

# Tokyo Workshop:

## Sources of Rationality –

### Heidegger on Freedom and Normative Constraint

**Date:** 21th of October 2015.

**Place:** University of Tokyo, Komaba I Campus, Building 18, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room 1.  
([http://www.c.u-tokyo.ac.jp/eng\\_site/info/about/visitors/maps-directions/](http://www.c.u-tokyo.ac.jp/eng_site/info/about/visitors/maps-directions/))

**Organizers:** Dr. Rasmus Thybo Jensen and Dr. Kohji Ishihara.

(Department of History and Philosophy of Science, University of Tokyo)

In recent years a number of authors have engaged with Heidegger's philosophy by placing it in the context of a broader, ongoing discussion concerning the nature of reasons (for judgement and for action) and the fundamental sources of normativity and rationality. In this workshop we focus on two texts by Heidegger that are particularly apt for bringing his thinking in contact with such ongoing discussions. The purpose of the workshop is to engage in detailed discussion of the issues at stake in these texts through a close reading of them. The contemporary debates will serve as a background for our discussion but our main focus will be on a critical engagement with the analyses, arguments and concepts present in the texts under scrutiny.

#### **The two presenters**

Dr. Wenjing Cai, Lecturer at Shanghai Jiao Tong University, School of Philosophy, Philosophy.

([http://shss.sjtu.edu.cn/sites/jd/content2\\_en.aspx?InfId=b89124c9-6aed-406a-bbf2-35b36001d6d8&CtgId=1a88c5cf-1cbd-49cc-a0fe-dc9777e8601e](http://shss.sjtu.edu.cn/sites/jd/content2_en.aspx?InfId=b89124c9-6aed-406a-bbf2-35b36001d6d8&CtgId=1a88c5cf-1cbd-49cc-a0fe-dc9777e8601e))

Selected publications:

*Forthcoming* (Dec. 2015): 'A Heideggerian Approach to Self and Freedom'. In *Problems of the Self: Essays in Consciousness, Subjectivity and Otherness*, Manidipa Sen (Ed.), Akaar Books, New Delhi.

2012: 'From Adequacy to Apodicticity, Development of the Notion of Reflection in Husserl's Phenomenology'. *Husserl Studies* 29 (1): 13-27.

Dr. Morten S. Thaning, Associate Professor at Copenhagen Business School,  
Department of Management, Politics and Philosophy.

(<http://www.cbs.dk/en/research/departments-and-centres/department-of-management-politics-and-philosophy/staff/mstmpp>)

Selected publications:

2015: *The Problem of Objectivity in Gadamer's Hermeneutics in Light of McDowell's Empiricism*, Contributions to Phenomenology, Vol. 1, Springer  
(<http://www.springer.com/us/book/9783319186474>)

2013: 'Freiheit und Verantwortung bei Heidegger und Gadamer'. In *Frei sein, frei handeln: Freiheit zwischen theoretischer und praktischer Philosophie*. Eds. Diego D'Angelo; Sylvaine Goudain; Tobias Keiling; Nikola Mirkowic. Munchen. Verlag Karl: 29-57.

### **The two texts of the workshop**

1. Heidegger, M., *Being and Time*, [*Sein und Zeit*], §§ 54-60. The chapter on conscience (*Gewissen*). Trans. Macquarrie and Robinson, Blackwell 1962.
2. Heidegger, M., *On the Essence of Human Freedom: An Introduction to Philosophy* [*Vom Wesen des menschlichen Freiheit. Einleitung in die Philosophie*, Gesamtausgabe, Band 31], §§ 26-30. Trans. Ted Sadler, Continuum 2002

### **Some relevant background literature**

Braver, Lee, 2012, *Groundless Grounds – A Study of Wittgenstein and Heidegger*, MIT Press.

Golob, Sacha, 2014, *Heidegger on Concepts, Freedom and Normativity*

Crowell, Steven, 2013, *Normativity and Phenomenology in Husserl and Heidegger*, Cambridge University Press.

Scheer, Joseph K. (ed.), 2013, *Mind, Reason, and Being-in-the-World: The McDowell-Dreyfus Debate*, Routledge.

Sebastian Rödl, 2007, Chap. 4 in *Self-Consciousness*, Harvard Uni. Press.

McDowell, John 2009, 'Self-Determining Subjectivity and External Constraint'. In *Having the World in View*, Harvard University Press.

Korsgaard, Christine M., 1996, *The Sources of Normativity*, Cambridge University Press.

### **Practical information**

The discussion will be based on the English translations of the two texts though if relevant some references to the original German version may occur. All participants will be given access to the texts prior to the workshop and it is expected that all have read the texts. Each session will begin with a short presentation by the invited speaker after which we will open up the discussion.

The workshop is open for all, but MA students, PhD students and Postdocs will be given priority if there is shortage of seats.

To sign up for the workshop please send an email to Rasmus Thybo Jensen before the ([rasmusthybo@yahoo.dk](mailto:rasmusthybo@yahoo.dk)) before the 13<sup>th</sup> of October, 2015. Please indicate whether you would like to participate in the workshop dinner and any dietary requirements.

### **Program (may be subject to changes)**

10:30-12:30 Presenter: Morten S. Thaning (Copenhagen Business School).

Text: M. Heidegger, *Being and Time* [*Sein und Zeit*], §§ 54-60.

12:30-14.00 Lunch break

14:00-16.00 Presenter: Wenjing Cai (Shanghai Jiao Tong University)

Text: M. Heidegger, *On the Essence of Human Freedom: An Introduction to Philosophy* [*Vom Wesen des menschlichen Freiheit. Einleitung in die Philosophie*], §§ 26-30.

16.00-16.30 Break

16.30-18.00 Joint Discussion

19.00 Dinner

### **Acknowledgements**

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