



# Philosophy of Art and Aesthetic Normativity

## The Annual Conference of the Society for German Idealism and Romanticism

### University of Cambridge, St. John's College, 10-11th May 2024

The 2024 Annual Conference of the Society for German Idealism and Romanticism will take place at St. John's College, University of Cambridge, May 10-11. The topic of this conference is Philosophy of Art and Aesthetic Normativity. The conference brings together established and junior scholars from around the world to engage central ideas of historic and thematic significance. Talks will focus on Herder on art and the normativity of taste, Kant's aesthetic normativity, and post-Kantian accounts by Schlegel, Hölderlin, Hegel, Cassirer, and Ricoeur. Thematic interests range from the a priori forms of the mind, to naturalist conceptions of taste, from the role of art in experience of nature to aesthetic norms in social life.

#### Speakers:

Rachel Zuckert (Northwestern University)  
Samantha Matherne (Harvard University)  
Paul Guyer (Brown University)  
Ulrich Schlösser (University of Tübingen)  
Alix Cohen (University of Notre Dame)  
Michael Forster (University of Bonn)  
Christian Martin (University of Stuttgart)  
Meryl Lumba (Temple University)  
Luigi Filieri (University of Mainz)  
Zedong Hao (University of Bologna)  
Sara Rocca (University of Pisa)  
Tyler Re (University of Pennsylvania)

#### Conference Organizers:

Angela Breitenbach (University of Cambridge)  
Gerad Gentry (University of Mainz and University of Cambridge)

#### Referees:

Elisa Magri (Boston College)  
Keren Gorodeiskey (Auburn University)  
Hannah Eldridge (University of Wisconsin)  
Rachel Zuckert (Northwestern University)  
Daniel Carranza (Harvard University)  
Anne Pollok (University of Mainz)  
Sebastian Stein (University of Heidelberg)



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Thursday, May 9: Arrivals /Lodgings

## Friday, May 10

**8:30 am** - Arrival and Coffee

**9:00 am** - Welcoming Words

**Session 1**, Chair: Gerad Gentry (University of Mainz & Cambridge)

**9:15 - 10:15**

Alix Cohen (University of Notre Dame)

“The Free play - Redux?”

**10:30 to 11:30**

Ulrich Schlösser (University of Tübingen)

“Judgment, Feeling and Free Play in Kant's Philosophy of Mind”

**11:45 to 12:45**

Angela Breitenbach (University of Cambridge)

“Kant on Free Play and Understanding”

**12:45** - Lunch

**Session 2**, Chair: Lia Nordmann (University of Cambridge)

**14:00 to 14:45**

Sara Rocca (University of Pisa)

Normativity and Free Play in Ricoeur's Semantic Theory of Imagination

**15:00 to 15:45**

Tyler Re (University of Pennsylvania)

The Art of Work in Kant's *Critique of Judgment*”

**16:00 to 17:00**

Michael Forster (University of Bonn)

“Herder and Schlegel on Meaning in Art.”

**Session 3**, Chair: Gerad Gentry (University of Mainz/Cambridge)

**17:15 to 18:45**

Rachel Zuckert (Northwestern University)

“Herder's Naturalist View of Taste: Not Normative Demand, but Exhortation to Self-Improvement”

**19:15** - Dinner

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# Saturday, May 11

**Session 4**, Chair: Susanne Herm (University of Oxford)

**9:15 - 10:15**

Paul Guyer (Brown University)

“Aesthetic Pluralism and Aesthetic Normativity”

**10:30 to 11:30**

Gerard Gentry (University of Mainz & University of Cambridge)

“Kant and the Problem of the Idealism of Art”

**11:45 to 12:45**

Christian Martin (University of Stuttgart)

“Hölderlin on the ‘cipher of nature’”

**12:45** - Lunch

**Session 5**, Chair: Colette Olive (University of Cambridge)

**14:00 to 14:45**

Zedong Hao (University of Bologna)

"Aesthetic Normativity, Social Distinction, and the Doublet of Sensus Communis"

**15:00 to 15:45**

Meryl Lumba (Temple University)

“Hegel on Objective Humor and Shakespeare: Moving Beyond the 'End of Art.'”

**16:00 to 16:45**

Luigi Filieri (University of Mainz)

“Life Interpreted as Aesthetic Event: Cassirer on Art’s Laws of Symbolic Formation”

**Session 6**, Chair: Angela Breitenbach (University of Cambridge)

**17:15 to 18:45**

Samantha Matherne (Harvard University)

“Toward a Social Theory of Aesthetic Autonomy: Kantian and Post-Kantian Precedents”

**18:45** - End

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