Didier Eribon is well known for his groundbreaking biography, *Michel Foucault*, first published in 1989. He is also the author of *Insult and the Making of the Gay Self*, as well as numerous other books of critical theory.

After his father dies, Didier Eribon returns to his hometown of Reims and rediscovers the working-class world he had left behind thirty years earlier. For years, Eribon had thought of his father largely in terms of the latter’s intolerable homophobia. Yet his father’s death provokes new reflection on Eribon’s part about how multiple processes of domination intersect in a given life and in a given culture. Eribon sets out to investigate his past, the history of his family, and the trajectory of his own life.

“On thinking the matter through, it doesn’t seem exaggerated to assert that my coming out of the sexual closet, my desire to assume and assert my homosexuality, coincided within my personal trajectory with my shutting myself up inside what I might call a class closet.”—from *Returning to Reims*

---

Monday, April 28
5:00pm in 4-231

**Book presentation:**

*Returning to Reims*

**Didier Eribon**
University of Amiens, author of *Returning to Reims*

**Michael Lucey**
UCal Berkeley, translator of *Returning to Reims*

MIT Foreign Languages and Literatures  •  For more information fll-events@mit.edu.