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Philosophy through the Body

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Philosophy through the Body

In parallel to the on-going discussion about research *through* art and design I wish to make some initial steps towards the same approach to philosophy. The body has always been an object for philosophical debates – perhaps often more implicit than explicit – a philosophy *about* the body. If we ask for philosophy *for the purpose of the* body I believe we find also many examples though it is of course debatable what kind of body it has been intended for or how well it has served the body. However, philosophy *through* the body is more problematic. My presentation will not be an example of philosophizing through the body as I will not presently be able to do this alone. A very first attempt in that direction was made at the winter session with Larissa Lily. This time I will take an initial step towards discussing what it could be and how it is a legitimate approach to some issues within philosophy. My reflection is about opening the field for philosophy through the body also suggesting that to actual do it will require a collaboration with someone with a different training and attention towards the body than mine, classical philosophical training.

My agenda is thus, to say the crossing of contexts which is fundamental to the philosophical tradition should here investigate a field not excessive crowded by philosophers. I believe it also draws attention to at least two political implications: One is institutional; it is a challenge to most standard curricula and practices in academic philosophy. Another is to create a better awareness of how we embody practices based on interpretation. Our life-practices are based on how we perceive and interpret through the body, an interpretation only partially understood if we only think of it. Philosophy through the body will require not only a mental act but also a physical.

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CV

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