

February 2021

ND Philosophy

Philosopher in Print

This month's 'Philosopher in Print' is HPS grad student, Char Brecevic. Her article, "The Role of Imagination in Ernst Mach's Philosophy of Science: A Biologico-Economical View", is available in a forthcoming issue of *HOPOS*.



Abstract

Some popular views of Ernst Mach cast him as a philosopher-scientist averse to imaginative practices in science. The aim of this analysis is to address the question of whether or not imagination is compatible with Machian philosophy of science. I conclude that imagination is not only compatible, but essential to realizing the aim of science in Mach's biologico-economical view. I raise the possible objection that my conclusion is undermined by Mach's criticism of Isaac Newton's famous "bucket experiment." I conclude that Mach's issue lies not with thought experimentation, tout court, but with the improper use of thought experimentation as it relates to the aim of the biologico-economical development of science.

[Full article found here](#)

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February

- 05 Colloquium - Katie Creel**
3:30-5:30pm
Zoom
- 12 Friday Social Hour**
4:30-5:30
Zoom ID: 987 2660 0100
Passcode: Aristotle
- 16 Pedagogy Workshop**
Paul Blaschko
11-12:30
Zoom ID: 950 0755 4446
Passcode: 3XYbx1
- 19 Friday Social Hour**
4:30-5:30
Zoom ID: 987 2660 0100
Passcode: Aristotle
- 26 Friday Social Hour**
4:30-5:30
Zoom ID: 987 2660 0100
Passcode: Aristotle

Get to know our Philosophers!

[Justin Brittain]

1. What would you sing at Karaoke night? *I met my spouse immediately after some friends pressured my brother and I into singing ABBA's "Dancing Queen". Our rendition was horrendous, but, somehow, it made a favorable impression on her. So I'd probably choose to sing it again to relive that memory.*
2. What did you want to be when you were small? *I wanted to open an amusement park called "Pony Land". It more-or-less consisted of a horse pasture with some adjacent fast food restaurants. My five-year-old self didn't manage to get investors on board, unfortunately.*
3. If you could only eat one meal for the rest of your life, what would it be? *Fish and chips, maybe? Or pizza. My food preferences are pretty boring.*
4. What's the worst gift you've received? *I'm not having much come to mind. I think I've given far more bad gifts than I've received. For instance, right after my dad started jogging, I bought him ankle weights for Christmas. I meant well, I think, but he interpreted it as my way of saying that I was so far unimpressed with his efforts.*
5. Who would you want to play you in a movie? *I'm not much of a movie buff, but I'm gonna go with Christian Bale here—assuming he'd be up for shaving his head.*

philosophy.nd.edu for an up-to-date listing

