



Call for submissions: "Performance Philosophy Problems"

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**Deadline for first draft submissions (material suitable for peer review):
15 January 2023**

This special issue relates to the 5th Performance Philosophy biennial conference, hosted in June 2022 by the University of the Arts Helsinki. Contributors to the conference are invited to submit material for consideration—but we also welcome proposals from all artists, philosophers, scholars, artist-researchers and performance philosophers who would like to address the theme.

WHAT ARE THE PROBLEMS OF PERFORMANCE PHILOSOPHY?

Our times have generated problems, the scope, depth, complexity and ubiquity of which are surpassing traditional procedures for solving them. As the problems we face change in nature so too must our ways of dealing with them. One obvious change concerns modes of organisation: global problems require new modes of collaboration, transversal combinations and equity, enabling all kinds of agents from different fields to unite their experiences and efforts. At the same time, existing organisations are compelled to rethink their reasons for existence, their values and ways of functioning. Indeed, Performance Philosophy is not immune to this challenge.

How do we set a problem? One distinctive feature is that it might open up to several possible or effective solutions. Yet no particular response can exhaust or resolve it. Once articulated, the problem does not cease to haunt us. At the same time, in all our doings and undoings, we cannot cease to seek an answer to it. One could argue that all kinds of practices, bodily and institutional arrangements, all modes of behaviour, levels of organisation and existential choices are born as potential solutions to some kind of problem that they seek to address in a specific historical or local context, but never definitively. A fertile problem, both wicked and benevolent ones, calls for creative thinking and action. Furthermore, problems and arguably solutions have a history. Indeed, solving problems is but one of the many different things we can do with them – we can also intensify them and turn them into aporias (unsolvable dilemmas) or paradoxes (that turn solutions into other problems).

We invite artists, philosophers, scholars, artist-researchers and performance philosophers, regardless of any particular genre, school or discipline – to articulate the range of performance philosophy problems, whose treatment calls for dialogue and collaboration between philosophy and the performing arts.

- What kinds of problems in the contemporary world require an interdisciplinary dialogue between philosophy and performance, philosophers and performing

artists? How has our way of articulating problems in these fields changed as a result of unfolding global catastrophes?

- What kind of burning or smouldering problems does the contemporary or historical field of performance present to us as artists, researchers, performers, spectators, educators? What are their philosophical implications and how can philosophy help to deal with them?
- Is there thinking within performance that presents problems that standard philosophy cannot approach, let alone solve? Are there philosophical problems that can only be detected and processed in and through performance philosophy?

FORMATS

For *Performance Philosophy*, we welcome long-form academic articles, and also contributions in a wide range of other formats that take advantage of our platform, as well as collaborative pieces between two or more authors. *Performance Philosophy* is able to embed video and other media (where appropriate permissions have been obtained) in our online edition. See examples such as [a mixed media article](#), [a collectively authored annotated score](#), or [a video essay](#).

Performance Philosophy only considers submissions that have not been previously published, and are not under consideration for publication with another journal. A typical article will be 6,000-10,000 words including notes, though other formats are welcome in our [Margins] and ReView sections (more information at the link below).

For Performance Philosophy “Key Groups” who prepared work for the Helsinki conference, we are very happy to discuss with you a format that represents the collaboration (including variations in standard length of writing, inclusion of media, and non-standard layouts).

Citation should follow the Chicago Author-Date formatting:

https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide/citation-guide-2.html

For complete author guidelines, see

www.performancephilosophy.org/journal/about/submissions#authorGuidelines

HOW TO SUBMIT

Contributors should upload the following materials to the online journal platform at <https://www.performancephilosophy.org/journal/about/submissions> by 15 January 2023:

- Material sufficient for peer review (text files, images, media, code in standard formats). Material should be anonymised where possible (though this may not always be possible)
- Optional: Names of two proposed peer reviewers
- 200-word max biography/ies

This issue is scheduled for publication in **December 2023**.

PEER REVIEW

Editors reserve the right to return submissions that are not suitable for the journal at the submission stage.

If your submission is accepted for consideration, then your material will be sent out for peer-review. We aim for this to be a supportive process and are careful to select reviewers with expertise in the form of the submission. We do not charge fees for accessing articles, nor for publishing or processing submissions.

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