

Bucharest-Princeton Seminar in Early Modern Philosophy

Bran, 12–17 July 2015

PHILOSOPHICAL CONVERSATIONS: INTELLECTUAL INTERACTIONS IN THE 17TH CENTURY

Programme

Sunday, 12 July

9.30 Departure to Bran from Hotel Flowers, Plantelor str. 2, Bucharest (lunch on the way)

17.00 Arrival in Bran (Vila Andra)

19.00 Dinner

Monday, 13 July

9.30-10.20 Elena Rapetti (Catholic University Milan): **Discussing natural philosophy: André Graindorge and Pierre-Daniel Huet's epistolary conversation**

10.20-10.40 Coffee break

10.40-12.55 **Reading group (I): Teaching or tricking Simplicio? Dialectic reasoning, persuasive experimentation, and dialogical pedagogy in Galileo's *Dialogo* (Day 1)**

Convenors: Dana Jalobeanu, Daniel Garber

Texts: Galileo, *Dialogue concerning the two world systems* (translated by S. Drake), Day 1, pp. 19-29, 31-32, 45-51, 56-90, 95-105.

13.00-15.00 Lunch break

16.00-16.35 Doina-Cristina Rusu (Bucharest): **Pneumatic matter and its motions in Francis Bacon's natural histories**

16.35-16.50 Coffee break

16.50-17.25 Domenica Romagni (Princeton), **Musical Consonance and Philosophy of Perception: Kepler, Descartes, and the Scholastics**

17.25-18.00 Anna Ortín Nadal (Edinburgh): **Natural Signs in Descartes' Causal Theory of Sensory Perception**

19.30 Dinner

Tuesday, 14 July

9.30-10.20 Dana Jalobeanu (University of Bucharest): **"A science of the orb themselves:" vitalism, magnetical philosophy and the constitution of space.**

10.20-10.35 Coffee break

10.40-12.55 **Reading group (II): Descartes, La Recherche de la vérité**
Convenors: Daniel Garber, Vlad Alexandrescu
Texts: Descartes, *La Recherche de la vérité*

13.00-15.00 Lunch break

16.00-16.35: Rodolfo Garau, (MPIWG Berlin), **Springs, Nitre, and Conatus. The Role of the Heart in Hobbes's Physiology and Animal Locomotion**

16.35-16.50 Coffee break

16.50-17.25 Erin Islo (Princeton), **Hobbesian Democracy and How Spinoza Can Save It**

17.25-18.00 Vasiliki Grigoropoulou (Athens): **Questions on the conscious Mind in Spinoza**

19.00 Dinner

Wednesday, 15 July

9.15-9.50 Oana Matei (Vasile Goldiş University, Arad), **Baconian reception in the Hartlib Circle: John Evelyn's projects of natural history**

9.50-10.25 Daniel Schwartz (UC San Diego): **Conversations at Salomon's House. A Baconian Reading of The Philosophical Transactions, 1665-1667**

10.25-10.40 Coffee break

10.40-12.55 **Reading group (III): *Genesis and the new science. The case of Cartesian philosophy***

Convenors: Mihnea Dobre, Daniel Garber

Texts: An Account of Some Books. 1670. Philosophical Transactions (1665-1678) 5:1051-1054. doi:10.2307/101576; Cordemoy, Géraud de. 1670. A Discourse Written to a Learned Friar... London: Moses Pitt., pp. 1-16 & 50-62; Descartes. CSM I 90-98 (The World 6-7); CSM I 255-258 (Principles III 42-47); CSMK 172 (AT III 295-6); CSMK 349-350 (Conversations with Burman); Clerselier's edition of letters, vol. II, letter 24, p. 164; AT IV 700-701 (note on von Schurman); *Genesis* 1 (King James Bible version).

13.00-15.00 Lunch break

16.00-16.35 Fabrizio Baldassarri (University of Bucharest): **Descartes' Philosophical Conversation on Botany**

16.35-16.50 Coffee break

16.50-17.25 Tzuchien Tho (University of Bucharest): **Efficient and Final Causes in the Dynamics: Leibniz's conversation with the Aristotelian and "New" Sciences**

17.25-18.00 Kirsten Walsh (University of Bucharest): **Newton's Laws and 'Epistemic Amplification'**

19.00 Dinner

Thursday, 16 July

9.30-10.20 Tinca Prunea-Bretonnet (New Europe College, Bucharest): **Newton and the Correspondence between Maupertuis and Emilie du Châtelet**

10.20-10.35 Coffee break

10.40-12.55 **Reading group (IV): Blaise Pascal, *Entretien avec Monsieur de Sacy*.**

Convenors: Vlad Alexandrescu, Daniel Garber

Text: Blaise Pascal, *Entretien avec Monsieur de Sacy*, éd. Jean Mesnard & Pascale Mengotti, Paris, Desclée de Brouwer, 1994 (Fontaine's autograph manuscript found in the Bibliothèque de l'Institut de France); english translation of a previous text by John Blankenagel (Philadelphia, Westminster Press, 1948)

13.00-15.00 Lunch

16.00-16.35 Daniel Collette (South Florida): **Pascal on the Good Life: When Happiness Fails, Try Stoicism**

16.35-16.50 Coffee break

16.50-17.25 Stephen Howard (Kingston University), **Leibniz's science of dynamics and its philosophical consequences**

17.25-18.00 Hannah Laurens (Oxford): **Reconsidering Spinoza's Rationalism: Overcoming the Passions through *Scientia Intuitiva***

19.00 Dinner

Friday, 17 July

9.30 Departure to Bucharest

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