# Silvia Jonas: "From Existence to Expression"

(Huji MA and advanced BA seminar in metaphysics, Fall Semester 2015)

This seminar explores some recent themes in the metaphysics of existence, identity, and perspective, as well as some central questions about the conceptualization and expression of reality. The course is open to MA and advanced BA students. The format is a weekly discussion of one preread text. Each student will be expected to give a small (10 min) introduction to one of the texts. Grades will be based on attendance, presentation, and (most importantly) a final seminar paper.

# **Existence and Metaphysical Hierarchy**

- Timothy Williamson (2002). 'Necessary Existents'. Royal Institute of Philosophy Supplement, 51, pp 233-251
- 2. Schaffer, Jonathan. 2010. 'Monism: The Priority of the Whole'. *Philosophical Review*, Vol. 119, No. 1: pp. 31-76.
- 3. Yablo, S., 2002, "Abstract Objects: A Case Study", Philosophical Issues, 12: 220–40.

#### Identity

- 4. Fine, Kit. 2003. 'The Non-Identity of a Material Thing and Its Matter'. *Mind: A Quarterly Review of Philosophy*. Ap 03. 112(446), 195-234.
- 5. Hawley, K., 2009, "Identity and Indiscernibility", Mind, 118: 101-19.
- 6. Sider, Theodore. 2006. 'Bare Particulars'. Philosophical Perspectives Vol. 20: pp. 387-397.

# Perspective and Subjectivity

- 7. Bricker, Phillip. 2006. 'Absolute Actuality and the Plurality of Worlds'. *Philosophical Perspectives* Vol. 20 No. 1: pp. 41-76.
- 8. Fine, Kit. 2006. 'The Reality of Tense'. Synthese Vol. 150: pp. 399-414.
- 9. Chalmers, David. 2004. "Imagination, Indexicality, and Intensions." *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research* Vol. 68, No. 1: 182–190.

# **Conceptualizing Reality**

- 10. Peter Godfrey-Smith. 2009. 'Models and fictions in science'. *Philosophical Studies* (2009) 143:101–116
- II. Everett, Anthony. 2005. 'Against Fictional Realism'. *The Journal of Philosophy*, Vol. 102, No. 12 (Dec., 2005), pp. 624-649

# **Expressing Reality**

- 12. Shaw, James R. 2013. 'Truth, Paradox, and Ineffable Propositions'. *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, LLC.
- 13. Hofweber, Thomas. 2006. 'Inexpressible Properties and Propositions'. In: Dean Zimmermann (ed.): *Oxford Studies in Metaphysics* Vol. 2. Oxford: Oxford University Press: pp. 155-206.
- 14. Jonas, Silvia. Varieties of Ineffability. Manuscript.