

**Oddělení pro studium a edici díla Jana Amose Komenského**  
Filosofického ústavu AV ČR, v. v. i., v Praze

si Vás dovoluje pozvat na přednášku

**The construct of two central myths  
in Western Historiography of Philosophy**

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**The essential break with the past  
and the philosopher genius: Daniel Georg Morhof,  
August Heumann, Jacob Brucker and Wilhelm Hegel**

kterou prosloví

**Constance Blackwell**

(Foundation for Intellectual History)

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v zasedací místnosti FLÚ AV ČR, Jilská 1, Praha 1.

The historiography of the early modern and modern age has been dominated by the question of continuity or change, Thomas Kuhn with his paradigm shift made it a popular topic 30 years ago. But how did the fascination with the concept of a break with the past arise? I will suggest that the concept of a break with the past originated not with the so-called scientific revolution. It was incorporated into the *Historia critica philosophicae* (1742–44) by Jacob Brucker. He in turn was influenced by a view of history that described the Reformation as a break with the past, and Luther as a man with *ingenio* who had the character, unlike Melanchlon, to break 'chains' of Aristotelian scholasticism. How Luther was turned into an intellectual model and how that model of the great man who had the *ingenio* to break with the past was transformed into a model of the philosopher by Jacob Brucker? *Ingenio* as a term itself was redefined from a description of the type of student who could learn quickly by Juan Huerte's *Examen de ingenios para las ciencias* in the 16th century, discussed in detail by Georg Morhof in his *Polyhistor litterarius philosophicus* (1691, 1708), and employed by Jacob Brucker who set out clear definitions of the correct type of *ingenio* that a philosopher should have. Curiously Brucker's description of the troubled psychology of the Renaissance astrologer and scientist, Gerolamo Cardano (1501–76), ends up in a quotation in Hegel's *Lectures on the History of Philosophy*, where Cardano is identified as one of those - who, like Luther, had the emotional courage to be original and break with scholastic orthodoxy.