

Philosophy of Self-Cultivation
June 22nd - 23rd 2023, Royal Holloway College Hallway & Room 1
Senate House (University of London), Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU
Programme

Thursday June 22nd

9:00 – 9:30 Registration and Breakfast

9:30 – 10:30 **Keynote Lecture**

Manhua Li: Chair

Karyn Lai: *Two Kinds of Cultivation in the Zhuangzi*

10:30 – 10:50 Coffee Break

10:50 – 11:55 **Panel 1.** Philosophy as a Way of Life: Beyond Spiritual Exercise

Jingyi Jenny Zhao: Chair

John Sellars: *Why 'Spiritual Exercises' are not Spiritual*

John Marenbon: *Medieval Philosophy and Philosophy as a Way of Life*

11:55 – 12:55 Lunch

12:55 – 14:00 **Panel 2.** Religiosity of Self-Cultivation: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives

Ben OLoughlin: Chair

Nicholas Sihlé: *Self-Cultivation and Lived Religion: Anthropological Notes on the Case of the Tibetan Buddhist Tantrists*

Feixuan Xu: *Cultivating for Self-Cultivation?: Comparing Ancient Agrarian and Contemporary Artistic Practices on Raising Silkworms*

14:00 – 14:20 Coffee Break

14:20 – 15:25 **Panel 3.** Cultivation as a Practice of the Self and Others

Gauri Wagle: Chair

Andrea Rehberg: *Schopenhauer and Nietzsche on Self and Other*

Jozef Majerník: *Ascetic Practices in Book IV of Nietzsche's Gay Science*

15:25 – 15:45 Coffee Break

15:45 – 17:15 **Panel 4.** Nourishing Life: Reconnecting Humans and Nature

Graham Parkes: Chair

David Chai: *Ji Kang on Nourishing Life*

Julia Ng: *Completion as Self-Cultivation: Benjamin, Bloch, Zhuangzi*

Manhua Li: *Nietzsche and Ji Kang on Body Cultivation*

17:15 – 19:00 **Art Exhibition & Drinks Reception**

19:00 Dinner

Friday June 23rd

9:00 – 9:30 Breakfast

9:30 – 10:30 **Keynote Lecture**

Manhua Li: Chair

Michaela Ott: *Dividuation – a New Mode of Thinking the Human Condition*

10:30 – 10:50 Coffee Break

10:50 – 11:55 **Panel 5. The Politics of Self-Cultivation**

Evrin Bayindir: Chair

Mario Wenning: *Cultivating Soft Resistance: Vattimo and Daoism on Weakening Strategies*

Gauri Wagle: *Worldmaking and the Borders of the Self: Cultivation and Nationhood in Fanon*

11:55 – 12:55 Lunch

12:55 – 14:25 **Panel 6. Reconsidering Sagehood: Cultivating the Moral Persons**

Karyn Lai: Chair

Tzuli Chang: *On Moral Error: The Debate and Mencian Comment*

Jingyi Jenny Zhao: *Learning from the Cradle: Children and Moral Self-cultivation in Ancient Greece and Early China*

Guillaume Dutournier: *Inferring the Intention of the Saints. Canon, Self-Cultivation and Controversy in Neo-Confucian Thought*

14:25 – 14:45 Coffee Break

14:45 – 15:50 **Panel 7. Self-Cultivation and Modern Ethos: Sex, Gender, and Identity**

Suki Finn: Chair

Deborah Goldgaber: *Sex and self-transformation: Foucault, Bersani and the 'End of Sex'*

Becca Bashford: *What's in a name? The Refusal of Recognition and Its Effect on the Cultivation of the Self*

15:50 – 16:10 Coffee Break

16:10 – 17:40 **Panel 8. Which Self is at Stake? Towards a Diverse Ethics of Self-Cultivation**

Suki Finn: Chair

Oliver Spinney: *Wittgenstein on Confession, and Working on Oneself*

David Collins: *Authenticity and Self-Cultivation in Beauvoir's Ambiguous Ethics*

Emma Syea: *The Limits of Self-Cultivation*

17:40 – 18:00 Coffee Break

18:00 – 19:00 **Keynote Lecture**

Manhua Li: Chair

Graham Parkes: *Self-Cultivation through Others: People, Things, and Internet*

19:00 – 19:30 Closing Remark

Laura Sjoberg