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## Call for Papers

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### ***The Problems of the Foundation of Modern Aesthetic***

The foundation of aesthetics as a separate discipline of philosophy in the eighteenth century, although at first glance unproblematic, actually marks a series of transformations in the ways of thinking and articulation of modern philosophy. These transformations were direct consequences of the character of modern thought, but they also determined further development of philosophy, especially in the framework of German Idealism. This call for papers should illuminate the framework of the foundation of aesthetics, its meaning and influence.

Although the problems and issues that are interesting to aesthetics marked philosophical thought from its very beginning in ancient Greece, the very discipline of aesthetics as a separate domain of philosophical research appears much later, in the eighteenth century with A. G. Baumgarten. Its founding is often interpreted as a mere consequence of the tendency to systematize philosophical thought and knowledge as such. However, it also marks the tendency to investigate the domain of the aesthetic, which had earlier been overlooked and neglected, in an entirely new way. This in turn results in a change of understanding of the other domains of philosophy and their interconnections. In this context, it is interesting to examine Baumgarten's founding of the discipline, as well as its subsequent treatment within the philosophical systems of classical German Idealism.

Although it takes place within the rationalistic tradition of modern philosophy, the foundation of aesthetics is also laid within the tradition of the eighteenth-century British philosophy. The parallel interest in aesthetic issues and problems

century British philosophy. The parallel interest in aesthetic issues and problems in both traditions of modern thought shows the important connection between aesthetics and modern philosophy in general. This connection is primarily embodied in the problematization of metaphysics (beauty) and in the shift towards the inner constitution of subjectivity, but also in the relationship between aesthetics and the domains of the social and political. The latter is particularly evident within the most important concept of the eighteenth-century aesthetics, the concept of taste, as well as in the later nineteenth-century reflections on the relationship between culture, art and society in Kant, Schiller, Schelling, Hegel and the Romantics. These twists and swirls, as well as the problem of the articulation of the aesthetic domain as a realm of intersubjective and political communication, may also be interesting for theoretical investigation.

Finally, the founding of aesthetics as a discipline brought about a series of crucial changes in aesthetics as such. The most important one is probably that, after the founding, the focus of the aestheticians shifted towards the problem of art, instead of beauty, which had been the most prominent one. Also, the founding of the discipline was itself seen as problematic at the time: from Kant to Hegel, many philosophers would subsequently reconsider the character and name that should determine the new discipline. Given that Baumgarten's *Aesthetics* was for the first time translated from Latin into German in 2009, contemporary researchers now have new perspectives for interpreting its impact and meaning.

The call for papers welcomes contributions in English or German, up to 60.000 characters with spaces.

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