

A surreal painting of a woman's face, rendered in a style reminiscent of Hieronymus Bosch. The face is pale and appears to be melting or dissolving into a dark, textured background. The woman's eyes are closed, and her mouth is open in a wide, dark, cavernous shape. The background is filled with various elements: a large snake with a yellow and black patterned head is on the left, another snake with a similar pattern is on the right, and several tentacles or serpentine forms are visible. The overall color palette is dominated by dark reds, blacks, and yellows, creating a dramatic and unsettling atmosphere.

program

# ancient and contemporary approaches to **madness**

**June 3rd 2013 Faculty of Science of the University of Lisbon**

**10h - 18h Anfiteatro da Fundação da Faculdade de Ciências da UL (Edifício C1, Piso 3)**

Madness has been a fruitful and at the same time difficult subject matter to think about. Since antiquity, attempts have been made to put some order into this proteiform 'entity', this untamed 'animal' which menaces disciplinary boundaries. It has been viewed as a supernatural force or no more than a social label; it has been regarded as consequence of humoral imbalances or destructive neuropsychological processes. These may well have been presented as theoretical models, but they always carried (and carry) with them strong moral and folk beliefs. In consequence, we are dealing with a discipline with a bewildering variety of factors that make near impossible any kind of consensus in the academic and clinical fields. This notwithstanding, it is still a good *matière à penser*.

The aim of this colloquium is to inquire into how madness has been thought of in both ancient Greco-Roman and Contemporary civilizations. Simultaneously, it intends to discuss how modern-age researchers are interpreting ancient texts, and to discuss psychiatry's contemporary discourses as well as its practices, that is, ways it deals with insanity. This conference hopes to bring to both experts and a wide audience some understanding of the origins of how we conceptualise and respond to mental illness.

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- 10h** **Welcome - Olga Pombo** Head of CFCUL.
- 10h 15** **Zbigniew Kotowicz** CFCUL  
*Foucault's idea of dialogue with unreason revisited*
- 10h 45** **Nuno Nabais** FLUL / CFCUL  
*Madness, fiction and efabulation*
- 11h 30** coffee break
- 11h 45** **António Bracinha Vieira** CFCUL  
*La folie comme disproportion anthropologique*
- 12h 30** discussion
- 13h - 14h15** lunch
- 14h 30** **Ricardo Julião** CFCUL  
*"All fools are mad". Chrysippus on insanity*
- 15h 15** **José Pedro Serra** FLUL / CEC  
*Images de la folie dans la tragédie grecque*
- 16h** coffee break
- 16h 15** **Robert James Hankinson** University of Texas at Austin  
*Diseases of the Body; Diseases of the Soul*
- 17h** discussion
- 17h 30** concluding remarks

**organized by:**

**Ricardo Julião** Centre for Philosophy of Science of the University of Lisbon



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