

Dr. Sophia M. Connell

University of London-Birbeck

will present a public lecture entitled

***"The Life and Philosophy of Alice
Ambrose Lazerowitz"***



Alice Ambrose enjoyed a long career at the Smith College Massachusetts, but her roots were in the Midwest; and her philosophical journey began at the University of Wisconsin Madison.

In this talk I introduce the life of this significant philosopher, the challenges she faced, her achievements, her philosophical ideas and their legacy. Ambrose's work straddled key areas of the emerging analytic tradition – an expert in the philosophy of mathematics, she showed how the impossibility of actual infinity disrupts mathematical realism. Building on a distinction between use and meaning and between different language systems, she was able to pinpoint the origins of many philosophical puzzles, both old and new.

In the latter part of her career, Ambrose sought to create a retrospective perspective on 20th century philosophy, striving both to explain the changes that she had experienced (and helped to bring about) and to include women in this story of philosophical transformation. This talk will demonstrate that Ambrose was a remarkable 20th century intellectual who deserved much more attention than she received in her lifetime.

Thursday
Sep 25th 7pm
Memorial
Library
Room 126



Department of Philosophy
COLLEGE OF LETTERS & SCIENCE
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON