

Curriculum Vitae

Dr. Thomas Hilgers

Assistant Professor
Queens College, CUNY
Department of Philosophy

EMPLOYMENT _____

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 _____

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 _____

Aesthetics and Philosophy of Art
Philosophy of Technology
Kant and Post-Kantian Philosophy
Phenomenology (esp. Heidegger)

AREAS OF COMPETENCE _____

History of 19th Century Continental Philosophy
History of 20th Century Continental Philosophy
Ethics and Moral Philosophy
Philosophy of Time

DISSERTATION _____

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

Primary Advisor: Professor Paul Guyer

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

AWARDS AND GRANTS

PSC-CUNY Research Award, 2024 (\$3,499)
Feodor-Lynen-Fellowship for Advanced Researchers, Humboldt Foundation, 2023 (€ 65,664)
Andrew Mellon Faculty Diversity Enhancement Research Grant, 2023 (\$ 11,000)
Scholar-Incentive-Award, The City University of New York, 2023 (\$ 22,575)
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

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.

Co-Edited Volumes & Special Issues

1. *Konfigurationen der Zeit. (Configurations of Time.)* Jahrbuch Technikphilosophie 2021. (Yearbook for Philosophy of Technology 2021.) Ed. Alexander Friedrich, Petra Gehring, et al. Guest-Ed. of the Special Issue: Thomas Hilgers & 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.

Articles

1. "Das Glück des Zufalls." ("The Happiness of Chance.") In: *Zeitschrift für Praktische Philosophie (Journal for Practical Philosophy)*, Volume 10/1, 2023.

2. “Technik und Zeit bei Heidegger.” (“Heidegger on Technology and Time.”) In: *Jahrbuch Technikphilosophie (Yearbook for Philosophy of Technology)*, Nomos Verlag, 2021.¹

Book Chapters

1. “Ganzsein: Überlegungen zu Heideggers Verständnis eigentlicher Zeitlichkeit.” (“Being Whole: Reflections on Heidegger’s Conception of Authentic Temporality.”) In: *Zeit und Ethik. (Time and Ethics.)* Ed. Anne Clausen, Holmer Steinfath, and Eva Weber-Guskar, Vittorio Klostermann, forthcoming in 2026.
2. “Disinterestedness Revisited.” In: *Disinterested Pleasure and Beauty: Perspectives from Kantian and Contemporary Aesthetics*. Ed. Larissa Berger, De Gruyter, 2023.
3. “Helden, Freaks und dunkle Ritter: Batman in Hollywood.” (“Heroes, Freaks, and Dark Knights: Batman in Hollywood.”) In: *Hollywood*. Ed. Lisa Gotto and Sebastian Lederle, Transcript Verlag, 2020.
4. “Perspektive und Ästhetische Erfahrung.” (“Perspective and Aesthetic Experience.”) In: *Perspective and Fiction*. Ed. Thomas Hilgers and Gertrud Koch, Fink Verlag, 2017.
5. “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.
6. “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.
7. “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.

Handbook Entry

1. “Langeweile.” (“Boredom.”) In: *Formen der Zeit: Ein Wörterbuch der ästhetischen Eigenzeiten. (Forms of Time: A Handbook of Aesthetic Proper-Times.)* Ed. Michael Gamper, Helmut Hühn, and Steffen Richter, 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 Even though this article was published as part of an academic yearbook’s special issue co-edited by a myself, it successfully underwent an anonymous review process by two expert reviewers.

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 (Yearbook for German Idealism)*, 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." ("Subject, Science, and Freedom: Aesthetics as Philosophy/Philosophy as Aesthetics.") Online publication of the *German Society for Aesthetics*, 2017.
2. "Die Idee der Interesselosigkeit als Ästhetische Kategorie." ("Disinterestedness as an Aesthetic Category.") In: *Sections-CD of 21. German Congress for Philosophy*, 2008.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Comments on Mang Su's "Temporality, Self-Affection, and the Feeling of Pleasure: An A-Normative Reading of the Reflective Judgment of Taste in Kant's *Critique of Judgment*," *Eastern Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*, April 2025.
2. "Concealment: Heidegger on the Essence of an Entity's Showing Itself." *XII. Congress of the German Society for Aesthetics*, Fribourg, September 2024.
3. "Time and Technology." *Disentangling Heidegger on Technology – Retreat organized by Jonathan Krude and Mark Wrathall (University of Oxford)*, Tyrol, June 2024.
4. "Digital Temporality." Summer School of the German Society for Phenomenology, University of Hagen, June 2022.
5. "On the Oppressive Dimension of Time." Workshop on the Ethics of Time, University of Bochum and University of Potsdam, November 2020.
6. "The Moral Dimension of Disinterestedness." Normative Orders: Cluster of Excellence at Goethe University Frankfurt am Main, February 2020.
7. "Heidegger on Technology and Time." Department of Philosophy, University of Potsdam, January 2020.

8. "Technology and Materiality." Annual Conference of the Society for Media Studies, University of Cologne, September 2019.
9. "Is there a Time of Control?" *Workshop of the SPP 1688*, Kunstakademie Düsseldorf, September 2018.
10. "Technology and Praxis. A Phenomenological Point of View." Zurich University of the Arts, April 2018.
11. "The Relevance of Aesthetic Disinterestedness." University of Siegen, March 2018.
12. "Heidegger on Death." University of Basel, February 2018.
13. "Technology and Intentionality." *X. Congress of the German Society for Aesthetics*, Offenbach, February 2018.
14. "Heroes and Freaks. Some Thoughts on Batman." University of Vienna, January 2018.
15. "Bergson on Time." University of Cologne, December 2017.
16. "2017: A philosophical Odyssey – On Kubrick's *2001*." University of Vienna, June 2017.
17. "On the Relation between Philosophy and Aesthetics." *Meeting of the German Society for Aesthetics*, October 2016.
18. "Is Heidegger's Rejection of Aesthetics Justified?" *39th International Wittgenstein Symposium*, Kirchberg am Wechsel, August 2016.
19. "Emotion, Embodiment, and Disinterestedness." *Colloquium at the Italian Academy*, Columbia University in the City of New York, November 2015.
20. "Kant, Schopenhauer, and Heidegger on the Nature of Boredom." *Inter-Disciplinary Workshop on the Structure of Dramatic Tension*, Humboldt University Berlin, July 2015.
21. "The Relevance of Aesthetic Judgment." Södertörn University at Stockholm, May 2015.
22. "Heidegger on Art, *Téchne*, and Technology." *IX. Congress of the German Society for Aesthetics*, Hamburg University, February 2015.
23. "Perspective and Aesthetic Experience." Kunstakademie Düsseldorf, January 2015.
"Perspective and Aesthetic Experience." Volksbühne Berlin, October 2013.
24. "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.
25. "Aesthetic Pleasure and Correctness." *Inter-Disciplinary Conference on the Relationship between Affects, Laws, and Norms*, Humboldt University Berlin, June 2014.
26. "On the Universal Validity of Aesthetic Judgments." German Film Museum Berlin, December 2013.

27. "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.
28. "Aesthetic Experience and the Adoption of Different Perspectives." *Workshop organized by the Collaborative Research Center 626*, Free University Berlin, November 2012.
29. "Dickie's False Mythology." *Western Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*, April 2012.
30. "Kant, Schiller, and the Search for an Objective Account of Beauty." *Meeting of the Collaborative Research Center 626*, Free University Berlin, April 2012.
31. "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.
32. Comments on Erin Bradfield's "Productive Excess: Aesthetic Ideas, Silence, and Community." *Eastern Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*, April 2010.
33. "Freedom from Interests: A Kantian Notion of the Aesthetic Attitude." *Annual Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*, October 2009.
34. "In Defense of Disinterestedness." *Eastern Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*, April 2009.
35. Comments on Matthew Pacholec's "Kant's Aesthetic Ghosts." *Eastern Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*, April 2009.
36. "The Notion of Disinterestedness as an Aesthetic Category." *XXI. German Congress for Philosophy*, September 2008.
37. Comments on Jerome Languth's "Kant's Nightingale." *Eastern Meeting of the American Society for Aesthetics*, April 2008.

TEACHING _____

Queens College, CUNY, since 2023

Introduction to Aesthetics (three times)

Introduction to Ethics (three times)

History of Modern II: From Kant to Nietzsche

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)

University of the Fine Arts 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)

SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES _____

- Former Member of the *German Society for Aesthetics* ' Advisory Board
- Participant of the *American Society for Aesthetics* ' Mentoring Program
- Referee for the *Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism*
- Referee for the *Jahrbuch Technikphilosophie (Yearbook for the Philosophy of Technology)*