

Abstract:

Phenomenology of touch. Ethical readings on discontinuous paradigms.

Touch is not only the sense that allows us to appreciate shapes and textures. It is also the sense that allows us to feel the tenderness of a caress or the violence of a punch. It allows us to feel temperature and pain, balance and the position of our body, feelings of itching and tickling, vibrations and sexual arousal. In recent years, research on touch has blossomed in the most diverse fields, and these works are unanimous in saying that touch is a crucial factor in our lives and on our health: interhuman cooperations, pain endurance, empathy, compassion and care are all touch depending activities.

Starting from a scenarisation of Western philosophy in terms of opposition between continuism and discontinuism, we reinterpret the phenomenological method, by a radicalization of the meaning of its tool (epoche), to put it at service of the analysis of touch phenomena.

In this context, our work is presented in a double duality:

On the one hand, it unfolds around two main thematic axes, discontinuity (self-thematization) and touch (thematization).

On the other hand, it takes the shape of two distinct textual bodies, a purely philosophical one and a philo-performatic one, which intersect and thus aim to perform in the writing of the text itself, the discontinuity for which the whole thesis claims great philosophical utility and importance : not only by their content, but also by the materiality of their form itself (by discontinuation, redermification and bringing into contact the textual fragments), these works want to diffract the usual thematizations of touch, to be able to welcome them all within a new phenomenology.

Keywords : Discontinuism, Emmanuel Levinas, Phenomenology of Touch, dermicity, dermification, continuism.