

## Workshop

18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> of April 2018.

### Ernst Cassirer's Post-War Afterlife

Centre Universitaire de Norvège à Paris (CUNP),  
Fondation Maison des Sciences de l'Homme 54, Bd Raspail,  
75006 Paris.



Cassirer in his study at Yale (Photo: Eric Schaar, for *Fortune* magazine, June 1944)

Ernst Cassirer (1874–1945) was one of the most celebrated philosophers of his time, in Europe as well as across the Atlantic – but he was soon all but forgotten. This has changed.

### 1. BACKGROUND

Since the mid 1980s, Cassirer's thought has experienced what is often described as a "renaissance", and Cassirer's intellectual

achievement has since been investigated from a wide range of perspectives. As of 2008, his complete works are now available in a critical edition and many of his most important posthumous manuscripts are also available in the *Nachlass*-edition, which will be completed in 2018.

Important results have been achieved but much remains to be done. For example, an exhaustive assessment of Cassirer's often unnoticed influence on philosophical, historical and scientific debates in the inter- and postwar periods is still largely missing, also when it comes to the question of Cassirer's influence outside Europe and North America. The workshop in particular addresses this shortcoming.

### 2. IDEA AND PURPOSE

The idea, which originated in the *Swedish Ernst Cassirer Society*, is to highlight the hidden reception of Cassirer in general. The aim is to heighten the historical awareness of the influence that Cassirer has in fact had, on important thinkers

as well as on various disciplines pertaining to philosophy, the study of the natural sciences, the social sciences and the humanities.

The overarching purpose of the work shop can be stated in historical terms, but its underlying aim is more philosophical in nature. In directing attention to Cassirer's works and their varying reception, one might get a better vantage-point onto the cultural and intellectual developments of the 20th century in their entirety, beyond traditional lines of demarcation.

Hence, by bringing together different scholars from various quarters of "the Cassirer Renaissance", the goal is ultimately a more thorough understanding, not only of Cassirer's historical conditions, but also of our own.

### 3. PROGRAM

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> of April:**  
***The Reception of Cassirer in the Arab World, Scandinavia, and Japan***  
**(Salle A/BS1-28 Basement/sous-sol).**

13.00.-13.15.: Johs. Hjellbrekke and Ingmar Meland (Chair):  
*Welcome and introduction*

13.15.-13.45.: Elizabeth Suzanne Kassab: *On the reception of Cassirer's Work in the Arab World* (Doha Institute for Graduate Studies, Qatar).

13.45.-14.00.: *Discussion*

14.00.-14.20.: Esther O. Pedersen: *The Early Danish Reception of Ernst Cassirer's Philosophy* (Roskilde University, Denmark).

14.20.-14.40.: *Discussion*

14.40.-14.50.: *Coffee break*

14.50.-15.20.: Marion Lauschke: *Transitional forms of consciousness. Towards a*

*deeper understanding of symbolic function in Ernst Cassirer and Maurice Merleau-Ponty* (Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin),

15.20.-15.35.: *Discussion*

15.35.-15.45.: *Coffee break*

15.45.-16.15.: Stephen Lofts: *The influence of Cassirer on the Kyoto school of Japanese Philosophy* (King's University College, Ontario, Canada).

16.15.-16.30.: *Discussion*

**20.00: Dinner**

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> of April:  
Who has been Influenced  
by Cassirer and in what  
way? (Salle A/BS1-28  
Basement/ sous-sol)**

10.00.-10.30.: Mats Rosengren: *Cornelius Castoriadis: an unconscious follower of Cassirer?* + Chair (Uppsala University)

10.30.-11.00.: Fabien Capeillères: *Symbol and History: mapping the French reception of Cassirer* (Princeton USA, CEPA Paris 1)

11.00.-11.15.: *Discussion*

11.15.-11.45.: Carmen Metta: *On the Influence of Cassirer's Theory of Myth* (Naples, Italy)

11.45.-12.00.: *Discussion*

12.00.-13.00.: *Lunch at FMSH Cantine*

13.00.-13.15.: Rasmus T. Slaattelid: *Introduction* + Chair (University of Bergen, SVT)

13.15.-13.45.: Gregory Moynahan:

*Philosophical Style and Problemgeschichte in Hans Blumenberg's Reception of Ernst Cassirer* (Bard College, New York).

13.45.-14.15.: Karolina Enquist Källgren: *Ideas and believes or history as a system: Ortega's essay to Ernst Cassirer* (Department of Literature, History of Ideas and Religion, Gothenburg university).

14.15.-14.30.: *Discussion*

14.30.-14.45.: *Coffee break*

14.45.-15.00.: Fabien Capeillères: *Introduction* + Chair

15.00.-15.30.: Tobias Endres: *Cassirer's influence on the philosophy of Wilfrid Sellars* (TU Berlin)

15.30.-15.45.: *Discussion*

15.45.-16.00.: *Coffee break*

16.00.-16.30.: Arno Schubach: *Differences in Symbolism: Goodman's Construction and Cassirer's Darstellung* (ETH Zürich).

16.30.-16.45.: *Discussion*

16.45.-17.00.: *Coffee break*

17.00.-17.30.: Laila Souid: *The Unexplored Cassirer's Heritage: synthetical Logic und dynamic Metaphysics*, (EHESS, LIAS, Paris)

17.30.-17.45.: *Discussion*

**19.30.: Apéritif and dinner**

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> of April: *Fields of Influence and Further Prospects* (Salle A/BS1-28 Basement/sous-sol)**

*10.00.-10.45.:* Jean Lassègue: *Are symbolic forms categories?* + Chair (EHESS, LIAS, Paris)

*10.45.-11.15.:* Katharina Blühm: *Recent Research on the Notion of the Subject in the Horizon of the Cassirer/Heidegger Divide* (Artist and Independent scholar, Berlin)

*11.15.-11.30.:* Discussion

*12.00.-13.00.:* Lunch at le Nemrod, 51, rue du Cherche-Midi, 6e.

*13.00.-13.15.:* Karolina Enquist Källgren: *Introduction* + Chair

*13.15.-13.45.:* Sascha Freyberg: *Hegemony or Neglect? Cassirer's reception in Art History* (Berlin)

*13.45.-14.00.:* Discussion

*14.00.-14.15.:* Coffee break

*14.15.-14.45.:* Norbert Andersch: *Ernst Cassirer's Impact on the Theory of Psychopathology* (Neurologist, Psychiatrist and Independent scholar, Prealo/Italy).

*14.45.-15.00.:* Discussion

*15.00.-15.15.:* Coffee break

*15.15.-15.45.:* Muriel van Vliet: *Michel Foucault, Reader of Cassirer* (CEPA, Paris 1)

*15.45.-16.00.:* Discussion

*16.00.-16.15.:* Coffee break

*16.15.-16.45.:* Jennifer Marra: *Normativity of the Symbolic Forms as Objective Moral Standards in Humor* (Marquette University, Milwaukee, USA)

*16.45.-17.00.:* Discussion

*17.00.-17.15.:* Coffee break

*17.15.- 18.00.:* Ingmar Meland: *Summing up and the road ahead* (with discussion).

(NB! Program subject to change)

#### **4. HOSTS & PARTNERS**

The event is hosted by the *Centre Universitaire de Norvège à Paris* (CUNP), Fondation Maison des Sciences de l'Homme 54, Bd Raspail, 75006 Paris.

The workshop is a collaboration between *The Centre Universitaire de Norvège à Paris* (CUNP) *The Centre for the Study of the Sciences and the Humanities* (SVT), The University of Bergen, Norway, *The Department of Literature, History of Ideas, and Literature* (LIR), The University of Gothenburg, Sweden, *The Department of Literature/ Section for Rhetoric*, The University of Uppsala, Sweden, *The Swedish Ernst Cassirer Society*, and *L'École des hautes études en sciences sociales* (EHESS, LIAS), Paris.