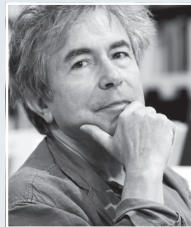


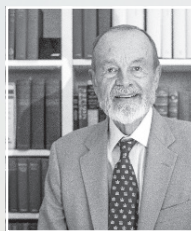
/ Conférenciers invités // Keynotes /



Fiona Ellis,
*Professor of Philosophy,
University of Nottingham,
United Kingdom*



François Jullien,
*Professeur émérite de l'université Paris-Diderot et
directeur scientifique de l'association Dé-coïncidences,
France*



Philip Kitcher,
*John Dewey Professor of Philosophy, Emeritus,
Columbia University,
United States*



Thaddeus Metz,
*Professor of Philosophy,
University of Pretoria,
South Africa*

/ Organisateurs // Organizers /



Sebastian Hüsch,
*Aix Marseille Université,
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Klaus Viertbauer
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amU Faculté des arts, lettres,
langues et sciences humaines
Aix Marseille Université



International conference
Colloque international
Aix Marseille Université

April 8th-10th 2026
8-10 avril 2026

Atheism and
the Meaning of Life

L'athéisme
et le sens de la vie

/ Mercredi 8 avril / / Wednesday, April 8th /

2.00 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.	Accueil et inscriptions / Reception and registration
2.45 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.	Ouverture du colloque / Opening Talk
3.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m.	Conférence plénière / Keynote talk Thaddeus Metz (University of Pretoria) <i>(The) One Respect in Which an Atheist World Must Prevent Meaning in Life</i>
4.00 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.	Pause café / Coffee Break
4.30 p.m. – 5.00 p.m.	Jeffrey Hanson (New College of Florida) <i>Faith and Love as Virtues of Meaningfulness: Enlisting Kierkegaard and Wolf in Defense of an Integrated Theory</i>
5.00 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.	James Tartaglia (Slovak Academy of Sciences) <i>Atheism's Childish Meaning of Life</i>
5.30 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.	Blandine Lagrut (Facultés Loyola Paris) <i>Natural Piety, Moral Horror, and the Meaning of Life</i>
7.30 p.m.	Dîner / Dinner - Restaurant Le Patio (16 Rue Victor Leydet, 13100 Aix-en-Provence)

/ Jeudi 9 avril / / Thursday, April 9th /

9.00 a.m. – 10.00 a.m.	Conférence plénière / Keynote Talk Fiona Ellis (University of Nottingham) <i>Meaning, Desire, and the Limits of Atheism</i>
10.00 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	Pause café / Coffee Break
10.30 a.m. – 12.00 p.m.	Ateliers / Parallel sessions

	Atelier I / Session I (SALLE DES COLLOQUES II)	Atelier II / Session II (SALLE DES COLLOQUES I)
10.30 a.m. – 11.00 a.m.	Claudia Gäbelein (PH Weingarten) <i>“Re-enchanting” a Naturalist World: Fiona Ellis and Expansive Naturalism</i>	Aylin Yildirim (Universität Oldenburg) <i>De la totalité systématique à l'athéisme : la réponse antithéologique de Camus à l'idéalisme allemand</i>
11.00 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.	Ludwig Nagl (Universität Wien) <i>Avoiding the atheistic closure of modern secularism: Neo-pragmatic conceptions of “faith as an option” (Hans Joas and Charles Taylor)</i>	Giovanni Temporin (Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne, Università Ca’Foscari Venezia) <i>Éléments hégéliens pour une dissolution matérialiste du problème du sens</i>
11.30 a.m. – 12.00 p.m.	Thomas Lambert (Pitzer College, Claremont) <i>How to Imagine Sisyphus Happy</i>	Zoé Grange-Marczak (ENS) <i>Un athéisme avec Dieu ? Levinas critique de l'athéisme sartrien</i>

12.00 p.m. – 2.00 p.m. Déjeuner (buffet) / Lunch (buffet) - Salle des colloques II

2.00 p.m. – 3.00 p.m. Ateliers / Parallel sessions

	Atelier I / Session I (SALLE DES COLLOQUES II)	Atelier II / Session II (SALLE DES COLLOQUES I)
2.00 p.m. – 2.30 p.m.	Lisa Bentall (University of Birmingham) <i>The Meaning of Life Deception</i>	Luc Pollina (Aix-Marseille Université) <i>La permaculture : une troisième voie philosophique ?</i>
2.30 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.	Sarah Dierna (Uinversità di Catania) <i>Zapffe and Antinatalism in the Age of Theistic Decline</i>	Lucas Champhanet (Université Lyon 3) <i>Naturalisme pragmatiste, athéisme et sens de la vie : Dewey, Mead et Rorty face au défi herméneutique de Charles Taylor</i>

3.00 p.m. – 3.30 p.m. Pause café / Coffe break

3.30 p.m. – 4.30 p.m. Ateliers / Parallel sessions

	Atelier I / Session I (SALLE DES COLLOQUES II)	Atelier II / Session II (SALLE DES COLLOQUES I)
3.30 p.m. – 4.00 p.m.	Gopal Soni (Claremont School of Theology) <i>Jainism as a Non-Theistic Path to “Meaning”: Karma, Liberation and Ethical Autonomy</i>	Patricia Schöllhorn-Gaar (LMU München) <i>Can content-less experience serve as a basis for orientation and meaning?</i>
4.00 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.	Xu Zhao (Università di Padova) <i>From Being-towards-Death to the Realm of Sheng Sheng: Gu Cheng’s Philosophy of ZiRan and the Transcendence of Ontological Meaning</i>	Frans Svensson (University of Gothenburg) <i>Existential Fictionalism</i>

4.30 p.m. – 5.00 p.m. Pause café / Coffee break

5.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m. Conférence plénière / Keynote talk

François Jullien (Université Paris Diderot)
“Interroger ‘Dieu’”

7.30 p.m. Dîner / Dinner - Restaurant Jardin Mazarin
(15 Rue du 4 septembre, 13100 Aix-en-Provence)

/ Vendredi 10 avril / / Friday, April 10th /

9.30 a.m. – 10.00 a.m.	Irene Liu (Le Moyne College) <i>Meaning and Tradition</i>
10.00 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	Herbert de Vriese (University of Antwerp) <i>Life Affirmation and the Meaning of Life. Insights from Thomas Carlyle and American Transcendentalism</i>
10.30 a.m. – 11.00 p.m.	Iddo Landau (University of Haifa) <i>Mysticism and Meaning in Life</i>
11.00 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.	Pause café / Coffe Break
11.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.	Conférence plénière / Keynote Talk Philip Kitcher (Columbia University) <i>The Human Project ... or ... What Difference Would God Make?</i>