K, and in the departments of Comparative Literature and European Languages and Studies at UC Irvine. Prof Malabou is widely regarded as one of the leading figures in what has been called “The New French Philosophy”. Her writings cover an array of theorists and concerns, including the works of Hegel, Freud, Heidegger, and Derrida. Her work engages with the relationship between philosophy, neuroscience, and psychoanalysis; and concepts of essence and difference within feminism. Prof Malabou is one of the foremost, most innovative thinkers today known for her concept of “plasticity”, which she culled from Hegel’s Phenomenology of Spirit and now applies to political and social questions.

Prof. Malabou obtained her doctorate under the supervision of Jacques Derrida and before arriving at Kingston University, Prof Malabou taught at the Université Paris Ouest Nanterre in the department of Philosophy which was founded by Paul Ricoeur. She has also lectured at UC Berkeley, The New School in New York City, New York State University at Buffalo, the University of Wisconsin in Madison, UCLA, Johns Hopkins, and, most recently, UC Irvine.

Prof. Catherine Malabou has argued passionately and provocatively for a connection between continental philosophy and empirical neuroscience. Her work consists in articulating the concept of plasticity at the crossing of philosophy and neuroscience. Her 2004 book *What Should We Do With Our Brain?* (2009) looks at plasticity as a creative form giving power which also unleashes new possibilities of resistance. In her 2005 book, *Plasticity at the Dusk of Writing: Dialectic, Destruction, Deconstruction* (2009), Prof Malabou contrasts the concept of plasticity with that of the trace. The issue of feminism and politics finds representation in her book *Changing*

Difference: The Feminine and the Question of Philosophy (Polity, 2011). In 2010, Prof. Malabou co-wrote “You Be My Body For Me, For, Corporeity, Plasticity in Hegel’s Phenomenology of Spirit.” which reflects on how Hegel contributes to a new way of thinking about ‘having’ a body.

Prof Malabou has written numerous essays on the themes of neuroscience, psychoanalysis, trauma, arts and epigenetics and is the author of a number of books such as *The Future of Hegel: Plasticity, Temporality, and Dialectic* (Routledge, 2004), (with Jacques Derrida) *Counterpath* (Stanford, 2004), *The New Wounded, From Freud to Neurology: Thinking Contemporary Traumas* (Bayard, 2007)], *Plasticity at the Dusk of Writing* (Columbia, 2009) *The Heidegger Change: On the Fantastic in Philosophy* (SUNY, 2011), *Ontology of the Accident* (Polity, 2012), *The New Wounded: From Neurosis to Brain Damage* (Fordham, 2012), (with Adrian Johnston), *Self and Emotional Life: Philosophy, Psychoanalysis, Neurobiology* (Columbia, 2013), *Before Tomorrow: Epigenesis and Rationality* (Cambridge: Polity Press, 2016, trans. Carolyn Shread) *Morphing Intelligence, From IQ to IA*, (New York: Columbia University Press, 2018, trans. Carolyn Shread), and *Pleasure Erased: Clitoris and Thought* (Rivages, 2020), to be published in English by Polity Press (June 2022), and *Au Voleur! Anarchisme et Philosophie* (Paris: PUF, 2022).