

FRANCOIS NOUDELMANN

dates

April, 15-29



Biography

Francois Noudelmann is a French philosopher and a professor at University of Paris VIII. He has been director of the "College international de philosophie" and is a regular visiting professor in the US (Johns Hopkins University, New York University).

A specialist on the work of Jean-Paul Sartre, he wrote several books on his philosophy and literature. *The Philosopher Touch* (Columbia University Press, 2012) considers on the role of piano practice in Nietzsche, Sartre and Barthes' thought. Noudelmann's most recent book, *Les Airs de famille. Une philosophie des affinités*

(Gallimard 2012) deals with the experience and theory of family resemblances.

Noudelmann has also been a radio producer for the last 10 years for the French national radio *France-Culture* where he hosts the radio program *Philosophy Fridays*.

selected bibliography

In English

- *The Philosopher's Touch: Sartre, Nietzsche, and Barthes at the Piano*, Columbia University Press, 2011

In French:

- *Les airs de famille. Une philosophie des affinités*, Gallimard, 2012
- *Le Toucher des philosophes. Sartre, Nietzsche et Barthes au piano*, Gallimard, 2008 (grand prix des Muses 2009)
- *Hors de moi*, Léo Scheer, 2006.
- *Samuel Beckett*, Adpf publications, 2006 (w/ B. Clément)
- *Jean-Paul Sartre*, Adpf publications, 2005

- *Pour en finir avec la généalogie*, Léo Scheer, 2004
- *Avant-gardes et modernité*, Hachette, 2000
- *Beckett ou La scène du pire*, Honoré Champion, 1998
- *Image et absence: Essai sur le regard*, L'Harmattan, 1998
- *Sartre: L'incarnation imaginaire*, L'Harmattan, 1996
- *La Culture et l'homme*, avec G. Barrère et MP Lachaud, Dunod, 1994
- *Huis clos et Les mouches de Jean-Paul Sartre*, Gallimard, 1993

If you would like to invite this author, please fill out the application form and email it to:
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lectures offered

in English

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- Portrait of Sartre as a romantic pianist
 - Nietzsche and the musical transposition as a way of life
 - Barthes and the musical practice: a scrambling of sexual identity

About the book

The Philosopher's Touch
Columbia University Press, January 2012
Translation by Brian J. Reilly

Renowned philosopher and prominent French critic François Noudelmann engages the musicality of Jean-Paul Sartre, Friedrich Nietzsche, and Roland Barthes, all of whom were amateur piano players and acute lovers of the medium. Piano playing was a crucial art for these thinkers, yet their writing on the topic has been rarely studied, for the musings are scant, implicit, or discordant with each philosopher's oeuvre. Noudelmann recovers and integrates these perspectives, showing that the manner in which these philosophers played, the composers they adored, and the music they chose reveals critical thinking styles and patterns.

Noudelmann positions the physical and theoretical practice of music as a dimension underpinning and resonating with the philosophical outlook of Sartre, Nietzsche, and Barthes. By reading their thought in light of their music, he introduces new formulations of their trajectories and a richer sense of their lived, embodied experiences, heightening the multiple registers of being and the relationship between philosophy and the senses that informed so much of their work. A careful reader of music, Noudelmann maintains an elegant command of the texts under his gaze and appreciates the discursive points of musical and philosophical scholarship, especially research conducted in the past few decades.

