

Invitation

The Future of Philosophical Anthropology

Workshop of the *Helmuth-Plessner-Society*

in association with the *Ethics Institute* of Utrecht University (the Netherlands)

29 November – 1 December 2018, Utrecht (the Netherlands)

Philosophical anthropology is not only a historical phenomenon from the early 20th Century but we can see that there is a growing interest in discussions around the understanding and self-understanding of the human being. That interest is resulting from philosophical discussions (e.g. in ethics and metaphysics) but likewise from societal developments (e.g. around life sciences, ecology and international politics). The aim of this workshop is to discuss the prospects of philosophical anthropology in a variety of perspectives. All presentations will primarily (but not exclusively) engage in a dialogue with the writings of Helmuth Plessner. It is certainly timely to discuss Plessner in an international setting. The upcoming English translation of his main work “The Levels of Organic Life and the Human: Introduction to Philosophical Anthropology” and the recent translations of other Plessner-books offers excellent opportunities for such a dialogue.

The Utrecht-workshop will address a variety of issues that are relevant for the future of philosophical anthropology. Among them are questions around embodied cognition, extended agency, the epistemological relevance of emotions, philosophical anthropology and ethics, philosophical anthropology and its relevance for empirical research, but likewise the relevance of philosophical anthropology of Plessner for the discussion around the European Union, Humanism and the understanding of geographical spaces.

Speakers include Joel Anderson (Utrecht), Maarten Coolen (Amsterdam), Jos de Mul (Rotterdam), Carola Dietze (Jena), Marcus Düwell (Utrecht), Huib Ernste (Nijmegen), Anna Henkel (Lüneburg), Henrike Lerch (Wuppertal), Gesa Lindemann (Oldenburg), Volker Schürmann (Köln), Jan Vorstenbosch (Utrecht), Paul Ziche (Utrecht).

The workshop will be held in the Utrechts Centrum voor de Kunsten, Domplein 4, 3512 JC Utrecht (website: <https://www.uck.nl>).

Registration is free and includes tea, coffee, and lunch. **Please register before November 15 2018** by sending an e-mail to Annet Wessel, a.e.b.wessel@uu.nl For suggestions on hotel accommodation, please contact Annet Wessel.

For younger scholars who are interested in participation but have problems to afford the hotel and travel costs, the Helmuth-Plessner-Society can give some support. Please contact Marcus Düwell, m.duwell@uu.nl