

tinue the dialogue of cultures, philosophical, social, political, ideological and religious ideas.¹

Marta Gluchmanová
marta.gluchmanova@tuke.sk

Modal Metaphysics: Issues on the (Im)Possible Conference

In September 19–20, 2013 the Institute of Philosophy of Slovak Academy of Sciences in Bratislava and Slovak Metaphysical Society organized a conference called *Modal Metaphysics: Issues on the (Im)possible*. The conference took place in Bratislava (Slovakia) and its main goal was to put together researchers working primarily on the metaphysics of modality, including topics such as possible worlds, counterfactual conditionals, essence, reference, conceivability or fiction.

After the official opening by the director of the institute, prof. Tibor Pichler, the conference started with the first keynote lecture given by John Divers (University of Leeds). His ‘*Transcending Quine?*’ pointed out limitations of Wright’s and McFetridge’s ‘quasi transcendental’ arguments to the extent that those argument do not move the Quinean sceptic in believing necessity.

In the following talks Dan Marshall (University of Hong Kong) raised another ‘[A] *Puzzle for Modal Realism*’, Emily Caddick Bourne (University of Cambridge) and Craig Bourne (University of Hertfordshire) dealt with ‘*Impossible Fictions with Possible Worlds*’ and Ceth Lightfield (University of California, Davis) considered ‘*Ficta as mere Possibilia*’. The first day continued with Myroslav Hryshko’s (Ljubljana) ‘*Metaphysical Nihilism and Meontological Realism*’ and Ryan Christensen’s (Brigham Young University) ‘*Essentially Contingent*’. Nathan Wildman (Universität Hamburg) wondered into the question ‘*What’s Wrong with Weak Necessity?*’ and the first day of the conference ended with Alexander Kaiserman’s (Oxford University) ‘*Impossible Worlds and Macrophysical Zombies*’.

The second day commenced with the second keynote lecture ‘*On Conceiving the Impossible*’ given by Francesco Berto (University of Aberdeen). In it, he presented another application of impossible worlds, that is, an approach to absolute impossibilities based on intentional operators.

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After it, Michael De (Utrecht University) proposed a way of shaping ‘*Counterpossibles and the Impossible*’, Janine Reinert (Tilburg University) identified ‘*Ontological Omniscience in Lewisian Modal Realism*’, Vasil Penchev (Bulgarian Academy of Sciences) discussed ‘*The Almost Impossible Worlds in Quantum Information*’ and Jiří Raclavský (Masaryk University, Brno) introduced ‘*Tichýan (Im)Possible Worlds*’. After a short break Maciej Sendłak (University of Szczecin) asked a question: ‘*Is it Possible to Have Your Cake and to Eat it?*’ and answered by several ‘*Remarks on Hybrid Modal Realism*’. Adam Tamas Tuboly (University of Pécs) raised a different question, namely ‘*Why Should We Prefer Propositionersatzism to Strong Possible-Worlds Fictionalism?*’ and Marco Simionato (University ca’ Foscari Venezia) yet another one, namely ‘*Might There Be an Absolutely Empty World?*’. The conference ended by a rather informal talk ‘*Impossible Worlds: An Old New Story*’ by Martin Vacek (Slovak Academy of Sciences), mapping the current situation in modal metaphysics. All the abstracts from the conference can be found on the Slovak Metaphysical Society website www.metaphysics.sk and, in case of receipt of a sufficient number of strong submissions, *Organon F* is prepared to edit peer-reviewed proceedings from the conference.

Frankly, as organizers we were glad to see how successful the conference was. We have learned that modal metaphysics is still a widespread and fruitful philosophical area and we are especially proud that Slovakia actively contributes to the debate. It is therefore not a surprise that we plan to organize the conference also next year and establish thus a deeply rooted tradition in the field.

Martin Vacek
martinvacekphilosophy@gmail.com

Institute of Philosophy of Slovak Academy of Sciences in Bratislava
and
Slovak Metaphysical Society

are pleased to announce the first call for papers for the upcoming conference

MODAL METAPHYSICS: Issues on the (Im)Possible II

taking place at the Institute of Philosophy of Slovak Academy of Sciences in

October 15-16, 2014

Keynote speakers:

Takashi Yagisawa (California State University, Northridge)
Tuomas Tahko (University of Helsinki)

We invite submissions for a 30 minute presentation followed by 5 minute comments and a 15 minute discussion. Areas of interest might include (but are not limited to):

methodology of metaphysics
metaphysics of modality
the ontology of possible and impossible worlds
logic of possible and impossible worlds
counterfactuals

A paper of approximately 3000 words should be prepared for blind review and include a cover page with the full name, title, institution and contact information. Files can be submitted in pdf or doc(x) and should be sent to **modalmetaphysics@gmail.com**

Deadline for submission: **April 30, 2014**

Notification of acceptance: **July 31, 2014**

The authors selected for the conference will be invited to contribute to a special issue of the journal of analytic philosophy *Organon F*. If you wish to submit a paper, or would like any further details, please, email us to the above address or visit the conference website www.metaphysics.sk.

Organizing committee: Lukáš Bielik, Martin Vacek, Marián Zouhar

www.metaphysics.sk