



Donald Kunze &lt;kunze767@gmail.com&gt;

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## next Thursday at the METALEPSIS SEMINAR

10 messages

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### metalepsis newsletter / 5 september 2013

weekly news for the seminar on metalepsis / [art3idea.psu.edu/metalepsis](http://art3idea.psu.edu/metalepsis)

Thanks for coming to the first session of the metalepsis seminar, August 29. Despite the exhausting harangue from the front of the room (me!), the questions and comments were dynamic and engaging. I will do my best to serve your intellectual curiosities about architecture, theory, and the odds and ends related to the mysterious mechanisms of metalepsis!

I am keen to get a reliable list of e-mail addresses to use for our distance relationship this fall. It is hard to say "will anyone who didn't get this e-mail tell me what their correct address is," but you can pass on this note to anyone who still has a blank look and ask them to get in touch with me directly. Thanks to Carolina and Berrin for helping me get at least some of the errors corrected.

The thoughts about next week's seminar are on the REAL newsletter, at <http://art3idea.psu.edu/metalepsis/sessions/session2.pdf>. You should be able to use these weekly summaries to anticipate things that will be happening Thursday nights at 7–9:45. The "Menu" on the newsletter will keep adding items as you bring up topics that interest you. NOTHING IS OUT OF BOUNDS!

I hope you will have found some interesting examples of metalepsis to report. We will reserve some time to hear these results. If you have images possibly bring them on a jump drive. I found one in Philadelphia during my visit to see Nadir Lahiji that is completely hilarious. Really.

We have serious material to cover this Thursday. In addition to continuing the examples from the past — how we know that metalepsis has been important to some important people — I need to convey the basics of the "calculus" by which we will learn how to notate and annotate metalepsis as we find it in art, architecture, literature, philosophy, etc. Without this calculus we will be multiplying our terms to infinity and be hopelessly confused. Now we may be confused with some amount of hope.

As for reading, there is a glob of stuff on the web. I think if I were to choose any one item, it would be the **Calvino passage** about Flaubert's famous comment "Madame Bovary, c'est moi!" You might also get started reading the three pieces by Mladen Dolar. Yes, Lacan may be unreadable but his Good Students are very readable.

Just to show that even metalepsis can tie into Major School Themes, there is a **short essay** defining metalepsis in terms of urban conditions, memory spaces, and other conditions I would relate as "sites of exception."

Because Freud's revolutionary turn to the death drive is so important, don't overlook this **brief overview of the death drive**.

If we have time we will discuss the three stages of child development, chez Freud: the oral, anal, and phallic. Out of these we find, curiously, an account of how subjectivity and (architectural) space get forever joined.