



**Centro Interuniversitario di Ricerca  
sull'Elaborazione Cognitiva in Sistemi  
Naturali e Artificiali**

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**DAVID A. J. WIDMER**

Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

Martedì 4 Luglio 2006, in Aula Riunioni, Dipartimento di Psicologia, alle ore 15.00 terrà un seminario su:

**Psychomotor Symptomatology in Early Modern Melancholia**

In 1980, the term “psychomotor retardation” was added as a defining symptom for depression with melancholia to the *DSM-III*, the third edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*. A host of research and clinical articles followed which may have seemed to tout this as a revolutionary new discovery, that melancholia was a disorder of both mood and movement. To the student of the history of depressive-like syndromes, this aspect of dysfunctional movement is far from novel. Writings throughout the Middle Ages and the early modern period suggest that an inhibition of mental and bodily activity is key to the symptomatology of such conditions. The ability of today’s medical imaging technology to localize brain areas associated with movement dysregulation in affective disorders should not make us lose sight of the fact that this only confirms centuries-old writings on the centrality of movement changes in the early modern melancholia.

*Mi è gradito rivolgere l’invito.*

Il Direttore  
Marta Olivetti Belardinelli