Seminar IRH-ICUB
Consciousness and Cognition: An Interdisciplinary Approach
convenor Dr. Diana Stanciu
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Date: Tuesday, 13 June 2017, 17h
Place: IRH-ICUB (1 D. Brandza Str.), conference room

Drd. Adelaida Petrancu
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Adelaida Petrancu is a Philosophy Ph.D. student at the University of Bucharest, with a thesis concerning the metaphor of ‘the deal with the devil’ in literature. She has a B.A. and a M.A. in philosophy, being specialized in the philosophy of culture. She is also a teacher of Logic and Philosophy in a high-school in Bucharest. Her academic interests include: aesthetics, philosophy of culture and psychology with a particular interest in an interdisciplinary approach between literature and philosophy.

Mental Illness and Creativity: An Aesthetic Approach

This lecture is intended to highlight and discuss the link between mental illness and creativity. For this purpose, I will use Thomas Mann’s “Doctor Faustus” and the biography of Friedrich Nietzsche. Thus, I will try to point out that there is a connection between mental illness and creativity; that, in some cases, mental illness can lead to sublime art creation, even if the author is considered by others to be alienated. But what if this mental illness is just a ‘deal with the devil’, a metaphor for the consciously accepted and assumed temptation of a sublime creation which burns and ruins its own creator?