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CALL FOR PAPERS

— The Thought of Leopold Blaustein in Context: Critical Essays and Materials —

— Thematic issue of the Slovenian peer-review journal of phenomenology and hermeneutics *Phainomena* —

Guest Editor: **Witold Płotka** (Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University in Warsaw, Poland)

In the scholarly literature, the legacy of early phenomenology is often connected exclusively with Edmund Husserl, and the reception of his philosophy in the first decades of the 20th century. The story concerning early phenomenology, however, is much more complicated, multi-layered, and less obvious than this Husserl-centered optics may suggest. This is mirrored, among many examples, by Leopold Blaustein's (1905–1942 [?]) work. Blaustein was a Polish-Jewish scholar who in 1925 visited Freiburg im Breisgau to study under Husserl. At that time, he was working on the final draft of his doctoral dissertation, written in Lvov (Lwów, Lviv) under the supervision of Kazimierz Twardowski, on Husserl's theory of intentionality. In Poland, Blaustein was trained in philosophy (besides Twardowski) by Kazimierz Ajdukiewicz, logician and a fellow of the Lvov–Warsaw School, and Roman Ingarden, a prominent member of the Göttingen Circle of Husserl's students. Later in 1927/28, Blaustein went to Berlin to study under key figures of Gestalt psychology. His thought was determined by various traditions. When he arrived at Husserl's classes, his theoretical background, which was rooted first and foremost in the Brentanian-style descriptive psychology, for sure determined his view of phenomenology.

After his return to Poland, Blaustein's thought resonated in different philosophical and psychological frameworks, and it resulted in his original explorations of, for instance, theory of presentations, the question of intentional structure, the scope of the method of phenomenology, the use of psychology in literary studies (e.g., Hebbel's dramas or Goethe's poetry), analysis of different aesthetic phenomena, including watching a theater play, contemplating a painting, cinemagoer's experience, or the phenomenon of listening to the radio. He also explored the basics of humanistic psychology, and considered pedagogical questions. Because of these contexts, Blaustein's thought does not fit clear-cut classifications. Some scholars comprehend him first and foremost as a Husserlian phenomenologist, whereas others put emphasis on his commitment to the heritage of descriptive psychology, or the Lvov–Warsaw School. Blaustein published his works

mainly in Polish, but he also wrote in German and French. A selection of his texts in aesthetics is also available in English.

The central task of the planned issue of *Phainomena* is to rediscover Blaustein's contribution by providing both original studies as well as new English translations of Blaustein's writings from the fields of aesthetics, philosophical psychology, and metaphilosophy. The issue is open for any studies on Blaustein's thought and on the context which shaped it. The thematic scope of the issue concerns, yet is *not* limited to the following areas:

- ❖ Blaustein's account of Husserl's theory of intentionality.
- ❖ The question of objects of experience.
- ❖ Description, analysis, abstraction, induction: How to use different methodological tools in a philosophical inquiry?
- ❖ Descriptive psychology and phenomenology: Opposite or complementary methods?
- ❖ How psychology can be used in philosophy?
- ❖ Blaustein's critical assessment of eidetic method of phenomenology.
- ❖ Imagination and perception in aesthetic experiences.
- ❖ The ontology of the work of art.
- ❖ Blaustein on cinema and radio in the context of today's media studies.
- ❖ Blaustein on teaching philosophy and on pedagogy.
- ❖ Brentano's, Stumpf's, and Twardowski's theories as roots of Blaustein's work.
- ❖ The position of Blaustein within the Lvov–Warsaw School.
- ❖ The heritage of early phenomenology (Husserl, Hofmann, Schapp, Geiger, etc.) in Blaustein's writings.
- ❖ To what extent are Blaustein's ideas relevant for philosophy/psychology today?

The Slovenian peer-review journal of phenomenology and hermeneutics *Phainomena* invites scholars to prepare a manuscript on the above topics connected to Blaustein's philosophy and its context.

The deadline for the submission is June 1, 2025.

Articles should not exceed **8,000 words** (ca. **50,000 characters with spaces**) including footnotes. If the planned manuscript exceeds this limit, please contact the email below.

Please follow the **Manuscript Submission Guidelines**, available here:

<https://www.phainomena.com/en/journal/manuscript-submission-guidelines/>

The papers written **in English** (prepared for the review process, accompanied by a cover letter with the author's contact details and the title) should be submitted to the email address of the journal: phainomena@institut-nr.si. Please use "Submission: Blaustein" as the subject heading of your email message.