



India/Europe: Strategies for Reciprocal Knowledge

**A conference organised by The International Transcultura
Institute and The Centre for Fine Arts in Brussels**

Friday 24th November 2006, 9:30 – 17:15

09:30-10:00 Registration

10:00-11:30 Inaugural Session: Opening Lecture by Umberto Eco

- Chairperson: Umberto Eco
- Speakers: Umberto Eco, Hervé Jouanjean, BalveerArora, Alain le Pichon

11:30-12:45 First Thematic Session: Reciprocal Knowledge

This first thematic session deals with the question of reciprocal knowledge, highlighting the originality of the Transcultura approach. It will focus on the importance of taking into account the non-European gaze in East-West relations, the principal of reciprocity and the concept of "the making of the other" based on the representations of the Indian world in European human sciences and philosophy, between ideology and myth.

- Joint Coordinators: Alain le Pichon, Dhruv Raina
- Indian Participants: T.K. Oommen, Peter de Souza
- European Participants: Maurice Olender, Patrick Deshayes
- Other Participants: Li Xiaobo, Moussa Sow, Ali Paya
- Chair/Moderator: T.K. Oommen

12:45-13:45 Lunch

13:45-15:00 **Second Thematic Session: Dream and Knowledge of the Other**

This second theme attempts to place in perspective different concepts and models of knowledge, notably from the point of view of language and literature as well as exchanges in the past, in different cultural contexts. This theme concentrates on the 'dream of the other' : How Europe, Africa, China 'dream' India (or of India)? How does India dream Europe and its relationship with Europe? Linked to this are the notions of the 'character of languages' and of the 'genius of languages'

- Joint Coordinators: Nicole Lapierre, Rukmini Bhaya Nair
- Indian Participants : Rajendra Dingle, G.V. Prabhu Gaunkar
- European Participants: François Nizery, Alain Tapié, Thierry Baffoy, Bernt von zur Mühlen, Tinka Reichmann
- Other Participants: Li Xiaobo, Moussa Sow, Ali Paya
- Chair/ Moderator: Soenke Zehle

15:00-15:15 **Break**

15:15-16:30 **Third Thematic Session: The Political Debate**

This third thematic session deals with the concepts of reciprocal knowledge, harmony and order versus disorder and chaos in the relations between nations and in the context of a globalising world in search of multipolarity. Relations between India and occupy a central place in this debate, which also encompasses the key concepts of Empire and Universality.

- Joint Coordinators : Mario Telo, Varun Sahni
- Indian Participants: Balveer Arora, Gulshan Sachdeva
- European Participants: Mario Telo, Hervé Jouanjean, Wenceslas Baudrillart
- Other Participants: Li Xiaobo, Moussa Sow, Ali Paya
- Chair/Moderator: Balveer Arora

16:30-17:15 **Valedictory Session: Panel Discussion**

The closing session synthesises the main ideas of the discussion from the three thematic sessions and open the debate to students after brief presentations by four or five panelists.

- Indian Participants: T.K.Oommen

- European Participants: Bernt von zur Mühlen, Tinka Reichmann
- Other Participants: Li Xiaobo, Moussa Sow, Ali Paya
- Co-Chairs/Moderators: Alain le Pichon, Balveer Arora