

## Writing and Creating while on the Schizophrenic Spectrum: An Autotheoretical Encounter

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By first examining the discursive constitution of subjects on the schizophrenic spectrum in the history of art and contemporary cultural theory, this presentation, through an autotheoretical perspective, explores the disruptive and political potential of both historical artwork by artists on the schizophrenic spectrum and contemporary art and disability writing. The avant-garde appropriation of the work by people with mental disabilities reflects a colonial perspective and what James Luna describes as a “prejudice of admiration.” If as Prendergast (2001) suggests people on the schizophrenic spectrum come to be rhetorically disabled, the question arises as to in what ways artists and writers do delineate discursive spaces, marking not a quantitative shift in which more people are added to an existing order, but a qualitative shift (Biesta, 2010) in which the order itself is changed (Rancière, 1999).

### Bio:

Jennifer (Eisenhauer) Richardson is an Associate Professor in Arts Administration, Education, and Policy at The Ohio State University and an affiliated faculty member with the Disability Studies program. Her research explores, through social and cultural theory and philosophy, the representations of disability in visual culture and particularly the cultural and visual construction of understandings of mental disability within both historical and contemporary representations. She has published in journals including *Studies in Art Education*, *Disability Studies Quarterly*, *Visual Arts Research*, *Journal of Literary and Cultural Disability Studies*, *International Review of Qualitative Research*, and *Art Education*. Dr. Richardson also writes creative nonfiction and poetry and was nominated for a Puschart prize for an essay appearing in *South Loop Review*.