

ARTHEMIS

is pleased to present a lecture with

Martin Lefebvre
Concordia University

"Dance and Fetish:
Phenomenology and Metz's
Epistemological Shift"

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EV. 5,615

Christian Metz is remembered today as having almost single-handedly transformed the culture of film studies. This widely held view is summarized

by one commentator who writes that "with Metz a new research paradigm is born, as well as a new generation of scholars. The ontological theories are followed by methodological theories » (Casetti, 1999 : 91). According to another, « Metz exemplified a new kind of film theorist, one who came to the field already 'armed' with the analytic instruments of a specific discipline, who was unapologetically academic and unconnected to the world of film criticism » (Stam, 2000: 108). Of course, Metz didn't just surge like a meteor on the scene of film studies. He arrived in a field that, in France at least, had been dominated in good measure by phenomenology (jn the works of Bazin, the filmologists, Laffay, Ayffre, Mitry and many others). In fact, there is a phenomenological strand that runs through most of Metz's published work. But how exactly does it co-exist with the structuralist inclination of his research through its linguistic and psychoanalytic moments? Looking at Metz's output as well as non-published archival papers, this talk moves through three phases of development in Metz's "dance" with phenomenology.



Martin Lefebvre is Concordia University Research Chair in Film Studies and Director of ARTHEMIS.

