



PRESS RELEASE – 30 September 2015

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The Sexuality, Women, and Gender Project partners with New Lit Salon Press Presents first event in their Fall Into Madness Series

Charlotte Perkins Gilman published “The Yellow Wallpaper” in 1892, exposing the realities behind the (mis)treatment of women’s mental health issues through the infamous “rest cure.” In doing so, Gilman not only opened a dialogue on the medical, social, and emotional treatment of women in society, but eventually effected change on how women’s mental health was treated. A collaboration between *Behind the Yellow Wallpaper: New Tales of Madness*, an anthology from New Lit Salon Press, and the Sexuality, Women, and Gender Project at Teachers College, Columbia continues the efforts set forth by Charlotte Perkins Gilman in a panel discussion titled *Behind the Yellow Wallpaper: Literature and the Psychology of Change*, moderated by *Behind the Yellow Wallpaper* editor Rose Yndigoyen. The panel will consist of select *Behind the Yellow Wallpaper* contributors along with artist and psychoanalyst Steven Poser from the Center for Modern Psychoanalytic Studies. The discussion will focus on how literature impacts our understanding and view of madness: its causes; treatments; compassions; and the vital role psychology plays in effecting change.

The event kicks off the Sexuality, Women, and Gender Project’s *Fall Into Madness* Series and will be held the evening of October 20th from 7 to 9 pm at Teachers College Milbank Chapel located at 525 West 120th Street at Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10027. For more information please visit www.newlitsalonpress.com/events or www.swgproject.org.

Behind the Yellow Wallpaper contributors include R Crawford, Laura Hartenberger, Vivian Papp, Loreal Prystaj, and Colleen Quinn.

The Sexuality, Women, and Gender Project (SWG) at Teachers College was founded in 2012 to support independent efforts on the often marginalized subjects of sexuality, gender equality to envision and implement the next wave of theories and practices to improve well-being for LGBTQ individuals and women. SWG’s mission is to play a vital role in the creation of research initiatives, innovative curriculum, and institutional programming on campus and with partners beyond the Columbia University network.

New Lit Salon Press is an independent publisher that subscribes to the belief that Words and Art can and should coexist. NLSP injects new life into an old-world ideal by publishing essays, stories, poems, novels, and art in digital and print formats.

Behind the Yellow Wallpaper: New Tales of Madness, edited by Rose Yndigoyen with art by Loreal Prystaj was published in June 2014. It features 15 original stories by Farah Ahamed, Henri Bensussen, Amy Bridges, Leah Chaffins, R. Crawford, Judith Day, Gabriela Denise Frank, Laura Hartenberger, Sheila Lamb, Tracie Orsi, Vivian Papp, Colleen Quinn, Heidi Andrea Restrepo Rhodes, P.J. Schaefer, and Nikki Vogel.

Charlotte Perkins Gilman, an American writer, wrote the short story illustrating attitudes in the 19th century toward women's physical, mental and emotional health. Gilman described the lack of life outside of home, oppression of the patriarchal society and mental weakness of woman at that time. "The Yellow Wallpaper" provided feminists an opportunity to interpret literature in different ways. Her work challenged the social construction of women in patriarchal medical discourse by representing woman as "silent, powerless, and passive" patient refusing treatment and help.

Rose Yndigoyen is the editor of *Behind the Yellow Wallpaper: New Tales of Madness* (NLSP 2014). In addition, she is a freelance writer and archivist in New York City. She has written for the websites *AfterEllen* and *Biographile* and examines queer and feminist issues in pop culture on her blog, *The Ladyist*. She is a co-creator and co-host of the podcast *Pretty Little Recaps*. Rose was a 2013 Lambda Literary fellow, and is hard at work on her first novel, a queer young adult love story. Rose lives with her wife in northern Manhattan. They are proud foster parents.

Steven Poser, Ph.D. practicing psychoanalysis in New York City and maintain an art studio in the Hudson Valley. Poser is the author of *The Misfit* (2011), a psychological study of Marilyn Monroe and her treatment relationship with her analyst Ralph Greenson. He was a curator of "Id, Ego, Superego: Art from the Living Museum at Creedmoor Psychiatric Center", "Dreamworks", "Presence" at Center for Modern Psychoanalytic Studies. His groundbreaking biography "Though This be Madness" explores the narrow line between insanity and creative genius thinking. www.artist.stevenposer.com

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