



# **AN EXCESS OF SEEING**

## **THE PASTS, PRESENTS AND FUTURES OF**

# **MIKHAIL BAKHTIN**

**A PUBLIC SYMPOSIUM IN HONOR OF VADIM LIAPUNOV**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 9:00AM-5:00PM**

**BRIDGWATERS' LOUNGE, NEAL-MARSHALL BLACK CULTURE CENTER**

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Mikhail Bakhtin (1895-1975) published his first essay, titled "Art and Answerability," in the fall of 1919. To commemorate the centennial of that publication and to engage the texts that immediately sprung from it, "Toward a Philosophy of the Act" and "Author and Hero in Aesthetic Activity" (ca. 1919-1924), a reading group was convened under the auspices of Indiana University's Center for Theoretical Inquiry in the Humanities. One result of the reading group is this symposium, which brings together several scholars to offer their insights into Bakhtin's lifelong engagement with the hermeneutics of self and other, as well as Bakhtin's place in and influence on scholarship, both his own and ours.

All three texts used by the Bakhtin reading group were translated, annotated, and co-edited by Vadim Liapunov, professor emeritus in Indiana University's Department of Slavic & East European Languages and Cultures. Liapunov joined the Center's reading group shortly after it started. He brought not only his encyclopedic knowledge about Bakhtin and Bakhtin's intellectual milieu to our weekly meetings, but also his "translator's notes," his thoughtful commentary, and his good humor. It is for these reasons, as well as his significant contributions to English- and Russian-language scholarship about Bakhtin, that we dedicate this symposium to Vadim.

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**9:00-9:30AM**

Breakfast and Dedication

**9:30-10:30AM**

Richard Bauman (Indiana University)

**"The Bakhtin Circle and American Linguistic Anthropology"**

Moderator: Ilana Gershon

**10:45-11:45AM**

Ruth Coates (University of Bristol)

**"Mikhail Bakhtin and the Russian Religious Philosophical Tradition: Dialogue, Polemic, or Silence?"**

Moderator: Patrick Lally Michelson

**12:00-1:00PM**

Ilya Kliger (New York University)

**"Bakhtin's Social Imaginaries: From 'Choral Support' to 'Genre Memory'"**

Moderator: Jacob Emery

**1:00-2:30PM**

Lunch

**2:30-3:30PM**

Martha Kelly (University of Missouri)

**"Afterlives of 'Answerability' in Late- and Post-Soviet Russia"**

Moderator: Constance Furey

**3:45-4:45PM**

Alina Wyman (New College of Florida)

**"Which Bakhtin? Continuity and Change in Mikhail Bakhtin's Conceptual Framework between the Early and Middle Periods"**

Moderator: Judith Anderson

**4:45-5:00PM**

Closing Remarks

This symposium is presented by

THE CENTER FOR  
**THEORETICAL  
INQUIRY**  
IN THE HUMANITIES

Co-sponsored by

The departments of Anthropology, Comparative Literature, English,  
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