

About the things themselves

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About the things themselves

Chief Editor:

Gregory Cameron, grcameron@wlu.ca

French Language Editor:

Frédéric Bruneault, fredbruneault@hotmail.com

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1. Editor's Comments

Gregory Cameron

Just a short note to remind everyone that deadlines for submission of papers to the 2008 Congress are fast approaching. Attached below then are the various calls for papers – the general call and the calls for panels. Each call contains information on due dates and where to send your paper. Notice also that there are a few additions since the last newsletter went out. Also, if you are not interested in submitting a paper but are interested in chairing a session or providing a response, the various panel organizers would be happy to hear from you.

Happy writing, happy grading, happy holidays and I look forward to seeing you all in Vancouver.

Gregory Cameron: Chief Editor
grcameron@wlu.ca

2. Call for Papers: EPTC Vancouver 2008

Early Call for Papers EPTC/TCEP 2008

The society for the study of Existential and Phenomenological Theory and Culture (EPTC) invites papers and panel proposals 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 British Columbia in Vancouver, British Columbia, in conjunction with the Congress of the Social Sciences and Humanities of Canada during 3-5 June 2008. The Congress will bring together some 100 learned associations and more than 9,000 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/>.

For full information on submission requirements please see the EPTC/TCEP website or previous newsletter.

Submissions should be sent to: Professor David Tabachnick,
davidt@nipissingu.ca, EPTC/TCEP 2008 Program Coordinator.

3. Call for Papers: Panels: EPTC Vancouver 2008.

A) Back to the Things Themselves! 2008

Doing Phenomenology: "The In-Between/Edges"

(For full call for papers please visit the EPTC/TCEP Website).

EPTC's inaugural *Back to the Things Themselves!* panel in 2007 began to explore the phenomenon of the in-between. Based on suggestions from last year's participants, next year we will invite further exploration of "the in-between" in order to deepen and expand our initial conversation. Yet we will also take this conversation in a new direction: "edges." We invite the submission of descriptions of both or either of these phenomena to *Back to the Things Themselves! 2008*.

What is neither here nor there, now nor then? What resides or occurs in the in-between, and what is its meaning or purpose? And what is the meaning or purpose of the edges that mark the liminality of both this in-between, and the phenomena on either side of it? What are the rhythms, speeds, contours or densities of the in-between? What affects, sensations or movements do edges evoke? Can the in-between be known, can we dwell there - or do we only ever traverse this phenomenon, pass through or pass over? Do edges draw a clear line in the proverbial sand, or do they rather shift like the waves of sands across a desert? "The in-between" and "edges" are clearly related phenomena, in that they both raise questions about the limits of binary systems of classification and the identity of things as discrete and separate entities. But what is the nature of this relation? How do the phenomena of the in-between and edges support one another, challenge one another, or even form the condition of possibility for one another?

Papers on should be submitted to David Koukal by RTF or Word email attachment at koukaldr@udmercy.edu by January 7. Papers should take no longer than 30 minutes to read (generally less than 4000 words), should be prepared for anonymous review (identifiable by paper title only), and include a separate abstract not exceeding 100 words. The cover sheet should also list the paper's title, the author's name, 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.

B) On Time: Perspectives on Temporality and Urgency

Organized by Gregory Cameron and Kir Kuiken for EPTC.

(For full call for papers please see the EPTC/TCEP website)

The goal of the EPTC panel “On Time” is to approach the question of temporality today from as many different perspectives as possible. These can include theoretical considerations of the nature of time in social and cultural theory; representations of temporality in cultural production; explorations of transformations in the lived experience of historicity; critical meditations on the role of representations of the past, present or future; the ideology of temporal representations; temporality and technology; the cultural specificity of the experience of temporality; and more general papers on time and urgency and the anxiety that accompanies this urgency.

Papers of no more than 4000 words, in French or English, are to be submitted in full by January 5th 2008. Papers should be prepared for blind review, with a cover sheet including paper title, author’s name, a 150 word abstract, affiliation and contact information. A decision concerning your paper will be made before February 15th, 2008. Papers should be submitted by e-mail attachment in rich text format to grcameron@wlu.ca.

B) Rethinking 1968

(For full call for papers please see the EPTC/TCEP website)

The events of 1968 shook the world. On the 40th anniversary of the protests in France, Germany and the United States, we are organizing a panel to reflect on the importance of these student actions and whether they can serve as a basis for critiquing our current political climate. We want to ask if the philosophical underpinnings of these revolutionary acts have continued relevance today.

Submissions and queries should be sent to: Kevin W. Gray at kevin-william.gray.1@ulaval.ca. The submission deadline is January 1, 2008.

C) Franz Fanon’s Phenomenology of Oppression

Frantz Fanon has had a significant influence on postcolonial studies and on concrete struggles against colonial oppression, and yet he is often overlooked in phenomenological and existentialist circles, or else his philosophy is seen as merely applying Hegelian and Sartrean themes. The papers in this panel will seek to correct this oversight by uncovering the distinctively philosophical contributions that Fanon’s works have made to decolonization struggles, both in national liberation movements and in previously exclusionary sites of power such as academia and clinical psychiatry. We would like to call for papers on all aspects of Frantz Fanon’s phenomenological analyses of power and oppression, as well as papers exploring Fanon’s influence on different types of anti-colonial struggle.

Please send submissions to nicholtr@lewisu.ca and

chloetaylo@gmail.com by January 7. Papers should take no longer than 30 minutes to read (generally less than 4000 words), should be prepared for anonymous review (identifiable by paper title only), and include a separate abstract not exceeding 100 words. The cover sheet should also list the paper's title, the author's name, 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.

4. PhaenEx Journal Announcement:

PhaenEx 2.2., Special Topics Issue: Other Animals (with new PhaenEx book discussion section) due to be published before the end of 2007.

5. Call for Papers: Beyond Reification: Critical Theory and the Challenge of Praxis

John Cabot University of Rome is hosting the second international conference on Critical Theory, which will be held at its campus in Rome, Italy – Via della Lungara 233. The conference will examine the importance and the developments of the Frankfurt School by addressing both the philosophical tradition of the early stages of Critical Theory – and in particular the works of Walter Benjamin, Theodor W. Adorno, Max Horkheimer and Herbert Marcuse – as well as the application of their theories to our contemporary society.

If you are interested in presenting a paper, please submit a 1-2 page abstract by January 15, 2008 (including name, eventual institutional affiliation and mailing address). Abstracts should be submitted by email. Decisions regarding the program will be made by February 2008.

The presented papers will be printed in a book dedicated to the conference.

To submit an abstract, or for more information, contact:

Stefano Giacchetti – sgiacchetti@johncabot.edu

Web: http://intranet.johncabot.edu/myjcu/public_site/news.aspx?cat=Events