

About the things themselves

Newsletter of the Society of

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About the things themselves

Chief Editor:

Gregory Cameron, grcameron@wlu.ca

French Language Editor:

Kevin W. Gray

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1. Editor's Comments

Gregory Cameron

PhaenEx has emerged! The EPTC journal is up and running, and looks great. (See the announcement below). The collected essays are excellent. Topics cover many of the major areas of phenomenological and existential thought, but it is the range of topics that make the journal exciting – a great read, and a great contribution to the developing conversation. Things are shaping up too for the 2007 meeting in Saskatoon. The final call for papers for the 2007 congress is posted below, as are the calls for papers for the panels: Nietzsche, animals, Sartre and Beauvoir, and a phenomenology panel/workshop. As I have said many times before, and is again indicated by the panels, it is the range of possibilities opened up by phenomenology that makes EPTC such a successful society. Final deadlines for papers are rapidly approaching, so stop grading and get writing!

An explanation of how things work for new comers and those who may have forgotten. Each paper accepted for presentation at the annual EPTC conference is given a full hour for presentation. The paper itself should run about half an hour, after which there is a ten-minute response and then twenty minutes for questions and comments. If you do not have a fully developed paper or if your paper is not accepted, you may want to consider presenting a commentary on a paper. If so contact the relevant organizer. You should receive the paper you are to comment on with ample time to prepare.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Kevin W. Gray for his excellent work as French Language Editor.

Gregory Cameron: Chief Editor
grcameron@wlu.ca

2. Announcement: Inaugural Issue of *PhaenEx*

EPTC/TCEP is proud to announce the publication of our new on-line journal, *PhaenEx - The Journal for Existential and Phenomenological Theory and Culture*.

The Inaugural Issue of *PhaenEx* is now available to the public. To access the journal, please go to: www.phaenex.uwindsor.ca. Users of the site need to register first, creating a username and password, and indicating whether they wish to be called on as peer-reviewers. For those wishing to be considered as peer-reviewers, full biographical information is necessary. Once registered, after

entering the *PhaenEx* website, click on 'Current' to gain access to the inaugural issue.

We welcome your comments and thank you for your patience as we continue to finalize some details on the journal website. Your queries and feedback can be addressed to jduncan@trinity.utoronto.ca. Once again, our thanks to the authors, our publishing team at the University of Windsor, and the many other individuals who assisted in the creation of *PhaenEx*.

Please note our current Calls for Papers on the website - and add www.phaenex.uwindsor.ca to your list of favourite links!

3. Call for Papers, EPTC/TCEP 2007 – Saskatoon

EPTC 2007 Call for Papers May 29-31, Saskatoon, Canada

The society for the study of Existential and Phenomenological Theory and Culture (EPTC) invites papers discussing any aspects of existential or phenomenological theory or culture. For example, papers or panel proposals dealing with theoretical or cultural issues in relation to authors such as Kierkegaard, Nietzsche, Dostoevsky, Kafka, Beckett, Husserl, Heidegger, Jaspers, Levinas, Malraux, Marcel, Buber, Frankl, Sartre, Camus, Merleau-Ponty, Beauvoir, Irigaray, or Laing are all welcome. Submissions from all disciplines are welcome. EPTC will meet at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, in conjunction with the Congress of the Social Sciences and Humanities of Canada, May 29-31, 2007. Every year the Congress brings together some 100 learned associations and more than 5,000 scholars from Canada and the international community for approximately 10 days of interdisciplinary symposia, cultural events, and public discussions. For more information see: <http://www.fedcan.ca/>.

I. Interested authors should submit the following electronically in Rich Text Format:

1. A copy of your paper, not more than 4,000 words, and prepared for anonymous review (identifiable by paper title only).
2. A separate abstract, not more than 100 words, also listing the paper's title, author's name, complete mailing address, institutional affiliation, and e-mail address.

II. If you are interested in either presenting a commentary (of not more than 1,000 words) on a paper, or chairing a session, please submit a brief email note of interest, including your name, complete mailing address, institutional affiliation, e-mail address, and relevant areas of interest.

III. Calls for papers for individual EPTC/TCEP panel sessions are listed below.

EPTC reserves the right to reject individual papers or panels. The submission deadline for the above materials is Friday February 2, 2007.

EPTC is able to waive Congress fees for a couple of delegates each year. Such awards will be made according to criteria of financial need and quality of paper at the discretion of the conference programme coordinator. Non tenure-stream delegates interested in this award should append a note of interest to their submissions.

Submissions should be sent to:
Professor John Duncan, EPTC/TCEP President
John Duncan <JDuncan@trinity.utoronto.ca>

4. Panel Calls for Papers, EPTC 2007 – Saskatoon

Bellow are the calls for papers for the EPTC panels at the 2007 Congress.

a) Recent Continental Perspectives on Animals.

Call for Panel Papers
Recent Continental Perspectives on Animals
EPTC 2007
Saskatoon, Canada, May 29-31



The human has often been defined through reference to the non-human animal. We are the political animal, the speaking animal, the rational animal, even the risible animal. These qualifications are not innocent; the political animal is thought to be superior to other, non-political animals, and sometimes this superiority is invoked to justify the domination of other animals and to deny rights and protections to non-human animals. Furthermore, certain groups of human beings (most notably, women and non-Europeans) have been historically characterized as closer to the animal, and therefore inferior. This gives rise to ethical questions concerning the treatment of non-human animals as well as humans who are associated with animality. Are there ways of thinking the relation between humans and other animals without constructing a hierarchy? Even if the human

has traditionally been understood in terms of its difference from the animal, are there ways of understanding or responding to other animals on their own terms, rather than always in relation to the human? While the question of animals has been examined in Anglo-American ethics, it has recently become a subject of increasing interest in the continental tradition as well, and it is this conjunction which we would like to explore.

Papers are invited for a panel re-examining the animal in the context of continental thought. Paper topics may include existentialist and/or phenomenological approaches to nature and animality (Merleau-Ponty, Heidegger, Levinas), ethical analyses of the human-animal relation, feminist re-appraisals of the connection between women and nature (Irigaray, Cixous, eco-feminism), critiques of the human-animal binary (Derrida, Deleuze, Agamben), analyses of classic texts on animality (Aristotle, Darwin, von Uexküll), and other related topics. Interdisciplinary approaches are welcome.

The panel will be part of the annual meeting for the Society for Existential and Phenomenological Theory and Culture (EPTC) in Saskatoon, Canada, May 29-31, 2007, held in conjunction with the Congress of the Social Sciences and Humanities of Canada (May 26 to June 2, 2007). Every year the Congress brings together some 100 learned associations and more than 5,000 scholars from Canada and the international community for approximately 10 days of interdisciplinary symposia, cultural events, and public discussions. For more information see: <http://www.fedcan.ca/>.

Papers will also be considered for a Special Topics Issue on animals in /PhaenEx: Journal of Existential and Phenomenological Theory and Culture/ (Fall/Winter 2007): <http://www.phaenex.uwindsor.ca/>.

Interested authors should submit the following in both electronic and paper formats: 1. A copy of your paper, not more than 4,500 words, and prepared for anonymous review (identifiable by paper title only). 2. A separate abstract, not more than 100 words, also listing the paper's title, author's name, complete mailing address, institutional affiliation, and e-mail address.

If you are interested in presenting a commentary (of not more than 1,000 words) on a paper, please submit a brief email note indicating as much, including your name, complete mailing address, institutional affiliation, e-mail address, and relevant areas of interest.

The submission deadline is January 15, 2007.

Submissions should be sent to one of the following:

Chloé Taylor
Department of Philosophy
McGill University
855 Sherbrooke St. West
Montréal, Québec H3A 2T7

chloe.taylor@utoronto.ca

Lisa Guenther
Department of Philosophy
University of Auckland
Private Bag 92019
Auckland, New Zealand
l.guenther@auckland.ac.nz

b) Back to the Things Themselves ! A Practicum on Phenomenological Description of 'The In-Between'.

Call for Panel Papers
Back to the Things Themselves!
A Practicum on Phenomenological Description of "The In-Between"
EPTC 2007
Saskatoon, Canada, May 29-31

This practicum on phenomenological description will take place as a workshop during the Society for Existential and Phenomenological Theory and Culture's (EPTC) annual meeting at the [Congress of Social Sciences and Humanities](#) in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan on May 29-31, 2007. For more information, see the EPTC general [Call for Papers](#) for Congress 2007.

Back to the Things Themselves! is an attempt to temporarily liberate ourselves from textual exegesis, and return to the lived world to divine the essential structures of experience through rigorous phenomenological description. Husserl's call to return *zu der Sachen selbst* has only been intermittently heeded by subsequent generations of phenomenologists, the majority of which have generally focused on contributing to and elaborating on the enormous critical apparatus issuing from the founding texts of the movement. What *Back to the Things Themselves!* proposes is to build on the important contributions of such scholarship by using them to guide our reflections on phenomenon in the life-world. *Back to the Things Themselves!* is therefore explicitly interested in the application of phenomenological method broadly construed, and in textual exegesis only to the extent that it serves to clarify a point of method or a feature of a given description.

The Theme of this Practicum: "The In-Between"

What is neither here nor there, now nor then? What resides or occurs in the intermezzo, what is its meaning or purpose? As binary systems of logic continue to be questioned and dismantled, what might we locate in the interstices of either/or? What is the function of the in-between, and its qualities? What are its rhythms, speeds, contours or densities? What affects, sensations or movements does the in-between evoke? Can the in-between be known, can we dwell there - or do we only ever traverse this phenomenon, pass through or pass over? For this workshop we are inviting participants to explore the phenomenon of the in-between. While the following suggestions are by no means

exhaustive or prescriptive, participants might consider descriptions of spatial, temporal and other in-betweens such as: in-betweens of identity and personal location (transsexuality, hybridity, diaspora, middle-age, tween-hood), architectural in-betweens (bridges, passages, tunnels), musical in-betweens (intermezzo, the caesura, musical bridges), linguistic and grammatical in-betweens (patois, the stammer, the comma, the conjunction, the copula, ellipsis), cultural and political in-betweens (the “shoulder” season, commuting, “between jobs,” half-way houses), other territories of transformations and intermixings or zones of proximity.

Submission Guidelines and Format of the Practicum

Please submit completed papers of approximately 20 to 30 minutes reading time (no more than 3500 words) to David Koukal by RTF or Word email attachment at koukaldr@udmercy.edu by January 3. Papers should be prepared for anonymous review (identifiable by paper title only) and include a separate abstract, not more than 100 words, also listing the paper's title, author's name, complete mailing address, institutional affiliation, and e-mail address. Please note that papers will be initially reviewed by the panel organizers, and suitable papers will be forwarded to EPTC for anonymous review.

The Practicum will consist of three to five papers, followed by a moderated workshop and discussion on the phenomenon of the in-between and the practice of phenomenological description.

A copy of this call for papers can be downloaded at <http://liberalarts.udmercy.edu/philosophy/inbetween.htm>.
Panel organizers: [Astrida Neimanis](#) and [David Koukal](#) ([web](#))

c) Reconstructing Nietzsche's *Untimely Meditations*

Call for Panel Papers *Reconstructing Nietzsche's Untimely Meditations* EPTC 2007 Saskatoon, Canada, May 29-31

We are looking for submissions that deal with significant features of Nietzsche's work between 1873 and 1876, the period of his *Untimely Meditations*. Submissions might discuss one of the principle texts, or a problem that crosses a number of them. The aim is to generate a panel of perhaps half a dozen papers on these somewhat neglected early publications by Nietzsche.

Interested authors should submit the following electronically in RTF or WORD formats:

1. A copy of your paper, not more than about 3,500 words, and prepared for anonymous review (identifiable by paper title only).
2. A separate abstract, not more than 100 words, also listing the paper's title, author's

name, complete mailing address, institutional affiliation, and e-mail address.

If you are interested in presenting a commentary (of not more than 1,000 words) on a paper, please submit a brief email note of interest, including your name, complete mailing address, institutional affiliation, e-mail address, and relevant areas of interest.

Submissions should be sent to: John Duncan at jduncan@trinity.utoronto.ca. The submission deadline is January 15, 2007.

Please contact John Duncan at jduncan@trinity.utoronto.ca if you have any questions.

The panel will be part of the annual meeting for the Society for Existential and Phenomenological Theory and Culture (EPTC/TCEP) -- <http://www.brocku.ca/eptc-tcep/> -- in Saskatoon, Canada, May 29-31, 2007, held in conjunction with the Congress of the Social Sciences and Humanities of Canada (May 26 to June 2, 2007). Every year the Congress brings together some 100 learned associations and more than 5,000 scholars from Canada and the international community for approximately 10 days of interdisciplinary symposia, cultural events, and public discussions. For more information see: <http://www.fedcan.ca/>.

d) Sartrean Feminism

Call for Panel Papers
Sartrean Feminism
EPTC 2007
Saskatoon, Canada, May 29-31

Sartre's female companions have too often been presented as his life companions. Yet we argue that from his second-order loves to his 'necessary' love with Simone de Beauvoir, Sartre has been considerably influenced by these women. The purpose of the following will not be to sketch a history, but rather to run counter to and against some of the studies concerning women and Sartre. In particular, we wonder whether Sartre's silent feminism is related only to his relationships with other women than his dear 'Castor' or if – more than any other contemporary or thinker associated with Sartre – the Sartrean feminine entourage has not considerably influenced Sartrean feminism.

As such, we are interested first in texts that critically examine the platonic pact set between 'Poulou' and his 'littlemorganatic spouse.' Specifically, we wonder to what extent our understanding of their relationship is conditioned by the fact that they refused to conform to the prevailing conjugal model. This problematic must really be at the center of disciplinary questionings (philosophical, literary, sociological, anthropological, etc.) Our panel will try to confront them and bring out what is at stake in the relations between Sartre and Beauvoir.

Second, we ask if Beauvoir was truly the woman who influenced the development of

Sartre's thought. Third, we are interested in the influence others of Sartre's female entourage might have had on his writing. We are also interested in the work of writers who worked from outside the hexagon. Specifically, we are specifically interested in texts that examine the writings of Sartre's female interpreters, including the works of Margarete Mitscherlich, Michèle Le Doeuff, Deirdre Bair, Hazel Rowley, Toril Moi, Colette Audry and Ingrid Galster, amongst others.

The panel will be part of the annual meeting of the Society for Existential and Phenomenological Theory and Culture (EPTC) in Saskatoon, Canada, May 29-31, 2007, held in conjunction with the Congress of the Social Sciences and Humanities of Canada (May 26 to June 2, 2007). Every year the Congress brings together some 100 learned associations and more than 5,000 scholars from Canada and the international community for approximately 10 days of interdisciplinary symposia, cultural events, and public discussions. For more information see: <http://www.fedcan.ca/>.

Interested authors should submit the following in electronic format: 1. A copy of your paper, not more than 4,500 words, and prepared for anonymous review (identifiable by paper title only). 2. A separate abstract, not more than 100 words, also listing the paper's title, author's name, complete mailing address, institutional affiliation, and e-mail address.

If you are interested in presenting a commentary (of not more than 1,000 words) on a paper, please submit a brief email note indicating as much, including your name, complete mailing address, institutional affiliation, e-mail address, and relevant areas of interest.

The submission deadline is January 7, 2007.

For more information, or to submit texts, please write to David Risse, David_Risse@hotmail.com.

5. Book Announcement: *Existential Thinkers and Ethics*. Edited by Christine Daigle

Christine Daigle would like to announce the publication of her new book, *Existential Thinkers and Ethics*. The book includes essays on the major existentialist thinkers – Kierkegaard, Nietzsche, Heidegger, Arendt, Camus, Sartre, Beauvoir and Merleau-Ponty – and attempts a reconfirmation of the significance of existentialism for the thought of ethics. Contributors to the volume include Glenn Braddock (Skidmore College), Christine Daigle (Brock University), Dominic Desroches (Collège Rosemont), David W. Goldberg (Westminster College), Philip Knee (University of Ottawa), Todd Lavin (Clarion University), Kym MacLaren (North Arizona University), and Stephen Schulman (Elon

University). Check out publishers information at <http://www.mqup.mcgill.ca/book.php?bookid=2015>

6. Information Concerning Research Center: Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center, Duquesne University.

The Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center was founded in 1980 at Duquesne University. It was an expression of the phenomenological orientation of the university's philosophy and psychology departments. It is named after its first benefactor, the late president of the Humanities Press. The holdings of the Center are housed in a handsome room in the Special Collections area of the Library. The Center's holdings do not circulate, but are available to scholars and researchers. The Center welcomes donations of books, off-prints, dissertations, larger collections, etc., and encourages inquiries concerning its research materials and programs.

The goal of the Phenomenology Center is to collect and make available in one place all the literature on phenomenology which could possibly be of use to scholars in the field and to promote original phenomenological research, and thereby add to the corpus of phenomenological work.

Link to the Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center, Duquesne University:
<http://www.library.duq.edu/silverman/index.htm>
Director: Daniel Martino, martino@library.duq.edu