

On Truth (and Lies) in Homecoming

In conjunction with **BASETRACK Live**

Hosted by **Simon Critchley**

With **Phil Klay** and **Nancy Sherman**

Co-presented by **BAM** and the **Onassis Cultural Center NY**

Part of the **Hellenic Humanities Program**

Sun, Nov 9 at 4:30pm / 1hr 30min

BAMcafé



Phil Klay, US Marine Corps veteran and author of *Redeployment*, and Nancy Sherman, philosopher and author of *The Untold War*, join Simon Critchley to explore the notion of *nostos*, the Greek word for homecoming, to better understand the psychological truths faced by servicemen and women returning from war today.

“We’re told that when we remember, the same parts of our brain light up as when we experienced the event we’re remembering. Your brain lives through it again.”

—Phil Klay

“My introduction to the psyche of the soldier, in a sense, goes back to my father and my childhood. My dad was a WWII vet who never talked about “his” war, though he carried his dog tags on his keychain for 65 years. The war never left him; he took it to the grave; and he always felt that his burden was private. I suspect I always felt that the burden ought to be shared, or at least, that I ought to understand it better.”

—Nancy Sherman

Simon Critchley is the Hans Jonas Professor of Philosophy at the New School for Social Research. He is the author of more than a dozen books, including *Very Little...Almost Nothing* (Routledge, 1997), *Continental Philosophy: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford University Press, 2001), *On Humour* (Routledge, 2002), *The Book of Dead Philosophers* (Vintage, 2009), *The Faith of the Faithless* (Verso, 2012), and, most recently, *Stay Illusion: The Hamlet Doctrine* (Pantheon Books, 2013). Critchley lives in Brooklyn.

Phil Klay is a United States Marine Corps veteran of the Iraq War. He is the author of the short story collection, *Redeployment*, which was nominated for the National Book Award for fiction.

Nancy Sherman is a distinguished university professor at Georgetown University. From 1997 to 1999, she served as the inaugural Distinguished Chair in Ethics at the US Naval

Academy. Sherman is the author of *The Untold War*; *Stoic Warriors*; *Making a Necessity of Virtue*; *The Fabric of Character*, and editor of *Critical Essays on the Classics: Aristotle's Ethics*. *The Untold War* was a *New York Times* editors' choice and a *Time* magazine pick. Her newest book, *Making Peace with War*, will appear in 2015. Sherman has received fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Woodrow Wilson Center, and the American Council of Learned Societies, among others. She holds a PhD from Harvard in philosophy, an MLitt from Edinburgh, a BA magna cum laude with honors from Bryn Mawr, and is a research graduate of the Washington Psychoanalytic Institute. In October of 2005, Sherman visited Guantanamo to advise on the medical and psychological conditions of detainees. In 2011, she sat on the Vice Chief of the Army's Suicide Review Board.