



# The Notion of Living Beings in Ancient, Early Modern, Modern & Contemporary Philosophical Discussions

August 31 – September 2, 2012

Rämistrasse 69, 8001 Zürich

Room: [SOC-1-101](#)

<http://www.philosophie.uzh.ch/livingBeings>

Sarah Tietz and Christian Steiner

## Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> August

|             |                                             |                                                              |
|-------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| 09:30–11:00 | Living Beings and the Science of Life       | Prof. Dr. Klaus Corcilius (UC Berkeley, USA)                 |
| 11:15–12:45 | Forms of Lives: a Neo-Aristotelian Approach | Prof. Dr. Christopher Shields (University of Oxford)         |
| 12:45–14:00 | <i>Lunch break</i>                          |                                                              |
| 14:00–15:30 | Life in the World of Descartes              | Prof. Dr. Dennis DesChene (Washington University, St. Louis) |
| 15:30–16:00 | <i>Coffee break</i>                         |                                                              |
| 16:00–17:30 | Descartes: Mechanism, Function, Unity       | Prof. Dr. Markus Wild (Universität Fribourg)                 |

## Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> September

|             |                                                                            |                                                       |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 09:00–10:30 | Leibniz on the Difference between Vegetative Structure and Vital Force     | Prof. Dr. Justin Smith (Concordia University, Canada) |
| 10:45–12:15 | Infinity and Life: The Role of Infinity in Leibniz's View of Living Beings | Prof. Dr. Ohad Nachtomy (Bar-Ilan University, Israel) |
| 12:15–13:30 | <i>Lunch break</i>                                                         |                                                       |
| 13:30–15:00 | Kant on Organized Beings                                                   | Dr. Ina Goy (Universität Tübingen)                    |
| 15:00–15:30 | <i>Coffee break</i>                                                        |                                                       |
| 15:30–17:00 | Internal Purposiveness as the Truth of External Purposiveness              | Prof. Dr. Sebastian Rödl (Universität Leipzig)        |

**Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September**

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|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 09:30–11:00 | On Living Beings as an Ontological Kind <i>sui generis</i>                                                                                     | Dr. Marianne Scharck (Charité, Berlin) |
| 11:15–12:45 | The Homogeneous Phenomenon of Life and the Heterogeneous Principles for its Scientific Explanation: (Self-)Organization, Regulation, Evolution | Dr. Georg Toepfer (ZfL, Berlin)        |

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