



**St Mary's University, Philosophy Programme**  
**Royal Institute of Philosophy Public Lecture**

# Philosophy and Rhetoric

## About the Series

The relationship between philosophy and rhetoric has often been strained, if not hostile. Philosophers have regarded rhetoricians with suspicion, accused them of misleading the masses and squandering truth for power. Rhetoricians, on the other hand, have considered philosophers as politically naive or even dangerous.

This series invites its speakers to rethink and challenge the sharp distinction between the two disciplines. There are good reasons to do so. It has, for instance, long been recognised that philosophy has its own rhetoric. Moreover, good rhetoric aims at reconciliation, rather than usurpation. At the same time, any rapprochement is not without its difficulties. It creates questions about disciplinarity, about truth and politics etc..

## Overview

29 September – Dr Hannah Marije Altorf (Philosophy, St Mary's University) [Philosophy and Rhetoric: Retelling the Old Story](#)

20 October – Dr Johan Siebers (Associate Professor of Philosophy and Religion, Middlesex University London) [The Zen of Rhetoric](#)

24 November – Prof. Richard Toye, (History, University of Exeter) *Should we always say what we mean, and mean what we say? Reflections on politics and the English language*

9 February – Prof. Kurt Barling (Journalism, Middlesex University London) *Philosophy of otherness versus rhetoric of race*

2 March – Prof. Jennifer Saul (Philosophy, University of Sheffield) *Dogwhistles and Figleaves: Techniques of Racist Political Manipulation*

30 March – Prof. Lene Rubinstein (Classics, Royal Holloway) *Ethos and Logos. Persuasion and Character in Classical Greek Theory and Practice*

## Registration

All lectures are free and open to the public without registration. Lectures start at 5.15pm and last for 50 minutes, with 40 minutes for questions, followed by a wine reception.

## Venue

St Mary's University,  
Waldegrave Road,  
Strawberry Hill,  
Twickenham TW1 4SX