

Psychiatry Grand Rounds
WCM Department of Psychiatry
Psychology CE Announcement
Arnold Cooper Memorial Lecture

“Pedro Almodóvar’s ‘Bad Education’ and the evolution of an ‘unplanned trilogy’”

Note: Those who have not seen Almodóvar’s film Bad Education (2004) might find it helpful to do so in advance of the talk.

Hilary J. Beattie, PhD

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Faculty, Columbia University Psychoanalytic Center*

Wednesday, October 19th, 2022

11:00am – 12:30pm

<https://weillcornell.zoom.us/j/92812036154>

Meeting ID: 928 1203 6154

Password: 12345

*1.5 CE credit available to full time and voluntary faculty psychologists and Social Workers who sign in with their full name, attend the majority of the lecture and complete a survey which will be emailed following the completion of the lecture.

SPEAKER DISCLOSURE: Dr. Beattie has nothing to disclose and does not intend to discuss off-label or investigational use of products or services.

In her first career Dr Beattie taught Chinese history at Cambridge and at Yale Universities. In her second career, as a psychologist and psychoanalyst, she has specialized in the treatment of eating and related disorders, and has a particular interest in working with adults from diverse cultural backgrounds and creative individuals or students with work inhibitions. She teaches both in the Columbia Department of Psychiatry and at the Columbia Psychoanalytic Center. Her current research is mainly in literature (particularly the work of Robert Louis Stevenson) and in psychoanalytic life-writing; also the Scottish contribution to psychoanalysis, notably that of W. R. D. Fairbairn. She received the Beller Award (for contributions to psychoanalytic theory) from the Columbia Psychoanalytic Center in 2001.

Abstract:

Almodóvar's "unplanned trilogy" comprises three films, THE LAW OF DESIRE, BAD EDUCATION, and PAIN AND GLORY, which span 32 years of his career in cinema. All derive to some degree from an early story that reflects his own traumatic experiences in a religious boarding school, and together they show how his approach to the topic has evolved over time. The ways in which Almodóvar's method of working can be compared to a psychoanalytic treatment process will also be described.

Learning Objectives:

1. Understand the changing ways in which trauma is represented (or not) in these films.
2. Understand how Almodóvar's attitude to psychoanalysis and psychoanalytic explanation seems to have changed over time.
3. Understand how his freely associative and intensive way of working resembles aspects of psychoanalytic process.

References:

1. Gutierrez-Albilla, J D (2018). AESTHETICS, ETHICS AND TRAUMA IN THE CINEMA OF PEDRO ALMODÓVAR.
2. Said, E W (2008). JOSEPH CONRAD AND THE FICTION OF AUTOBIOGRAPHY.
3. Sehgal, P (2022). The Key to Me. NEW YORKER Jan 3 & 10: 62-67
4. Smith, P J (2014). DESIRE UNLIMITED: THE CINEMA OF PEDRO ALMODÓVAR.
5. Strauss, F (2006). ALMODÓVAR ON ALMODÓVAR.