

ABSTRACTS

FRANCESC VERA: *Semblança intel·lectual de Josep Lluís Blasco*

Abstract: The present article introduces the philosopher J. Ll. Blasco as an analytic and enlightened author. There are two differentiated undercurrents in all his philosophical thinking:

a) First, the conviction that it is necessary to establish a rigorous and clear method to analyse philosophical problems. Trying to define this method, he abandoned the idea that formal logic was always the most appropriated way of analysing the ordinary language. The research into this method made him adopt a more analytical point of view.

b) Secondly, he focused his philosophical research on epistemology. Influenced by E. Kant's holistic thinking, J. Ll. Blasco studied the boundaries of combining the Pure Reason and the Practical Reason. In this sense we can consider him as an enlightened philosopher.

Keywords: Classical analysis, Wittgenstein, Russell, Logical Positivism.

CHRISTOPHER HOOKWAY: *Quine and Scepticism*

Abstract: The paper explores Quine's reasons for thinking that it is not essential to the task of epistemology that it respond to sceptical challenges. Some sceptical arguments rely on empirical assumptions about the nature of experience, suggesting that we cannot explain how experience provides enough information for us to gain knowledge on its basis. In that case, we can reject the challenges by showing that these assumptions about experience are false: we can explain how knowledge is possible. Other sceptical challenges (for example pyrrhonian ones) rest on the ways in which ordinary reflection leads to a regress or in a circle. But this too rests upon substantive claims about the role of reflection in cognition, claims which empirical inquiry may show to be false. Both lines of thought urge that the burden of proof lies with the sceptic to show that sceptical challenges need to be taken seriously.

Keywords: Quine, scepticism, naturalism, experience, reflection.

ERNEST SOSA: *Rastreo, competencia y conocimiento*

Abstract: Given a fact $\langle f \rangle$, what is needed in order to know it? What is needed beyond believing it, $B(f)$, or even believing it with justification, $B(f) \& J(f)$? Epistemologists have turned externalist on this question in a variety of ways, all of which deem insufficient the justification traditionally derived from experience and reason. Externalists have supplemented or replaced such justification with 'external' requirements beyond the contents of the subject's mind and beyond merely logical or evidential relations among propositions. This paper will sketch and examine some varieties of that approach and will defend one in particular.

Keywords: epistemic tracking, epistemology, virtue epistemology, epistemic justification.

JACOBO MUÑOZ: *Joan Fuster, entre el compromiso y el distanciamiento*

Abstract: From a general reflection on the modern intellectual pattern this work presents Joan Fuster as a critical humanist, vigilant and politically committed. But even as somebody critical with himself. As somebody, at last, like Erasmus or Voltaire, true to the imperatives of his country and his times, but that never thought of himself as the spokesman of the truth or the “orthodox” guide of loyal politicians.

Keywords: intellectual, commitment, enlightenment, criticism, Fuster.

CELIA AMORÓS: *Por una Ilustración multicultural*

Abstract: We maintain the thesis that Enlightenment is not a Western monopoly. The critical-thoughtful movements take place in every culture sometime, and we could call this kind of movements “Enlightenment seams.” Communication and intercultural addressing should be done precisely between these different contexts of cultural self-criticism.

Keywords: Enlightenment, Islam, multiculturalism, Averroist thought, intercultural addressing.

XAVIER SIERRA LABRADO: *Història social de la filosofia catalana: les traduccions (1900-1960)*

Abstract: This paper is intended as a contribution to the social history of philosophy. It studies the cultural, political, and social factors that have determined the philosophical production in Catalonia in the field of translations, from the beginning of the 20th century to the end of the fifties. It collects some facts about the literary movements, publishing houses, journals and the main translators involved in this process, and about the obstacles: the Civil War, first, and the cultural repression under Franco’s rule, later. At the end of the paper, a list with the philosophical books translated into Catalan language between 1900 and 1960 is presented.

Keywords: Social history of philosophy, Catalan philosophy, Translation, Joan Crexells, Carles Cardó.

ERNEST GARCIA: *Tres notes sobre identitat i mundialització*

Abstract: Two counterproductive trends of the current globalization process are analyzed. Increased speed and connectedness reduce the capacity of societies to adapt themselves to changing environments. Breaking apart identity and place fosters social conflict. Two antitheses are then formulated. According to the first of them, a social system depending on growing energy inputs tends to extreme instability forms and, if it only contains one evolutive line, then the instability will be fatal. The second one can be stated as follows: viability of the social life relies upon the existence of cultural diversity linked to the corresponding territorial bases. The effects of disorder and disorganization coming from the above mentioned trends are not fully visible yet because a world society does not exist.

Keywords: globalization, collective identities, sustainability.

JOSEP MARIA TERRICABRAS: *Per què ens entenem? Una tesi de Wittgenstein*

Abstract: This paper argues for a new interpretation of *Philosophical Investigations*, # 128: Wittgenstein denies the existence of undebatable thesis, accepted by everyone, only in traditional philosophy – whose results are simple philosophical “opinions” –, not in philosophy viewed as a ‘grammatical investigation’. In connection with # 241, the paper points out an example of such a thesis produced by Wittgenstein himself: the ultimate foundation of human understanding does not consist in any piece of casual agreement but in an agreement in form of life.

Keywords: Wittgenstein, philosophical thesis, grammatical investigation, form of life.

ANTONI DEFEZ I MARTÍN: *De la impotència dels arguments transcendents a la impuresa de la filosofia*

Abstract: This paper analyses the problem of the nature of transcendental arguments and their philosophical importance. The conclusions are three: (i) that a mere formal explanation of this type of arguments is not enough; (ii) that transcendental arguments, if they are not accompanied by a version of metaphysical realism, become only conceptual arguments; and (iii) that philosophy ought to go without these kind of arguments.

Keywords: transcendental arguments, conceptual arguments, intentionality, scepticism, philosophy.

RAMON LAPIEDRA: *Extraviaments en ciència: relativisme i idealisme*

Abstract: One particular reason is advanced in order to explain the success and the dangers of some recent frauds in the philosophy of science. Also, the so called “strong program” in sociology of science is considered and rejected. Then, the inoperative character of the epistemological positivism in science is stressed, in spite of the prestige attached sometimes to this doctrine. Finally, some questions on the foundations of quantum mechanics are raised, which illustrate this inoperative character, and show this positivism as the source of some standing but trivial mistakes in the interpretation of quantum mechanics.

Keywords: sociology of science, “strong program,” postmodern frauds, positivism, quantum mechanics.