

CALL FOR PAPERS (deadline 30 April 2014)

Marie Nimier: Absence and Loss

7-8 July 2014

Conference hosted by the University of Kent, Paris, 4 rue de Chevreuse, 75006 Paris

with the participation of Marie Nimier

Marie Nimier's literary œuvre to date comprises more than twenty volumes. It includes experiments in fiction, auto-fiction, children's literature, theatre and song lyrics, and has garnered several prestigious prizes, including the (2004) prix Médicis for *La Reine du silence*. Her most recent work, *Je suis un homme*, has been extremely well received and widely reviewed. It has generated a particularly lively debate in the Hexagon concerning its exploration of gender and sexuality. However, it also continues the author's lifelong reflection on the overlapping themes of absence and loss.

We invite abstracts for a major conference that will address the topic of absence and loss in Nimier's writing. This topic can be connected with a wide variety of motifs and themes, for instance: sexuality; childhood, gender; genre; liminality; the figure of the author and/or the act of writing; pain and suffering; psychoanalysis; humans in relation to animals; colour and/or synaesthesia; trauma.

It is the organisers' aim to publish a collective volume arising from the conference. Abstracts in English or French should be 250 words long and sent to marienimierabsence@gmail.com by 30 April 2014.