Program for the Seminar
A Hundred Years of Ernst Cassirer’s The Philosophy of Symbolic Forms

arranged by
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in collaboration with
Centre universitaire de Norvège à Paris
FONDATION MAISON DES SCIENCES DE L’HOMME
54, Boulevard Raspail 75006 Paris

October 16th to the 17th 2023

30 minutes to be divided between presentation and discussion – time will be kept stringently.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16TH

10.00 - 10.30: Welcome and Introduction to the Conference
Esther Oluffa Pedersen and Ingmar Meland

Session 1:
Before and After the Linguistic Turn – Ernst Cassirer’s Philosophy of Language Today, I

10.30 - 11.00: Cassirer and the Problem of Language (Prof. Emeritus Arild Utaker, University of Bergen, Norway)

11.00 - 11.30: Language as an Issue in Cassirer’s Relationship with the Wiener Kreis (Carmen Metta, University of Naples Federico II, Italy)

11.30 - 12.00: The Concept of symbolic Reference in Cassirer, Whitehead, Langer – a Corrective and Supplement to current Trends in semantic Holism and pragmatic Inferentialism? (Dirk Westerkamp, Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel, Germany)

12.00 - 13.00: Lunch Break

Session 2:
After the Linguistic Turn – Ernst Cassirer’s Philosophy Today, II

13.00 - 13.30: Not a Centenary: What happened in the 50 Years between 1945 and 1997? Ernst Cassirer and Terrence Deacon in Dialogue (Tobias Endres, TU Braunschweig, Germany)

13.30 - 14.00: Ernst Cassirer and Structural Realism (Jørgen R. Aarnes, NTNU, Norway)

14.00 - 14.30: Cassirer, Metabasis and the Translation of Philosophy to Japan (Ralf Müller, TU Hildesheim, Germany)

14.30 - 14.45: Coffee Break

Session 3:
Perspectives on the historical development of our methods and modes of thought, I

14.45 - 15.15: The Jargon of Unity: On Ernst Cassirer’s Style of philosophical Writing (Alex Seuthe, TU Dortmund, Germany)
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15.15 - 15.45: Neo-Kantian Genealogy: The Critique of Culture in the Marburg School (Elisabeth Widmer, University of Oslo, Norway)

15.45 - 16.15: Meaning Revisited (Mats Rosengren, Uppsala University, Sweden)

20.00: Conference Dinner

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17TH

Section 4: Perspectives on the historical development of our methods and modes of thought, II

10.00 - 10.30: The fourth Volume of Die Philosophie der symbolischen Formen (Frederik Stjernfelt, Aalborg University, Denmark)

10.30 - 11.00: Some Remarks on Cassirer’s Cultural Philosophy of Language. A Reconstruction of the Habermas-Krois-Debate (Rafael Garcia, UNICAMP, Brazil)

11.00 - 11.30: Hermann Cohen’s Aesthetics and Conception of Unity as a Source in the Development of Ernst Cassirer’s Philosophy of Symbolic Forms (Gregory Moynahan, Bard College, USA)

11.30 - 12.00: The Way we Understand – Cassirer’s Operational Use of Kantian Schematism and Reconsidering of the Kroisian Connection on psycholinguistic issues in Cassirer’s first Volume of the Philosophy of Symbolic Forms (Domenico Schneider, TU Braunschweig, Germany)

12.00 - 13.00: Lunch Break

Section 5: Clues to the way ahead in philosophy, I

13.00 - 13.30: Updating the Nature-Culture Dyad: Cassirer’s Philosophy of Language in Light of Contemporary Theories (Luigi Laiano, University of Naples Federico II, Italy)

13.30 - 14.00: Symbolic Forms: Curse and/or Blessing? From anti-feudal enlightenment to fear-mongering power-politics. A skeptical outlook on the (ab)use of symbolization (Norbert Andersch, Italy)

14.00 - 14.30: The Modularity of Symbolic Forms: a Key to Contemporaneity (Fabien Capeillères, Université de Caen Normandie, France)

14.30 - 14.45 Coffee Break

Section 6: Clues to the way ahead in philosophy, II

14.45 - 15.15: The Idea of Expressive Function as the Basis for a General Theory of Justice (Karolina Enquist Källgren, Stockholm University, Sweden)

15.15 - 16.15: Cassirer’s Philosophy of Symbolic Forms and today’s renewal of the Erlangen program (Jean Lassègue, Centre National de la Reserches Scientifique, France).

16.15 - 16.45: Closing words and presentation of publication “Cassirer and Language” with Lia Kurts-Würste in Cahiers de sémiotique des cultures.