



VIRTUOSITY:

Newsletter of the ASCP

Australasian Society for Continental Philosophy

Issue 4, September 2013

The ASCP circulated a newsletter during the latter part of the 1990s under the title "Virtuosity". We relaunched the newsletter as a way of detailing important news and events of interest to members of the ASCP and wider Continental philosophy community in Australasia. This issue gives a summary of important events over the past year, which has been a productive period for the ASCP. Future issues of the Newsletter will include news, conference calls, new journal issues, links to reviews of ASCP authors, and other items of interest to the Australasian Continental philosophy community. We look forward to receiving contributions from members of the ASCP community and welcome ideas or suggestions for future issues. Thanks to all the contributors to this issue.

Welcome

There were quite a few events in 2012-13. In addition to the SPEP in Rochester conference and the ASCP in Auckland, the second round of the ERA results came out, with many philosophy departments and research groups gaining a higher ranking than in the first round.

On a sad note, Alan Saunders, ABC radio Philosopher's Zone presenter died (1954-2012). He was remarkably knowledgeable and made a huge contribution to the Australasian philosophy community.

This year Lisa Guenther gave a keynote address at the AAP at the University of Queensland, and a continental philosophy stream ran through most of the conference. ASCP 2013 is at University of Western Sydney.

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ASCP Conference 2013



The Australasian Society for Continental Philosophy and the University of Sydney are pleased to announce the 2013 ASCP annual conference, which will be held at UWS Parramatta Campus from December 3 to December 5, and will be followed by an International Symposium on Hegel and Heidegger on December 6.

The Australasian Society for Continental Philosophy aims to provide a broad intellectual forum for professional academics and postgraduates researching topics in Contemporary European philosophy, and it is the premier reference point for people working within the diverse fields of Continental/European Philosophy in the Australasian region.

Keynote addresses by:

- Graham Harman
- James Martel
- Elizabeth Rottenberg
- Gianni Vattimo
- Plenary panel on the work of Rosalyn Diprose

Call for Papers

We invite proposals for papers for the ASCP annual conference, which will be held at the University of Western Sydney in December 2013. We encourage papers in the broadly-defined field of Continental Philosophy, including but not limited to German Idealism, Phenomenology, Existentialism, Hermeneutics, Critical Theory, Postmodernism, Philosophy and Psychoanalysis, Philosophy and Film, and the relationship between Continental Philosophy and other philosophical approaches. We especially welcome papers from postgraduate students.

Presenters may select either a 30-minute or a 45-minute slot (20-minute presentation plus 10-minute dis-

cussion, or 35-minute presentation plus 10-minute discussion).

The deadline for the submission of conference abstracts is Friday 13 September 2013, and confirmation of selection will be forwarded approximately within 2 weeks of this date.

Abstracts should be less than 200 words and should be submitted through the Abstract Submission System at:

<http://www.uws.edu.au/ascp2013/submission>.

Conference Registration is currently open.

For further information, please visit:

<http://www.uws.edu.au/ascp2013>

or email ascp2013@uws.edu.au

Call for Panels

We invite proposals for thematic and book panels for the ASCP annual conference (2013). Proposals for thematic panels should include two or three proposed speakers, and, if possible, a chair and/or a respondent. We will consider a number of panels to form a stream.

Proposals for book panels are also welcome. Proposals should be for books published within the last two years in the area of Continental Philosophy and should include at least the author, one commentator and, if possible, a chair.

To submit a proposal for a thematic or book panel, please email ascp2013@uws.edu.au. The deadline for the submission of panel proposals is Friday 13 September 2013.

Please note that even if your paper is part of a panel, you still need to submit your paper through the Abstract Submission System (www.uws.edu.au/ascp2013/submission), indicating the panel title in the relevant field.

The conference organising committee:

Diego Bubbio (Chair), Charles Barbour, Alex Ling, Dimitris Vardoulakis, Paul Alberts, & Mariana Fragueiro (Admin support).



Annual General Meeting 2013

The AGM will be held at the conference at University of Western Sydney, Parramatta Campus. Agenda items are to be forwarded to the secretary of the ASCP Executive Committee. A number of positions will be available for nomination: Chair, Deputy Chair, Secretary, International Liaison Officer

Please send agenda items and nominations to Mathe-son Russell: [m.russell@auckland.ac.nz] by November 20th. Details of positions falling vacant are at the end of the newsletter.

ARC Workshop Melbourne 11th October

Professor Paul Patton, who is a member of the ARC College, will lead a workshop on ARC grant applications, along with a number of successful applicants including Miriam Bankovsky, Catherine Mills and Jack Reynolds. Contact Sean Bowden for details: s.bowden@deakin.edu.au

SPEP 2012 Report: SPEP conference and Hurricane Sandy

Following the first ASCP satellite session at the 50th anniversary of SPEP, a panel of three speakers were preparing to present a panel at SPEP, Rochester, New York 1-3 November: Andrew Inkipin, Dimitris Vardoulakis and Marguerite La Caze. However, several days before the conference began, Hurricane Sandy (aka Frankenstorm) hit the New York area, causing devastation and affecting the SPEP conference in numerous ways. Dimitris was stranded in New York and Marguerite missed the first day of the conference after a couple of days there during the storm, when the satellite session was scheduled. Many sessions were cancelled and audiences were small, as most people could only get to the conference by car, train or bus, and there was still often eleven parallel sessions held. With the support of Amy Allen we were able to reschedule the satellite session, although the rescheduling of the session had was not congenial

to its being well attended. Still, it was an interesting time. Bruce Springsteen played a benefit conference for hurricane victims and mingled with philosophers in the conference hotel. Highlights were Adriana Caverero's plenary session 'Homo Erectus', and panels on politics and violence in Derrida and Agamben, experience, the new translation of Merleau-Ponty's Phenomenology of Perception, Arendt and Sartre on history, Iain Thompson's book, Heidegger, Art and Postmodernity, and existentialism and white racism. The receptions were also a good chance to discuss philosophy with those who could make it.

-Andrew Inkipin and Marguerite La Caze.

SPEP 2013 will be in Eugene, Oregon, October 24-26. The ASCP Panel comprises: Dimitris Vardoulakis, Joanne Faulkner, Daniel Brennan, Diego Bubbio and Christopher Mayes. We look forward to hearing about this year's.

ASCP Conference 2012 University of Auckland



Working in the wide field of Continental Philosophy in New Zealand means, in the main, working outside Philosophy departments. In contrast to Australia where a (admittedly often uneasy) mix of analytic and continental thought can, in general be expected, New Zealand, philosophically, seems to follow in the xenophobic tradition of Evelyn Waugh whereby 'Wogs begin at the English Chanel.' By this I mean that our philosophy departments, strongly anglophilic in orientation, tend to view anything 'continental' with at best distrust, at worst - and in commonplace, with incomprehension and prejudice. Therefore those



of us who are continental in our thought find ourselves scattered in forms of internal exile in non-philosophy departments, allowed to engage in 'theory' which is whereby and how most continental thought occurs, grudgingly, and often under suspicion as to its utility, in pragmatic New Zealand academia. It is important to remind our Australian colleagues that if they think they experience a marginalization of continental philosophy in their own country then the experience here is really beyond their comprehension. That said, Auckland by dint of size, history, location and attitude has always been and felt itself by comparison- to be a rather 'un-New Zealand city — and university' and therefore has provided the singular place whereby continental thought is given consistent encouragement.

So the 2012 Conference brought together an eclectic mix of continental philosophers — those who pursue it as part of their accepted and endorsed academic identity and the rest of us — the waifs and strays who seek out such gatherings of the like-minded as we are able. As a first-time participant I was greatly encouraged by the sheer size and scope of this conference; the question was not the more usual question of that of what streams and papers to attend; rather it was a case of what ones do I have to choose not to attend.

I was intrigued that, even within Continental philosophy, there appears to be certain orthodoxies; the return—almost everywhere—of Deleuze, the pervasiveness of Rancière, an increasing revival of Badiou and steady under-hum of Agamben—with of course the constant shadow of Heidegger. Yet continental thought is, by its nature and name, composed of many different thinkers and strands and I am a bit concerned that what is 'down here' 'outsider' thought is in danger, most probably unintentionally, of limiting its possibilities by a form of self-policing of the expected and endorsed. Similarly, given my own interests in religion (and the sociology of knowledge), I was fascinated that the 'turn of religion'—materialist and otherwise that has so driven—and split continental thought 'up north' did not seem to have really penetrated continental thought 'down here'. The overwhelming absence of sustained engagement with religion—except in a mainly dismissive sense

(Kevin Hart's great address notwithstanding) meant that at times this seemed to be continental philosophy undertaken with an analytic attitude. Yet these are not gripes—merely the observations of an outsider who was greatly heartened to find such a gathering of thinkers who in their celebratory and impassioned attitude, engagement and openness all embodied what intellectual life should be like.

- *Mike Grimshaw, University of Canterbury*

Postgraduate Essay Prize 2012

ASCP awarded a special prize for the best paper by a postgraduate for the second time this year, and this was won by Daniel Wilson, University of Auckland, for his paper 'The "The key to the Critique of taste': Interpreting §9 of Kant's Critique of Judgment." Daniel is a PhD student at the University of Auckland; his paper will be published in Parrhesia and he was awarded a \$500 prize, sponsored by ASCP. Here is his abstract: In this paper I'm going to provide an interpretation of §9 of Kant's Critique of Judgment where he describes how judgments of taste are performed. Interpreters are divided over the correct way to interpret what Kant means in the following sentence: "Hence it is the universal capacity for being communicated incident to the mental state in the given representation which, as the subjective condition of the judgement of taste, must be fundamental, with the pleasure in the object as its consequent." The question is: How can Kant claim that an aesthetic judgment of the beautiful can be made (a judgment of pleasure or displeasure) while insisting that the pleasure is a consequence of the judging? I suggest and defend an answer to this problem that allows for a consistent reading of Kant's text.

AAP 2013

Where better to spend July than in and around the northern end of Australia? As such, the AAP in Brisbane in 2013 provided some welcome respite from the winter for the Australasian philosophical community, and also some intellectual nourishment.



Including a well-attended continental stream, continuous over four days, the conference also featured an impressive, and very well received, continental keynote address by Lisa Guenther from Vanderbilt —‘From Solitary Confinement to Solidarity: Phenomenology as a Practice of Liberation’. Her new book *Solitary Confinement: Social Death and Its Afterlives* is out now. The conference convenors - Gil Burgh and Damian Cox - should be commended for the pluralist tenor of the whole event.

The ASCP is also increasing its profile at the AAP not only through presentations and keynotes, but also through its representation as an associated society, and on the AAP Council (Fiona Jenkins, who served on AAP council for a number of years, stepped aside this year and Joanne Faulkner has taken her place). We anticipate that this continuity of association between the AAP and ASCP will build the profile of continental philosophy in the discipline, at least at these conferences!

- Joanne Faulkner and Jack Reynolds

Members' Books and Journal Issues 2013

For more details [view 2013 books on the ASCP website](#).

Steven Churchill and Jack Reynolds, *Jean-Paul Sartre: Key Concepts* (Acumen: 2013)

Justin Clemens, *Psychoanalysis is an Antiphilosophy* (EUP: 2013)

Max Deutscher, *In Sensible Judgement* (Aldershot: Ashgate, 2013)

Frances Gray, *Cartesian Philosophy and the Flesh: Reflections on Incarnation in Analytical Psychology* (Routledge: 2013)

Campbell Jones, *Can the Market Speak?* (London: Zero, 2013)

Mark Kelly, *Foucault's History of Sexuality Volume 1, The Will to Knowledge* (EUP: 2013)

Marguerite La Caze, *Wonder and Generosity: their role*

in ethics and politics (New York: SUNY, 2013)

Special issue of Parrhesia:

<http://www.parrhesiajournal.org> Issue 15, Theme: ‘The Time(s) of our lives’.

John Quay, *Education, Experience and Existence: Engaging Dewey, Peirce and Heidegger* (Routledge: 2013)

Thesis Eleven Special Issue: The times of our lives, edited by Miriam Bankovsky, Toula Nicolacopoulos and George Vassilacopoulos (forthcoming 2013)

Jessica Whyte, *Catastrophe and Redemption: The Political Thought of Giorgio Agamben* (SUNY: 2013)

Members' Books and Journal Issues 2012

For more details view 2012 books on the ASCP website

Nicole Anderson, *Derrida: Ethics under Erasure* (Continuum Press, 2012)

Miriam Bankovsky & Alice Le Goff (eds.), *Penser la reconnaissance : Entre théorie critique et philosophie française contemporaine* (CNRS Editions Alpha: 2012)

Miriam Bankovsky and Alice Le Goff (eds.), *Recognition theory and contemporary French moral and political philosophy: Reopening the dialogue* (Manchester University Press, 2012)

Miriam Bankovsky, *Perfecting justice in Rawls, Habermas and Honneth: A deconstructive perspective* (Continuum, 2012)

Arne De Boever, Alex Murray, Jon Roffe and Ashley Woodward, *Gilbert Simondon: Being and Technology* (EUP, 2012)

Geoff Boucher, *Adorno Reframed* (Ibtaurus, 2012)

Geoff Boucher, *Understanding Marxism* (Acumen, 2012)

Sean Bowden and Simon Duffy (eds.), *Badiou and Philosophy* (EUP, 2012)

Russell Daylight, *What If Derrida Was Wrong about Saussure?* (EUP, 2012)



Jean-Philippe Deranty and Alison Ross (eds.), *Jacques Rancière and the Contemporary Scene: The Philosophy of Radical Equality* (Continuum, 2012)

Jean-Philippe Deranty and Nicholas Smith, *New Philosophies of Labour: Work and the Social Bond* (Brill, 2012)

Robyn Ferrell, *Sacred Exchanges in Global Context*, (Columbia UP, 2012)

Review: <http://www.cup.columbia.edu/book/978-0-231-14880-1/sacred-exchanges>

Craig Lundy, *History and Becoming: Deleuze's Philosophy of Creativity* (EUP, 2012)

Review: <http://ndpr.nd.edu/news/35107-history-and-becoming-deleuze-s-philosophy-of-creativity-2/>

Knox Peden & Peter Hallward (eds.), *Concept and Form: Volumes 1 and 2* (Verso, 2012)

Kate Schick and Amanda Russell Beattie (eds.), *The Vulnerable Subject: Beyond Rationalism in International Relations* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2012)

Schick, Kate, *Gillian Rose: A Good Enough Justice* (EUP, 2012)

Liam Sprod, *Nuclear Futurism: The work of art in the age of remainderless destruction* (Zero, 2012)

Marcelo Svirsky & Simone Bignall (eds.), *Agamben and Colonialism* (EUP, 2012)

Any ASCP members who have published books please use the online submit member's book form at ascp.org.au or email James Garrett at: web@ascp.org.au so that they can be included in the next issue of Virtuosity and on the Website.

ASCP Executive Committee 2014

Call for nominations for vacant positions on the sitting Executive Committee.

The following positions will become vacant and require filling at the 2013 AGM: Chair, Deputy Chair, Secretary, International Liaison Officer.

Descriptions of the positions are as follows:

The **Chair** is responsible for the ensuring the functioning of the Executive Committee and for overseeing the general running of the Society and its various activities. The chair takes responsibility for ensuring that the Society and its members uphold the Constitution and fulfil the aims of the Society in its activities and events. The chair will also appoint as required a 'Public Officer' (who must be a New South Wales resident) for the purposes of the Society's incorporation as a (non-profit) association. The 'Public Officer' will normally be a member of the executive.

The **Deputy Chair** is co-responsible with the Chair for overseeing the running of the Executive Committee and general activities of the Society, and who can stand in for the Chair if he or she is temporarily unable to perform these functions. The Deputy Chair is generally co-responsible with the Chair for ensuring that the Society and its members uphold the constitution and fulfil the aims of the Society in its activities and events.

The **Secretary** is responsible for managing all data and information records related to the Society, including correspondence to and from the Society, the Society's database, mailing lists, copies of minutes, membership registers, list of sponsored activities, and for reporting on these subjects to the Executive Committee in accordance with relevant sections of the "Model Rules For Associated Incorporations Under the Associations Incorporation Act, 1984".

The **International Liaison Officer** is responsible for initiating and sustaining relationships with other philosophical societies and associations beyond Australasia, as well as co-ordinating others' efforts in linking with international organisations.

Nominations are to be forwarded in writing to ASCP Secretary, Dr. Matheson Russell (m.russell@auckland.ac.nz) by Thursday, 28 Nov 2013. Nominees are requested to include a brief CV, the name of an ASCP member who has agreed to second their nomination, and a brief statement expressing their vision of the ASCP.

According to the ASCP Constitution:

Members can nominate themselves for any position



on the executive committee provided at least one other member of the Society agrees to second the nomination.

Members wishing to nominate themselves for a position on the executive committee must do so in writing to the sitting executive committee at least seven days before the scheduled date of the annual general meeting.

The AGM and ballot will take place at University of Western Sydney during the Annual Conference (3–5 December, 2013). (Time and date of AGM to be confirmed.)

Thanks to Outgoing Executive Members

It would be remiss of the ASCP not to acknowledge and thank the outgoing members of the executive for the work they have done during the last three years. Particular thanks are due to the President (Marguerite La Caze) and Secretary (Matheson Russell), who have sustained and managed our growing organisation, and effectively promoted continental philosophical interests to all and sundry - we appreciate your hard work. As International Liaison, Dimitris Vardoulakis has helped institute the collaborative relationship we have with the biggest continental philosophy society in the world, SPEP, and for that and his other contributions on the executive we are indebted and look forward to the coming conference at UWS. As Deputy, Jack Reynolds has been part of a good executive team. Thanks to all of them, and we hope that future appointees can continue to promote philosophical interests as they have done.