



Preface

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Dear Readers,

we are pleased to present the second issue of *AVANT* to be published this year. Its leading subject is interdisciplinary research into the immune system. This subject fits our broader series of issues dedicated to non-neuronal aspects of cognition. Within this concise but varied anthology, we have strived to showcase both the importance and the controversies associated with the notion of the immune self and immunity. We are particularly honoured by the contribution of Alfred Tauber, an unquestionable pioneer and authority in the field of philosophy of immunity. At the same time, we hope to return to this subject on the pages of *AVANT* in the future.

The guest of this issue's *Philosophical Interviews* is Dan Zahavi: a philosopher largely responsible for the current status of phenomenology in relation to both philosophy and cognitive studies. Mark Rowlands, the spokesperson for the so-called vehicle externalism, is meanwhile present in three ways: as an interviewed guest, the author of a paper dedicated to the problem of representation, and as the subject of commentary. The issue is rounded up with book reviews corresponding with the overall theme.

Within the section dedicated to musical practice we present a short introduction into cognitive studies on music, and particularly musical improvisation, and as a counterpoint – a conversation with an outstanding representative of avant-garde music improvisation, Matthew Shipp. Materials dedicated to the authors of the artistic content of the issue close the whole section.

We would finally like to take this opportunity to extend special gratitude to dr. Katarzyna Kuś (University of Warsaw), dr. Marcin Miłkowski (Polish Academy of Sciences) and PhD student Ewa Witkowska (Nicolaus Copernicus University) for their help regarding both the current issue and overall organizational duties related to the functioning of the journal.

Editorial Board

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