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ALENKA ZUPANČIČ

**Professor of Philosophy and Psychoanalysis at The European
Graduate School**

on

THE REAL AND THE CONTEMPORARY FORMS OF ITS DISAVOWAL

**30TH SEPTEMBER, 2022,
7:30-8:30 PM IST/ 4:00-5:00 PM CEST**

Meeting ID: [870 2473 8754](#)

Passcode: [lecturedis](#)

**[Youtube Live](#): Department of English, Jamia
Millia Islamia**

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Bio-note of Prof. Alenka Zupančič

Prof. Alenka Zupančič is a Slovene philosopher and social theorist, and one of the prominent members of the “Ljubljana school of psychoanalysis.” She works as Research Councillor at the Institute of Philosophy, Scientific Research Center of the Slovene Academy of Sciences. She is also Professor at the European Graduate School in Switzerland, and is invited as visiting professor to numerous universities worldwide.

Notable for her work on the intersection of philosophy and psychoanalysis, she is the author of numerous articles and many books, including *Ethics of the Real: Kant and Lacan* (2000); *The Shortest Shadow: Nietzsche's Philosophy of the Two* (2003); *Why Psychoanalysis: Three Interventions* (2008); *The Odd One In: On Comedy* (2008); *What is Sex?* (2017) and, the forthcoming, *Let Them Rot: Antigone's Parallax* (2022).

Some of the important themes in Prof. Zupančič's work include: relations between sexuality, ontology and the unconscious; critique of the theory of subject; and the theoretical exploration of the Lacanian concept of the Real.

Prof. Zupančič is also co-editor of the book series and editor in chief of the bi-monthly periodical of psychoanalytic theory, philosophy, and cultural studies. She is on the advisory board of Philosophy and Society as well as a fellow at the Center for Advanced Studies of Southeastern Europe at the University of Rijeka, Croatia.

In *The Shortest Shadow: Nietzsche's Philosophy of the Two* (2003), Prof. Zupančič explores several aspects of Nietzsche's philosophy, especially those that have found their way into our present condition: the death of God, the ascetic ideal, nihilism, and the relationship between Nietzsche's philosophy and the notion of truth. She devotes particular attention to the spiritual hour that Nietzsche describes as “Noon” and claims that this is a moment of splitting—when “One turns into Two.” According to Prof. Zupančič, the notion of the Two is extremely

important in the work of Nietzsche because it can be best described as the irreducible difference.

In her book *Ethics of the Real: Kant and Lacan* (2000), Prof. Zupančič re-examines Kantian ethics with the aid of psychoanalytic vocabulary in which the Lacanian concept of the Real serves as the basis for the reinterpretation of Kantian ethics. The notion of the Real helps Zupančič to formulate her version of Kantian ethics, which she entitles “the ethics of the real.”

In *Why Psychoanalysis: Three Interventions* (2008), Prof. Alenka Zupančič explores the inter-relationship between comedy and philosophy/psychoanalysis. Prof. Zupančič insists that comedy is inherently subversive.

Prof. Alenka Zupančič’s *The Odd One In: On Comedy* (2008) revolves around the questions of Being, Freedom, and Comedy. In this work, Prof. Zupančič attempts to connect her earlier reinterpretation of Kantian ethics with her understanding of comedy and to outline a unique theory of the subject.

Her work *What is Sex?* (2017) concerns the relationship between sexuality and ontology. According to Prof. Zupančič, sexuality is important because it points outward toward a non-reducible ontological inconsistency.

Prof. Zupančič’s forthcoming book, *Let Them Rot: Antigone’s Parallax* (2022) is a creative response to Sophocles’ *Antigone* and engages with the philosophical and psychoanalytic issues rising from the Theban trilogy.