

## *Curriculum Vitae*

### **Dr. Thomas Hilgers**

Assistant Professor  
Queens College, CUNY  
Department of Philosophy

#### EMPLOYMENT

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Queens College, CUNY, Department of Philosophy, Assistant Professor, since Fall 2023  
University of Potsdam, Department of Philosophy, Research Associate, 2019-2023  
Bard College Berlin, Guest Lecturer, 2019-2022  
Kunstakademie Düsseldorf, Priority Program 1688, Research Associate, 2017-2019  
Humboldt University Berlin, Department of Philosophy, Guest Lecturer, Fall 2016  
Columbia University, The Italian Academy for Advanced Studies, Fellow, 2015-2016  
Kunstakademie Düsseldorf, Priority Program 1688, Research Associate, 2014-2015  
Free University Berlin, Collaborative Research Center 626, Research Associate, 2011-2014

#### EDUCATION

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University of Pennsylvania  
Ph.D. in Philosophy, 12/2010  
M.A. in Philosophy, 05/2005

Free University Berlin  
M.A. (Magister) in Film Studies, 08/2008

#### AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

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Aesthetics and Philosophy of Art  
Philosophy of Technology  
Philosophy of Time  
Kant and Post-Kantian Philosophy  
Phenomenology

#### AREAS OF COMPETENCE

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Ethics and Moral Philosophy  
Philosophy of Media and of Film  
History of Analytic Philosophy  
Critical Theory / The Frankfurt School

#### DISSERTATION

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*On Aesthetic Disinterestedness*. ProQuest, UMI Dissertation Publishing, 2010.

Primary Advisor: Professor Paul Guyer

Committee: Professor Elisabeth Camp, Professor Noël Carroll, Professor Gunnar Hindrichs

## GRANTS AND AWARDS

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Feodor-Lynen-Fellowship for Advanced Researchers, Humboldt Foundation, 2023  
Fellowship at the Italian Academy for Advanced Studies, Columbia University, 2015-2016  
Critical Writing Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania, 2010  
SAS Travel Grant, University of Pennsylvania, 2008  
GAPSA Travel Grant, University of Pennsylvania, 2008  
Dean's Summer Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania, 2008  
Benjamin Franklin Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania, 2006-2010  
Study Abroad Fellowship, Free University Berlin, 2004-2005

## PUBLICATIONS

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### Monograph

1. *Aesthetic Disinterestedness: Art, Experience, and the Self*. New York and London: Routledge, 2017. (The first paperback edition was published in 2019.)
  - Review by Samantha Matherne, *Philosophy in Review*, Vol. 40, Issue 2, 2020, 53-55.
  - Review by Lisa Schmalzried, *Zeitschrift für Ästhetik und Allgemeine Kunstwissenschaft*, Vol. 65, Issue 2, 2020, 135-139.
  - Review by Richard Eldridge, *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*, September 2018: <http://ndpr.nd.edu/news/aesthetic-disinterestedness-art-experience-and-the-self/>
  - Review by Carol S. Gould, *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*, Volume 76, Issue 3, 2018, 266-268.
  - Review by Dan Eugen Ratiu, *ESTETIKA: The Central European Journal of Aesthetics*, Volume 2, 2018, 259-275: <http://aesthetics.ff.cuni.cz/archive/?articles=508>
  - Review by Paola Giacomoni, *IRIDE*, Volume 3, 2017, 690-694.

### Edited Volumes & Focuses

1. *Konfiguration der Zeit. (Configurations of Time.)* Jahrbuch Technikphilosophie 2021. Ed. Alexander Friedrich, Petra Gehring, Christoph Hubig, Andreas Kaminski, Alfred Nordmann. Guest-Ed. of the Focus: Thomas Hilgers and Ludger Schwarte, Nomos, 2021.
2. *Perspektive und Fiktion. (Perspective and Fiction.)* Ed. Thomas Hilgers and Gertrud Koch, Fink Verlag, 2017.
3. *Affekt und Urteil. (Affect and Judgment.)* Ed. Thomas Hilgers, Gertrud Koch, Christoph Möllers, and Sabine Müller-Mall, Fink Verlag, 2015.
4. *Konturen des Kunstwerks. (Contours of the Artwork.)* Ed. Frederic Döhl, Daniel Martin Feige, Thomas Hilgers, and Fiona McGovern, Fink Verlag, 2013.

### Published Articles in Journals and Yearbooks (Peer-Reviewed)

1. "Das Glück des Zufalls." ("The Happiness of Chance.") In: *Zeitschrift für Praktische Philosophie (Journal for Practical Philosophy)*, 2023.
2. "Technik und Zeit bei Heidegger." ("Heidegger on Technology and Time.") In: *Jahrbuch Technikphilosophie (Yearbook for Philosophy of Technology)*, Nomos Verlag, 2021.

### Published Articles and Book Chapters

1. “Disinterestedness Revisited.” In: *Disinterested Pleasure and Beauty: Perspectives from Kantian and Contemporary Aesthetics*. Ed. Larissa Berger, De Gruyter, 2023.
2. “Helden, Freaks und dunkle Ritter: Batman in Hollywood.” (“Heroes, Freaks, and Dark Knights: Batman in Hollywood.”) In: *Hollywood: Zwischen Angewandtheit und kritischer Zeitgenossenschaft. (Hollywood: In between Conformity and Critique of the Contemporary.)* Ed. Lisa Gotto and Sebastian Lederle, Transcript Verlag, 2020.
3. “Perspektive und Ästhetische Erfahrung.” (“Perspective and Aesthetic Experience.”) In: *Perspective and Fiction*. Ed. Thomas Hilgers and Gertrud Koch, Fink Verlag, 2017.
4. “Kunst, Wirklichkeit und Affirmation: Gedanken zu Heideggers Kunstwerkaufsatz.” (“Art, Reality, and Affirmation: Some Thoughts on Heidegger’s Essay on the Artwork.”) In: *Affirmation, Transformation und Kritik. (Affirmation, Transformation, and Critique.)* Ed. Johannes Lang, Michael Lüthy, and Lotte Everts, Transcript Verlag, 2015.
5. “Was ist ein Ästhetisches Urteil?” (“What is an Aesthetic Judgment?”) In: *Affect and Judgment*. Ed. Thomas Hilgers, Gertrud Koch, and Christoph Möllers, Fink Verlag, 2015.
6. “Künstlerische Intentionen und Ästhetische Relevanz.” (“Artistic Intentions and Aesthetic Relevance.”) In: *Contours of the Artwork*. Ed. Frederic Döhl, Daniel Martin Feige, Thomas Hilgers, and Fiona McGovern, Fink Verlag, 2013.
7. “Die Idee der Interesselosigkeit als Ästhetische Kategorie.” (“Disinterestedness as an Aesthetic Category.”) In: *Sections-CD of 21. German Congress for Philosophy*, 2008.

### Handbook Entries

1. “Langeweile.” (“Boredom.”) In: *Wörterbuch der ästhetischen Eigenzeiten. (Handbook of Aesthetic Temporalities.)* Ed. GRA-Priority Pogram 1688, Werhahn Verlag, 2020.

### Translations into English

1. Co-Translator with Uygur Abaci and Michael Nance of Immanuel Kant’s “Notes in the *Observations on the Beautiful and the Sublime*.” In: Immanuel Kant, *Observations on the Beautiful and the Sublime and other Writings*. Ed. Patrick Frierson and Paul Guyer, Cambridge University Press, 2010.

### Translations into German

1. Translator of James Conant’s “Subjective Thought.” In: *Perspektive und Fiktion*. Ed. Thomas Hilgers and Gertrud Koch, Fink Verlag, 2017.
2. Translator of Elisabeth Camp’s “Perspectives in Imaginative Engagement with Fiction.” In: *Perspektive und Fiktion*. Ed. Thomas Hilgers and Gertrud Koch. Fink Verlag, 2017.
3. Translator of Espen Hammer’s “Literature, Fiction, and the Real.” In: *Perspektive und Fiktion*. Ed. Thomas Hilgers and Gertrud Koch, Fink Verlag, 2017.

## Reviews

1. “Sophia Vasalou’s *Schopenhauer and the Aesthetic Standpoint*.” In: *Jahrbuch des Deutschen Idealismus*, 2019.
2. “The Notion of Aesthetic Freedom in Contemporary German Philosophy: Christoph Menke’s *The Power of Art* and Martin Seel’s *Active Passivity*.” In: *Continental Philosophy Review*, 2017.

## Miscellaneous

1. “Subjekt, Wissenschaft, Freiheit: Ästhetik als Philosophie/Philosophie als Ästhetik.“ (“Subjectivity, Science, and Freedom: Aesthetics as Philosophy/Philosophy as Aesthetics.“) Online publication of the *German Society for Aesthetics*, 2017.

## PRESENTATIONS

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1. “Digital Temporality.” Summer School of the German Society for Phenomenology, University of Hagen, June 2022.
2. “On the Oppressive Dimension of Time“. Workshop on the Ethics of Time, University of Bochum and University of Potsdam, November 2020.
3. “The Moral Dimension of Disinterestedness.” Normative Orders: Cluster of Excellence at Goethe University Frankfurt am Main, February 2020.
4. “Heidegger on Technology and Time.” Department of Philosophy, University of Potsdam, January 2020.
5. “Technology and Materiality.” Annual Conference of the Society for Media Studies, University of Cologne, September 2019.
6. “Is there a Time of Control?” *Workshop of the SPP 1688*, Kunstakademie Düsseldorf, September 2018.
7. “Technology and Praxis. A Phenomenological Point of View.” Zurich University of the Arts, April 2018.
8. “The Relevance of Aesthetic Disinterestedness.” University of Siegen, March 2018.
9. “Heidegger on Death.” University of Basel, February 2018.
10. “Technology and Intentionality.” *X. Congress of the German Society for Aesthetics*, Offenbach, February 2018.
11. “Heroes and Freaks. Some Thoughts on Batman.” University of Vienna, January 2018.
12. “Bergson on Time.” University of Cologne, December 2017.
13. “2017: A philosophical Odyssey – On Kubrick’s *2001*.” University of Vienna, June 2017.

14. "On the Relation between Philosophy and Aesthetics." *Meeting of the German Society for Aesthetics*, October 2016.
15. "Is Heidegger's Rejection of Aesthetics Justified?" *39<sup>th</sup> International Wittgenstein Symposium*, Kirchberg am Wechsel, August 2016.
16. "Emotion, Embodiment, and Disinterestedness." *Colloquium at the Italian Academy*, Columbia University in the City of New York, November 2015.
17. "Kant, Schopenhauer, and Heidegger on the Nature of Boredom." *Inter-Disciplinary Workshop on the Structure of Dramatic Tension*, Humboldt University Berlin, July 2015.
18. "The Relevance of Aesthetic Judgment." Södertörn University at Stockholm, May 2015.
19. "Heidegger on Art, Téchne, and Technology." *IX. Congress of the German Society for Aesthetics*, Hamburg University, February 2015.
20. "Perspective and Aesthetic Experience." Kunstakademie Düsseldorf, January 2015.  
"Perspective and Aesthetic Experience." Volksbühne Berlin, October 2013.
21. "Stasis and Latency in Leone's *Once Upon a Time in the West* und Wenders' *Summer in the City*", *Workshop of the SPP 1688*, University of the Arts Berlin, September 2014.
22. "Aesthetic Pleasure and Correctness." *Inter-Disciplinary Conference on the Relationship between Affects, Laws, and Norms*, Humboldt University Berlin, June 2014.
23. "On the Universal Validity of Aesthetic Judgments." German Film Museum Berlin, December 2013.
24. "Schiller's Political Aesthetics." *Eastern Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*, April 2013.  
"Schiller's Political Aesthetics." *Inter-disciplinary Conference on the Actuality of German Idealism*, Free University Berlin, June 2012.
25. "Aesthetic Experience and the Adoption of Different Perspectives." *Workshop organized by the Collaborative Research Center 626*, Free University Berlin, November 2012.
26. "Dickie's False Mythology." *Western Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*, April 2012.
27. "Kant, Schiller, and the Search for an Objective Account of Beauty." *Meeting of the Collaborative Research Center 626*, Free University Berlin, April 2012.
28. "Artistic Intentions and Aesthetic Relevance." Temple University, Department of Philosophy, February 2012.  
"Artistic Intentions and Aesthetic Relevance." *Ninth Annual Conference of the Collaborative Research Center 626*, ICI Berlin, November 2011.

29. Comments on Erin Bradfield's "Productive Excess: Aesthetic Ideas, Silence, and Community." *Eastern Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*, April 2010.
30. "Freedom from Interests: A Kantian Notion of the Aesthetic Attitude." *Annual Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*, October 2009.
31. "In Defense of Disinterestedness." *Eastern Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*, April 2009.
32. Comments on Matthew Pacholec's "Kant's Aesthetic Ghosts." *Eastern Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*, April 2009.
33. "The Notion of Disinterestedness as an Aesthetic Category." *XXI. German Congress for Philosophy*, September 2008.
34. Comments on Jerome Languth's "Kant's Nightingale." *Eastern Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*, April 2008.

## TEACHING

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### **Queens College, CUNY, 2023**

Introduction to Aesthetics  
Introduction to Ethics

### **University of Potsdam, 2019-2023**

Kant's Ethics  
Authenticity  
Jürgen Habermas: *Theory of Communicative Action*  
Ethical Problems of Digital Technology  
The Metaphysics and Ethics of Time  
On the Social Dimension of Time  
On the Possibility of a Fulfilling Temporality  
Introduction to Phenomenology  
Martin Heidegger: *Being and Time I*  
Martin Heidegger: *Being and Time II*  
Truth, Thing, and Happening: Heidegger's Later Philosophy  
Proseminar for MA Students (twice)

### **Bard College Berlin, 2019-2022**

Introduction to Aesthetics (three times)  
Introduction to Ethics (three times)

### **University of Applied Sciences Düsseldorf, 2018**

Technology, Media, and Society  
Philosophy of Technology

**University of the Arts Berlin, 2018**

Martin Heidegger: *Being and Time* (with Prof. Dr. Alexander Garcia Düttmann)

**Kunstakademie Düsseldorf, 2015 and 2017**

Art, World, and Truth: An Introduction to Heidegger's Philosophy  
Introduction to the Philosophy of Time

**Humboldt University Berlin, 2016**

Kant and Heidegger

**Free University Berlin, 2011-2014 and 2017**

Philosophy of Technology (with Prof. Dr. Gertrud Koch)  
Theories of Film Spectatorship  
Schopenhauer  
Introduction to Theoretical Philosophy

**University of Pennsylvania, 2008-2010**

Introduction to Philosophy  
Art, Ethics, and Emotions

The Social Contract (TA)  
Aesthetics (TA)  
History of Modern Philosophy (TA)  
Philosophy of Space and Time (TA)

LANGUAGES \_\_\_\_\_

German (Native Language)  
English (Speaking, Reading, and Writing: Excellent)  
French (Speaking, Reading, and Writing: Advanced)  
Latin (Reading: Basic)

SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES \_\_\_\_\_

- Former Member of the Advisory Board of the *German Society for Aesthetics*
- Referee for the *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*
- Referee for the *Jahrbuch Technikphilosophie*
- Organizer of various international conferences and workshops at the Free University Berlin and at the Kunstakademie Düsseldorf

REFERENCES \_\_\_\_\_

1. Dr. Logi Gunnarsson, Professor of Philosophy (Chair of Ethics and Aesthetics), University of Potsdam, gunnarss@uni-potsdam.de

2. Dr. Paul Guyer, Jonathan Nelson Professor Emeritus of Humanities and Philosophy, Brown University, Paul\_Guyer@brown.edu
3. Dr. Elisabeth Camp, Professor of Philosophy, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, elisabeth.camp@rutgers.edu
4. Dr. Ludger Schwarte, Professor of Philosophy, Kunstakademie Düsseldorf, ludger.schwarte@kunstakademie-duesseldorf.de
5. Dr. Gertrud Koch, Professor Emerita of Film Studies, Free University Berlin, gkoch@zedat.fu-berlin.de