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## Phenomenology in the Present Moment: Duquesne Studies in Phenomenology Volume 2

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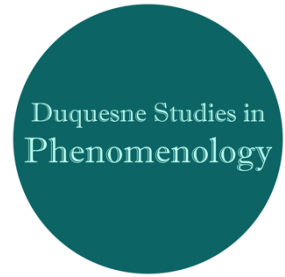
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# PHENOMENOLOGY IN THE PRESENT MOMENT:

*DUQUESNE STUDIES IN PHENOMENOLOGY VOLUME 2*

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We at Duquesne University, the Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center, and the Duquesne University Press are very pleased to present this second issue of the *Duquesne Studies in Phenomenology*.

Phenomenology has been central at Duquesne ever since the 1950s, when the Spiritan priest and philosopher Fr. Henry Koren brought Fr. Herman von Breda, who was the Director of the Husserl Archives in Louvain, to visit Duquesne. Against the backdrop of his education in a dry neo-scholasticism in philosophy and theology still all too prevalent in the Catholic intellectual world, Koren was excited and delighted to explore this new philosophical approach to the deepest questions of human existence. About the same time, Fr. Adriaan van Kaam, another Holy Ghost Father, set about to revolutionize the study of psychology here at Duquesne by using a phenomenological and human science orientation to counter the various reductionist programs in psychology then on offer: a “rats-and-cheese” behaviorist model on the one hand, and a rigid “ego psychology” psychoanalysis. Through the years, distinguished

phenomenologists like Hans-Georg Gadamer, Paul Ricoeur, Jean-Luc Marion, Gail Weiss, and Lewis Gordon have visited to participate in Duquesne's phenomenological conversation that is now going into its eighth decade.

One expression of the phenomenological approach at Duquesne is the Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center, founded in 1980 by Prof. John Sallis of the Philosophy Department and Prof. Amedeo Giorgi of the Psychology Department. The Phenomenology Center continues today as a major research center for the study and dissemination of phenomenology through its archives, its special collection, and its annual symposium and lectures on campus and at the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy.

Another expression of the phenomenological heritage of Duquesne was Duquesne University Press. Under the good leadership of Mr. John Dowds, and then Ms. Susan Wadsworth-Booth, Duquesne University Press published major works for several decades in the history of phenomenology (e.g. Levinas's *Totality and Infinity* and Merleau-Ponty's *Structure of Behavior*, to name two). The press also published contemporary monographs and edited volumes on figures such as Husserl, Heidegger, Edith Stein, and Levinas, as well as important work in phenomenological psychology by Amedeo Giorgi and others.

This online journal aims to continue the work of the Silverman Center and the University Press. Guest-edited by major figures in the field, the *Duquesne Studies in Phenomenology* serves as an interdisciplinary journal interested in all facets of the tradition and the future of phenomenology: politics, race, gender, religion, interpretation, psychology, the fine arts, and more. Anyone who is interested in guest-editing an issue is very welcome to contact Dr. Jeffrey McCurry at the Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center with a proposal.

This issue of *Duquesne Studies in Phenomenology* is inspired and motivated by two connected developments in the academy and society today. On the one hand, the issue is inspired and motivated by one of the most influential movements in phenomenology today: *critical* phenomenology. This phenomenology explores the structures of human lived experience in a way that is attuned to the dynamics of power, oppression, race, gender, class, ability, and freedom at play in this experience. On the other hand, the issue is inspired and motivated by one of the most influential movements in political and intellectual life today more broadly: the critical theory and praxis that seeks to combat anti-Black racism.

As Editor of *Duquesne Studies in Phenomenology*, let me say that I am extraordinarily grateful to Duquesne Ph.D. alumnus Prof. James Haile III, of the University of Rhode Island, for his work as the Guest Editor of this issue of the journal, and to the contributors of the papers. I am also grateful for the contributions and support of Dr. Sara Baron, Dr. Kristine Blair, Dr. James Swindal, Mr. Robert Behary, Ms. Ye Mun, and Mr. Nicholas Seow for their help. We are also appreciative of President Kenneth Gormley, Provost David Dausey, and Dr. Jeff Miller here at Duquesne for supporting this venture. Many thanks also to Ms. Sabrina Bungash, Managing Editor of this issue, for all her good work.