



COMPARATIVE AND CONTINENTAL PHILOSOPHY CIRCLE

Eighteenth Annual Meeting
June 18–21, 2025
Turin, Italy



All sessions will take place on the University of Turin campus in the Palazzetto Aldo Moro

This annual meeting of the Comparative and Continental Philosophy Circle is made possible by the generous support of the Department of Humanities and the Department of Philosophy and Education Sciences at the University of Turin, Italy



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2025

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON 12:00–13:00 pm

Registration (Meet and Greet; Name Tag Pick-Up)
Auditorium, Palazzetto Aldo Moro

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON 13:15–13:45 pm

Greetings and Announcements
Auditorium, Palazzetto Aldo Moro
Brian Schroeder, Rochester Institute of Technology, USA
Matteo Cestari, University of Turin, Italy

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON 14:00–15:30 pm

Session 1: *Cross-Cultural and Intercultural Reflections*
Room S7, Palazzetto Aldo Moro
Moderator: Bret W. Davis, Loyola University Maryland, USA
Agamben's Buddhism: Elements of Cross-Cultural Thought
Steven DeCaroli, Goucher College, USA
Logics of Boundaries: A Contribution from the Japanese and Intercultural Philosophy
Toward the Question of Exclusion and Identity
Francesca Greco, University of Hildesheim, Germany

Session 2: *Reading Simone Weil*
Room S8, Palazzetto Aldo Moro
Moderator: Silvia Benso, Rochester Institute of Technology, USA
On Force and Resistance: A Political Reading of Simone Weil and Rachel Bessaloff's *Iliad*
Cristina Basili, University of Bologna, Italy
Simone Weil: On Paying Attention
Virginia Costello, University of Illinois Chicago, USA

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON 15:45–17:15 pm

Session 1: *Greek and Phenomenological Views of Nature and Death*
Room S7, Palazzetto Aldo Moro
Moderator: Jason M. Wirth, Seattle University, USA
***Phūsīs* and *Ziran* Revisited: A Phenomenological Approach**
Steven Burik, Singapore Management University, Singapore
Taking Care of One's Own Death: Exercise of Death and Care between Plato & Heidegger
Elena Bartolini, University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy

Session 2: *The Non-Self and the Subject in Byung-Chul Han*
Room S8, Palazzetto Aldo Moro
Moderator: Jin Y. Park, American University, USA
Critique of Contemplation
Nathan Ross, Adelphi University, USA
A Critique of Asian American Identity through the Buddhist Non-Self
Sokthan Yeng, Adelphi University, USA

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON 17:30–18:45 pm
Auditorium, Palazzetto Aldo Moro

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Introduced and moderated by Brian Schroeder, Rochester Institute of Technology

**Between Social Acceleration and Social Identities:
Towards a Buddhist-Inspired Reading of Modernity**
Matteo Cestari, University of Turin, Italy

WEDNESDAY EVENING 19:00 pm
Reception at Greenwood Restaurant

THURSDAY, JUNE 19, 2025

THURSDAY MORNING 9:00–10:30 am

Session 1: *The Net of the World: Binding or Open Interconnectedness?*

Room S7, Palazzetto Aldo Moro

Moderator: Matteo Cestari, University of Turin, Italy

On “Psychic Entanglement”: The Net of the Mind between Neoplatonism and Indian Buddhism

Emma Lavinia Bon, University of Padua and Istituto Italiano per gli Studi Filosofici in Naples, Italy

The Net of the World: Binding or Open Interconnectedness? Indra’s Net—Between Illusion and Awakening

Carlotta Moiso, University of Turin, Italy

Session 2: *Time and Resistance: Buddhist Views*

Room S8, Palazzetto Aldo Moro

Moderator: Dominique Walmsley, Independent Scholar, USA

For the Time-Being

Matthew Swanson, Misericordia University, USA

Buddhist Fight Club: Comparing David Fincher’s *Fight Club* with Buddhism as a Resistance Movement

Tom Hannes, Eindhoven University of Technology, Netherlands

THURSDAY MORNING 10:45 am–12:15 pm

Session 1: *Nishida and Zen*

Room S7, Palazzetto Aldo Moro

Moderator: Matteo Cestari, University of Turin, Italy

On the Change in Meaning of the Concept of Eternity in Nishida’s Philosophy

Enrico Fongaro, Nanzan Institute for Religion and Culture, Japan

Zen Buddhism on the Limits of Knowledge and the Practice of Wisdom

Bret W. Davis, Loyola University Maryland, USA

Session 2: *Hegel, Nietzsche, Vattimo*

Room S8, Palazzetto Aldo Moro

Moderator: Silvia Benso, Rochester Institute of Technology, USA

“The Wounds of the Spirit Heal and Leave no Scars Behind”: Hegel on Self-Conscious Life

Timo Ennen, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, China

Vattimo’s *Il Pensiero Debole* and Nietzsche’s *Canto della Terra*

Timothy Freeman, University of Hawai‘i at Hilo, USA

THURSDAY AFTERNOON 12:15–14:15 pm

Lunch at Greenwood Restaurant

THURSDAY AFTERNOON 14:15–15:45 pm

Session 1: *Thinking and Seeing with Indifference*

Room S7, Palazzetto Aldo Moro

Moderator: Brian Schroeder, Rochester Institute of Technology, USA

An Ethos of Indifference

Daniela Vallega-Neu, University of Oregon, USA

Bewilderment in Concrete Seeing

Alejandro A. Vallega, University of Oregon, USA

Session 2: *Political Thought: Chinese and Japanese Perspectives*

Room S8, Palazzetto Aldo Moro

Moderator: Matthew Swanson, Misericordia University, USA

Cosmology and the Question of Planetary Governance in Liu Cixin’s Three-Body Problem

Mateusz Janik, Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland

Sovereignty in Nishida’s Political Philosophy

John W. M. Krummel, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, USA

THURSDAY AFTERNOON 16:00–17:30 pm

Session 1: *Ritual and Weak Thought: Thinking Community*

Room S7, Palazzetto Aldo Moro

Moderator: Jason M. Wirth, Seattle University, USA

Ritual and Community: The Symbolic Force of Forms (The Re-enchantment of the World)

Dominique Walmsley, Independent Scholar, USA

Weak Thought as Political Theology: A Case Study

Emanuele Antonelli, University of Turin, Italy

Session 2: *AI and Responsibility*

Room S8, Palazzetto Aldo Moro

Moderator: Guoping Zhao, Oklahoma State University, USA

Responsibility and Selfhood in Large Language Model Artificial Intelligence

Chris Lauer, University of Hawai‘i at Hilo, USA

The Gendered Harms of AI Deepfake Pornography

Natalie Nenadic, University of Kentucky, USA

THURSDAY EVENING

Dinner on your own

FRIDAY, JUNE 20, 2025

FRIDAY MORNING 9:00–10:30 am

Session 1: *Nietzsche's Ends*

Room S7, Palazzetto Aldo Moro

Moderator: Timothy Freeman, University of Hawai'i at Hilo, USA

Nietzsche and Other Christians: Dionysus *and* the Crucified

David Story, Boston College, USA

Nietzsche's Last Week in Turin

Brian Pines, University of San Francisco, USA

Session 2: *Ways of Living—and Dying*

Room S8, Palazzetto Aldo Moro

Moderator: Jason M. Wirth, Seattle University, USA

Thresholds of Thinking and Living

Walter Brogan, Villanova University, USA

Egon Schiele and Masturbation

David Pollard, Independent Scholar, United Kingdom

FRIDAY MORNING 10:45 am–12:15 pm

Session 1: *Comparing Ancient Concepts of Nature*

Room S7, Palazzetto Aldo Moro

Moderator: David Jones, Kennesaw State University and University of Hawai'i at Hilo, USA

The Concept of Nature in Early Indian Philosophy: A Comparative Study of Buddhist *Dharma* and *Sāṃkhya Prakriti*

Geoff Ashton, University of San Francisco, USA

Tibetan Dzogchen Ethics for Climate Mutation: Naturalness, Artifice, and Geoengineering

Adam S. Lobel, Chatham University, USA

Session 2: *Hermeneutics and Deconstruction: On Understanding and Translation*

Room S8, Palazzetto Aldo Moro

Moderator: Walter Brogan, Villanova University, USA

The Beautiful Animal: The Question of Humanism in the Life of Understanding

James Risser, Seattle University, USA

Crossing Borders: Deconstruction, Translation, and Interference

Marcello Ghilardi, University of Padua, Italy

FRIDAY AFTERNOON 12:15–14:15 pm

Lunch on your own

FRIDAY AFTERNOON 14:15–15:45 pm

Session 1: *Modes of Language: Writing, Reasoning, Mood*

Room S7, Palazzetto Aldo Moro

Moderator: Louis A. Ruprecht, Georgia State University, USA

Inventions of Being: Styles of Reasoning, Forms of Writing, Pragmatic Revisions

Timothy H. Engström, Rochester Institute of Technology, USA

“As a leaf out of a tree”: Language, Landscape, and Mood in the Work of Barry Lopez and Robert MacFarlane
Berndt Clavier, Malmö University, Sweden

Session 2: *East Asian Perspectives on Phenomenology*

Room S8, Palazzetto Aldo Moro

Moderator: John W. M. Krummel, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, USA

Nishida, Husserl, and Japanese Phenomenologists’ Rediscovery of Nishida

Michiko Yusa, Western Washington University, USA

A Comparative Study of Affectivity: Rereading *Xing* in the Light of Husserlian Phenomenology

Wenshu Zheng, Boston College, USA

FRIDAY AFTERNOON 16:00–17:30 pm

Session 1: *Politics, Nihilism, Tragedy: On the Question of Democratic Hope*

Room S7, Palazzetto Aldo Moro

Moderator: Timothy H. Engström, Rochester Institute of Technology, USA

Tragic Writing, Dramatic Reasoning, Modes of Hope

Louis A. Ruprecht, Georgia State University, USA

Politics and Nihilism: Vattimo, Hermeneutics, and the Question of Democracy

Brian Schroeder, Rochester Institute of Technology, USA

Session 2: *Thinking the Relation between Identity and Nationalism*

Room S8, Palazzetto Aldo Moro

Moderator: David Jones, Kennesaw State University and University of Hawai‘i at Hilo, USA

Beyond Philosophical Nationalism: Thinking Diversity through Adoption

Héctor G. Castaño, National Sun Yat-sen University, Taiwan

Learning Sovereignties in the Asian Diaspora: Home-making within Native Hawaiian & Filipino Identities

Celia Tagamolila Bardwell-Jones, University of Hawai‘i at Hilo, USA

FRIDAY EVENING 17:45–18:00 pm

Auditorium

Presentation of the Compass Award by David Jones and Jason M. Wirth

FRIDAY EVENING 18:00–19:15 pm

Auditoriumm Palazzetto Aldo Moro

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Introduced and moderated by Bret W. Davis, Loyola University Maryland, USA

Violence and the Possibility of Hope

Jin Y. Park, American University, USA

FRIDAY EVENING 19:30 pm
Reception at Greenwood Restaurant

SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 2023

SATURDAY MORNING 9:00–10:30 pm

Session 1: *Dialogues with Dōgen*

Room S7, Palazzetto Aldo Moro

Moderator: Jason M. Wirth, Seattle University, USA

Awakening to the Anthropocene: Chinul and Dōgen on the Unity of Practice and Realization

Josh Hayes, Alvernia University, USA

Thinking, Writing, and Imagining in Times of Crises: Kafka and Dōgen

Gerard Kuperus, Radboud University, Netherlands

Session 2: *Artificial Intelligence and the Meaning of Being Human*

Room S8, Palazzetto Aldo Moro

Moderator: Natalie Nenadic, University of Kentucky, USA

Being Human in the Age of Artificial Intelligence

Guoping Zhao, Oklahoma State University, USA

AI Agents and the Intoxication of Autonomous Philosophy

Gabriel Reed, Independent Scholar, USA

SATURDAY MORNING 10:45–12:15 pm

Special Closing Session: *Imagining and Remembering*

Room S7, Palazzetto Aldo Moro

Moderator: Brian Schroeder, Rochester Institute of Technology, USA

Imagining Nietzsche in Torino

David Farrell Krell, DePaul University, USA

Remembering John Sallis

James Risser, Seattle University, USA

Daniela Vallega-Neu, University of Oregon, USA

Walter Brogan, Villanova University, USA

Bret W. Davis, Loyola University Maryland, USA

Alejandro Vallega, University of Oregon, USA

Jason M. Wirth, Seattle University, USA

Remembering Alphonso Lingis

David Farrell Krell, DePaul University, USA

Brian Schroeder, Rochester Institute of Technology, USA

Concluding Reflection: A Reading from Alphonso Lingis, “Subjectification”

David Jones, Kennesaw State University and University of Hawai‘i at Hilo, USA

SATURDAY AFTERNOON 12:15–14:00

Lunch at Greenwood Restaurant

SATURDAY AFTERNOON 14:15 pm
Nietzsche Torino Walking Tour led by David Farrell Krell, DePaul University, USA

A special note of gratitude to our local host organizers, Prof. Matteo Cestari (Department of Humanities) and Prof. Gaetano Chiurazzi (Department of Philosophy and Education Sciences), and to Giacomo Pezzano and Pietro Prunotto (Department of Philosophy and Education Sciences), without whose assistance and support this conference would not have taken place in bella Italia. Grazie molte!