

## Fragmentalism in Mind and Reality

workshop in Ligerz, Wednesday 27 March (evening) – Sunday, 31st of March (noon)

As part of its [Swiss Doctoral Programme in Philosophy](#), the Centre for the Philosophy and Theology of Being at the University of Lucerne: *οὐσία*, is organising a small and informal workshop in beautiful Ligerz. Consult the [website](#) for additional information or contact the workshop organisers, [Stephan Leuenberger](#) and [Philipp Blum](#).

**CfP.** Sometimes, I believe that  $p$ , and also that  $q$ , without believing their conjunction  $p \wedge q$ . How might this happen? According to David Lewis and Robert Stalnaker, this will be a case of me being fragmented or compartmentalised, with one fragment or compartment believing  $p$  but not  $q$ , and another one  $q$  but not  $p$ . The hypothesis that we are fragmented has enjoyed increasing popularity in philosophy of psychology in the last ten years, and has been used to explain a range of phenomena, such as belief acquisition under conditions of cognitive overload, delusions, and implicit bias. A fragmented agent may believe each one of two incompatible propositions, while disbelieving any contradictions. How would reality have to be like to conform to such an agent's beliefs? The orthodox answer is that it couldn't possibly conform to them. But according to fragmentalism, reality is itself divided in different and sometimes incompatible fragments. That radical view, first suggested by Kit Fine and recently developed by a number of authors, has been motivated by considerations in the philosophy of time, the philosophy of subjectivity, and the philosophy of mathematics. In this workshop, we welcome contributions to our understanding of fragmentalism about thought as well as fragmentalism about reality, and especially but not exclusively on the neglected question of the relationship between the views.

**Location.** The conference takes place in the beautifully located bilingual village of Ligerz / Gléresse, on the shores of the lake of Biel/Bienne (also bilingual):



Talks and meals are at the Aarbergerhaus, where a beamer and facilities to print out handouts are available. Participants stay at the so-called “Louis Haus”, where there’s also a small bar for late-night drinks. When you get out of the train arriving either from Neuchâtel or from Biel/Bienne, and you face the mountain and the church (turning your back to the lake), the Aarbergerhaus is to your right (in the direction of Biel), about 150 m along the main road. You reach it after passing by the hotel “Kreuz” and by going through a garden door located at your left (facing Biel), just before there is a street for cars on your right going over a small bridge (in the direction of the lake). Please come there when you arrive. (The Louis-Haus, in contrast, is to your left when you are at the station, about 50m through the pedestrian street, on your right just before the fountain).

**Please note.** While towels and bed-sheet are provided, for some reason shampoo and shower cream are not (though there is soap). If you need these, bring them along.

**Arrival.** It would be good if participants arrive at the Aarbergerhaus by **Wednesday, 27th of March, 19.00** for dinner. If you arrive late, please let me know. Ligerz is mid-way between Biel/Bienne and Neuchâtel and reachable by train in 1h43 from Zurich Airport, in 1h50 from Geneva Airport and in 1h55 from Basel EuroAirport (cf. [www.sbb.ch](http://www.sbb.ch) – no need to plan in too much time, Swiss trains are never late and all three airports are reasonably small).

**Reimbursement.** Please buy your tickets yourself; you can also buy in advance the train tickets you need (they are valid for a whole day) and have them sent to you by email. Please see to it that you have pdfs or scan-able documents for all your expenses.

There are two paper boards, and a beamer for ppt presentations (bring an adapter); there is also an opportunity to make last-minute print-outs or photocopies.

**Discussion sessions.** Discussion sessions should be introduced by the moderator (5-25 min.) and then also chaired by that person. They may focus on a recent article or discussion (not necessarily written by the moderator or any of the other participants) or on a specific question of interest to the moderator (and, hopefully, the audience).

**Reading material.** It would be good if as much as possible of the reading material could be made available to participants in advance (via a dropbox folder, for which I have hopefully sent you an invitation). This includes (i) abstracts / drafts; (ii) background reading, e.g. articles by others specifically discussed or older texts not easily available.

**Participants:** Stephan Leuenberger, Philipp Blum, Cristina Borgoni, Andy Egan, Insa Lawler, Jon Simon, James Pryor, Kim Johnston, Martin Lipman, Giovanni Merlo, Catharine Diehl, Martin Glazier.

#### **Programme:**

**Thurs, 9-10.45** Stephan Leuenberger, Fragmentation and Closure

**Thurs, 11-12.45** Cristina Borgoni, Rationality in Fragmented Belief Systems

**Thurs, 14.15-16** Andy Egan, tba

**Thurs, 16.15-18** Jon Simon, Fragmentation and Disunity of Consciousness

**Fri, 9-10.45** James Pryor, Identity Mistakes and the Structure of Thought

**Fri, 11-12.45** Kim Johnston, Limitations of Fragmentation

**Fri, 15.04** departure of the cable car to Prêles

**Sat, 9-10.45** Martin Lipman, Epistemological Reflections on the Metaphysics of Perspectival Facts

**Sat, 11-12.45** Giovanni Merlo, Fragmentalism and the No Passage Objection

**Sat, 14.15-16** Catharine Diehl, Fragmentalism for Stuff

**Sat, 16.15-18** Martin Glazier, No Asymmetry From Symmetry

**Sun, 9-10.45** Philipp Blum, Fragmentation By Contradiction

**Sun, 11-12.15** summing-up discussion

**Meals.** You are booked for the following meals:

**Wednesday, 19.00** Philipp, Andy, Kim (no meat nor fish), Martin, Jim, Insa (no meat nor fish), Martin, Cristina, Catharine (vegan), Jon

**Thursday, 13.00** Philipp, Andy, Kim (no meat nor fish), Martin, Jim, Insa (no meat nor fish), Martin, Cristina, Catharine (vegan), Jon, Stephan (no meat nor fish), Giovanni

**Thursday, 19.00** Philipp, Andy, Kim (no meat nor fish), Martin, Jim, Insa (no meat nor fish), Martin, Cristina, Catharine (vegan), Jon, Stephan (no meat nor fish), Giovanni

**Friday, 13.00** Philipp, Andy, Kim (no meat nor fish), Martin, Jim, Insa (no meat nor fish), Martin, Cristina, Catharine (vegan), Jon, Stephan (no meat nor fish), Giovanni

**Friday, 19.00** Philipp, Andy, Kim (no meat nor fish), Martin, Jim, Insa (no meat nor fish), Martin, Cristina, Catharine (vegan), Jon, Stephan (no meat nor fish), Giovanni

**Saturday, 13.00** Philipp, Andy, Kim (no meat nor fish), Martin, Jim, Insa (no meat nor fish), Martin, Cristina, Catharine (vegan), Jon, Stephan (no meat nor fish), Giovanni

**Saturday, 19.00** Philipp, Andy, Kim (no meat nor fish), Martin, Jim, Insa (no meat nor fish), Martin, Cristina, Catharine (vegan), Jon, Stephan (no meat nor fish), Giovanni

**Sunday, 12.30** Philipp, Andy, Martin, Jim, Insa (no meat nor fish), Martin, Jon, Stephan (no meat nor fish)

**Proposal for 'free' time.** On Friday afternoon, we could either take the cable-car up to Prêles, have a drink there and take a (quite leisurely) walk back down to Ligerz (passing by the beautiful church); or, we could take the boat to the St Peter island (where Rousseau was), and have a walk there.

**Costs.** The costs of simple accommodation and food will be covered. In principle, participants should be prepared to pay for their own drinks (excl. coffee and tea), though some of this might be covered as well.