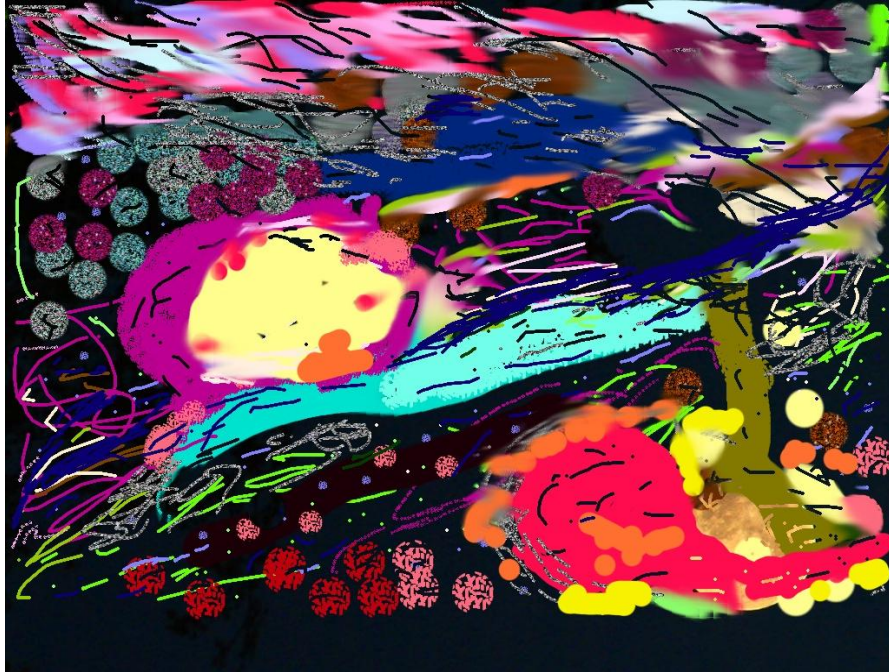


The student in community with others is the primary text for the study of human existence. We will approach this text by way of three specific question-areas that emerge in nineteenth- and twentieth-century existential philosophy and literature as well as in some meditative practices:

- (A) How **the questions of existential freedom** emerge in one's awareness of self and non-self.
- (B) How **the questions of justice and compassion** emerge in bearing witness to suffering and hope & how humor can be treasonous to powers and idols of the age.
- (C) How **the questions of releasement** emerge in confronting one's mortality, despair, and the possibility of love.



Part (A)

- *Simone de Beauvoir. *The Woman Destroyed*. Pantheon, 1987. Pap. 0394711033
- *Film: Liv Ullman's *Private Confessions* (1996).
- *Milan Kundera. *The Book of Laughter and Forgetting*. Harper, 1999. Pap. 0060932147
- *Film: Milan Kundera – the film version of, *The Unbearable Lightness of Being* (2006).

Part (B)

- *Frederick Douglass. *The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass An American Slave. Written by Himself*. Penguin, 1968. Pap. 0451526732.
- *Jean-Paul Sartre. *Anti-Semite and Jew*. Schocken Books, 1995 ed. (Pref M. Walzer). Pap. 0805210474
- Shorter selections to be discussed in class:
- *Fyodor Dostoyevsky. "The Grand Inquisitor." *Brothers Karamazov*.
- *Václav, Havel. *The Power of the Powerless* (1978).

Part (C)

- *Martin Buber. *I and Thou*. Trans. Ronald Gregor Smith. MacMillan, 1987. 0684182548.
- Shorter selections to be discussed in class:
- *Martin Heidegger. "What Is Metaphysics?" & "The Word of Nietzsche: 'God Is Dead'."
- *Søren Kierkegaard, *The Sickness unto Death*. Princeton UP, 1980, 13-21, 77, 83-96.
- *Keiji Nishitani. "What Is Religion?" *Religion and Nothingness*.
- *Film: Richard Linklater's *Waking Life* (2002).