

2nd Colloquium on the Modalities of the Good

4th – 6th August 2010, Prague

The second Colloquium on the Modalities of the Good continues the effort began last year: to create space for conversation and discussion between thinkers of broadly speaking Platonic tradition in ethics, and to open it to the general philosophical public. The Platonic orientation is marked by a general interest in what could be called ‘absolute’ value, centrally issues of goodness and evil; and in the role of thought and ‘emotions’ such as love, joy or remorse in their recognition. Non-accidentally connected with these concerns, and thus of equal importance to the tradition, is the question of how to approach them: of the relation between the *what* and the *how* in philosophical thinking. Reflection about the mutual give-and-take between the substance and the method goes as far back as Socrates’ and Plato’s varied and at time troubled emphasis on the importance and complexity of philosophical dialogue, and characterises not only thinkers who acknowledge their kinship to Plato, such as Kierkegaard or Simone Weil, but also those who would not, such as Wittgenstein. Contemporary ‘Platonic’ tradition, associated in English-speaking philosophy with the names of Roy Holland, Iris Murdoch, Peter Winch, Rai Gaita or Cora Diamond, is marked by this dual concern, and the Colloquium thematises to an equal extent the problem(s) of ethics, of thinking about ethics and of ethical thinking. For those same reasons, the Colloquium is emphatically a col-loquium: not a forum for presenting ‘finished’ results, but conversation about issues of shared interest, offered for discussion by the contributions of the speakers.

Speakers and respondents:

- Michael Campbell: *Justice and the „Indefinable Influence” of the Human* (King’s College London)
- Christopher Cordner: *Goodness & Love in Philosophical Thought* (University of Melbourne)
- Lars Hertzberg: *Gaita on Recognizing the Human* (Åbo Akademi University)
- David Levy: *Dignity and Being Good* (University of Edinburgh)
- Marina Barabas: *Goodness and the Ethical* (Academy of Sciences of the CR)
- David Cockburn: *Trust in Conversation* (University of Wales, Lampeter)
- Christopher Cowley (University College Dublin)
- Jakub Jirsa: *The Tragedy of Plurality* (Charles University in Prague)
- Kamila Pacovská: *Remorse and the Voluntary* (Charles University in Prague)

Organisers: Marina Barabas, Kamila Pacovská. Colloquium language: English.

Web: http://racionalita.flu.cas.cz/redaction.php?action=showRedaction&id_categoryNode=785

Attendance is free of charge, limited number of accommodation bursaries is available for graduate students.

For registration please e-mail Kamila Pacovská (kamila.pacovska@gmail.com) the soonest possible due to limited capacities. Final date of registration is 15th July.