

Polish Association of Phenomenology and Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences announce the 13<sup>th</sup> Conference of Polish Association of Phenomenology to be held on **13-14 December in Warsaw**, Staszic's Palace (Pałac Staszica). The topic of the conference will be:

## **ACTIVITY AND PASSIVITY AS THE CATEGORIES OF PHENOMENOLOGY**

Passivity and activity are important, if not fundamental, phenomenological categories. The problem of transcendental activity of consciousness is constantly recurring in Husserl's thought. However, Husserl also many times undertook the analysis of the passive syntheses, such as: time syntheses, syntheses of perception, phenomenon of memory. He also strongly underlined the role of the affect and, finally he investigated the phenomenon of intersubjectivity and the *Lebenswelt*. The importance, radicalism and the enormous character of Husserl's analysis convince that the status of activity and passivity of phenomenological subjectivity transcends deeply rooted in the philosophical tradition merely abstract and speculative opposition of these two categories. The task of phenomenological description is to present both: their interplay and their inseparable connection that comes out of the experience itself. Ambiguous character of this issue and many questions it raises inspired many followers of Husserl to reflect upon the intertwinement of the passive and the active in subject.

Departing from Husserl's analyses we would like to propose as the objective of the conference the attempt to answer the question on the essence of phenomenological interconnection of activity and passivity. We also would like to ask about the status of each of these categories. Are they complementary, or is it possible to show the primacy of one of them? Are they regional, or universal? The task of the conference will be to investigate various fields of application concerning activity and passivity that are crucial for contemporary phenomenology, such as: the phenomena of corporeity, affectivity, intersubjectivity. We also would like to include in this debate the rich heritage of Husserl's phenomenology, especially such thinkers as Maurice Merleau-Ponty, Emmanuel Levinas or Michel Henry – they also investigated the peculiar borderland between the activity and the passivity. Also we would like to include so called "post-phenomenological" thought.

We invite you to send abstract proposals for academic papers related to these thematic areas.

This conference is the part of international academic project:

- „Affective Subjectivity in the Thought of Michel Henry” Fonds Michel Henry – Université Catholique de Louvain (Louvain-la-Neuve) and Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences
- „The relevance of Subjectivity. Questions of the Phenomenological Approach to the Topics of the Humanities” Institute of Philosophy of Czech Academy of Sciences and Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences
- “The relevance of Subjectivity. Questions of the Phenomenological Approach to the Topics of the Humanities” Institute of Philosophy of Slovak Academy of Sciences and Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences

**The presentations are expected to be delivered in English, German or French and kept within 30 minutes (with the discussion after each presentation).**

**Abstracts, no longer than 300 words, should be submitted to: [ptfen@ifispan.waw.pl](mailto:ptfen@ifispan.waw.pl)**

**Deadline for submissions is 30 September 2013. You will be informed on the acceptance of your submission by the 15 October 2013.**

On behalf of the Board of Polish Association of Phenomenology

President Andrzej Gniazdowski