

155 "...the recognition that the humanist subject is discursively constructed, but never fully determined, by a nexus of exclusionary practices should allow us to resignify the parameters of agency."

Irigay 1985 a 159

"...the feminine has never been defined except as the inverse, indeed the underside, of the masculine. So for a woman it is not a matter of installing herself within this lack, this negative, even by denouncing it, nor of reversing the economy of sameness by turning the feminine into the *standard for 'sexual difference'*; it is rather a matter of trying to practice that difference"

Irigay women are the necessary but excluded ground of the symbolic, women the mirror whose function is self-reflection

Thus her writing is in blood, they can only see blood in her?

168 "...women are deemed to live their bodies in ways that men are not, and this constraint on transcendence is alone sufficient to disqualify them from full subjectivity"

Women must reaffirm embodiment

169 "...those things which for women constitute the usual lifelong and continuous capacities of, and changes to, the body – such as puberty, menstruation, reproduction, lactation or menopause – are characteristically posed nevertheless as medical problems"

173 "Differences are represented only in so far as they define the boundaries of the same."

176 "What interests Irigaray is the way in which the inscription of femininity onto a female body is paralleled by the disembodiment of masculinity when its embodiment is consistently privileged."

178 "male symbolic move of recognising women only within the relations of (re)production."

Irigay 1985a 232 "So now man struggles to be science, machine, woman...to prevent any of these escaping his service and ceasing to be interchangeable." *Sepeculum*

206 "Irigaray is engaged fundamentally with the fluidity of boundaries, and because of her strategic concerns there is a way in which her work forms a bridge between a wholly essentialist account and the quite different problematic yielded by the alternative readings, which I offer now, of the meaning of reproduction."

206 "...Western humanism, as it has impinged on medical theory at least, takes as its central organising feature the belief in a stable, unified subject, which is sustained by a series of now familiar gendered and hierarchical dichotomies."

211 "What will necessarily entail the feminist goal of valorising women is the deconstruction of the very meanings that have seemed to guarantee the moral status of the individual."

216 "To be committed to any agenda to valorise women entails, the, both the deconstruction of exclusive and essential identities and the move to re-evaluate the body beyond biologicistic, universalist and normative presuppositions."

217 "What matters...for the ethical affirmation of the feminine, is that an acceptance of the leakiness of bodies and boundaries speaks to the necessity of an open response."