

Kant, Hegel and further thinkers developed a distinctively philosophical take on nature that is meant to complement natural science in some way or other. Their conceptions of nature are non-naturalist in that they do not assume one can deal with nature head-on by directly turning it into a topic of philosophical cognition. Rather, on their account philosophical cognition of nature is viable only if based upon a philosophical investigation of our own mental powers. In consequence, they envisage 'nature' as a concept of reflection that only makes sense in contrast to concepts which articulate kinds of human activity or aspects thereof. Given that our mental powers make up an organized whole, to concepts of such powers and of ways of exercising them a series of concepts of nature correspond, whence conceptual pairs such as reason-nature, mind-nature, history-nature, art-nature, technology-nature etc.

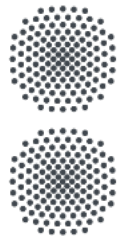
It is against the background of these shared assumptions, which might very well be disputed, that the conference aims to critically compare divergent conceptions of nature in Classical German Philosophy, broadly understood.

**Organization:**

Prof. Dr. Christian Martin,  
Chair for Philosophy and Its History  
University of Stuttgart

*Conference assistant:*  
Giuliano Infantino, M. A.

*Conference venue:*  
IBZ („Eulenhof“), University of Stuttgart,  
Robert-Leicht-Straße 61, Stuttgart-Vaihingen



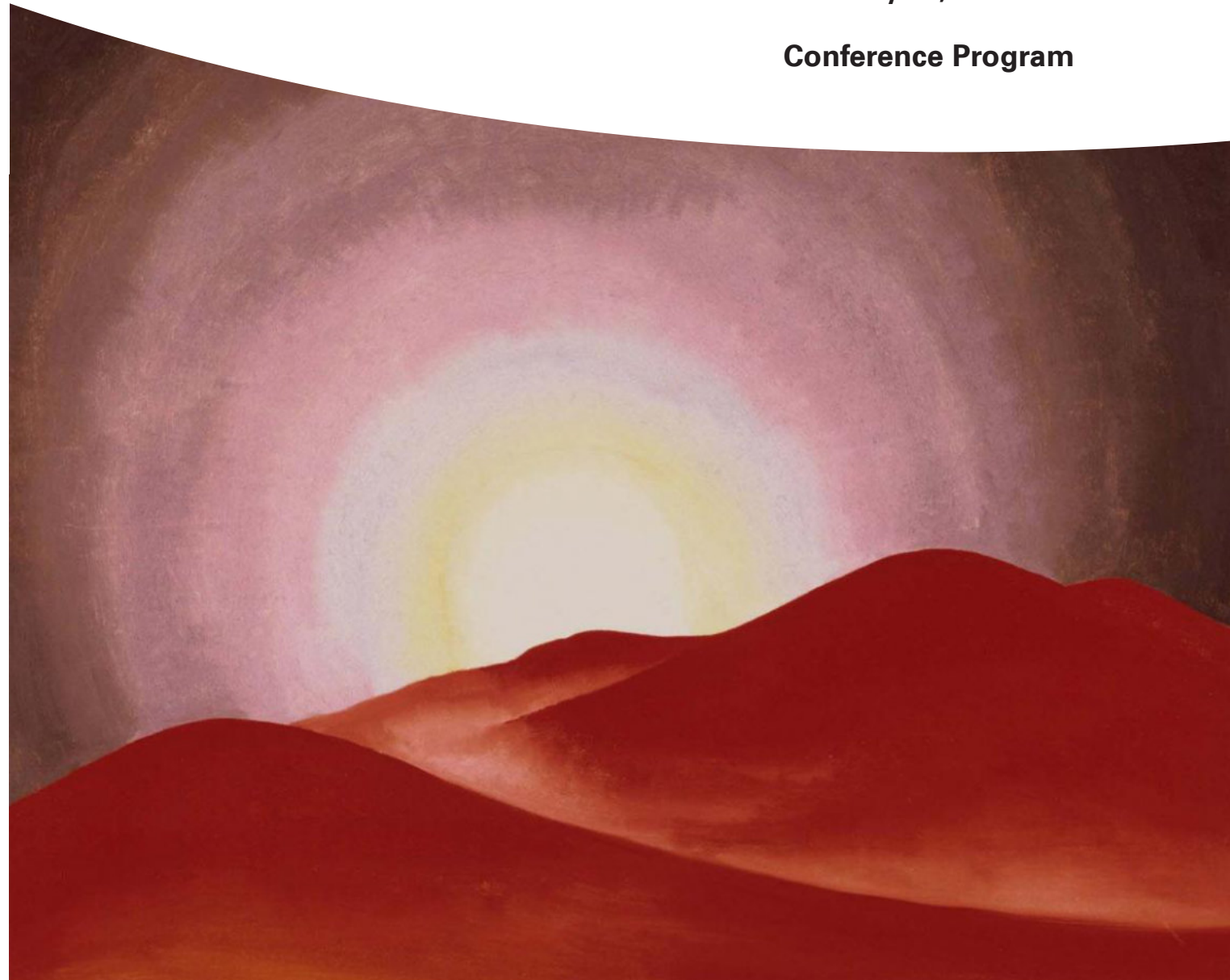
**University of Stuttgart**  
Institute for Philosophy

**University of Stuttgart**  
Stuttgart Research Centre for  
Text Studies (SRCTS)

# Conceptions of Nature in Classical German Philosophy

University of Stuttgart  
July 5-7, 2023

**Conference Program**



## Wednesday, July 5

9:00-9:30

**Christian Martin**  
University of Stuttgart  
*Introduction*

9:30-11:00

**Kristina Engelhard**  
University of Trier  
*Nature and Natures in Kant*

11:00-11:30: Coffee Break

11:30-13:00

**Stephen Engstrom**  
University of Pittsburgh  
*The Legislation for Nature*

13:00-14:30: Lunch Break + Coffee

14:30-16:00

**Mathis Koschel**  
University of Southern California  
*Three Conceptions of Nature in Kant*

16:00-16:30: Coffee Break

16:30-18:00

**Daniel Warren**  
UC, Berkeley  
*Kant's Conception of the Nature of Matter*

18:30: on-site dinner for all conference participants (speakers and audience)

## Thursday, July 6

9:30-11:00

**Johannes Haag**  
University of Potsdam  
*Beautiful Art and Nature in Kant's Critique of Judgment*

11:00-11:30 Coffee Break

11:30-13:00

**Florian Ganzinger**  
University of Stuttgart  
*Categorical Indeterminacy and Purposiveness of Nature: Kant on the Formation of Empirical Concepts*

13:00-14:30: Lunch Break + Coffee

14:30-16:00

**Luca Illetterati**  
University of Padova  
*Hegel's Ontology of Nature*

16:00-16:30: Coffee Break

16:30-18:00

**Sebastian Ostritsch**  
University of Stuttgart  
*Why Does Nature exist? Hegelian Necessity vs. Creation*

19:15: dinner for invited participants in Stuttgart City at Alte Kanzlei, Schillerplatz 5 (near S-Bahn station Stadtmitte)

## Friday, July 7

9:30-11:00

**Christian Martin**  
University of Stuttgart  
*Pure Thought of Nature. A Reconstruction of the Very First Steps of Hegel's Philosophy of Nature*

11:00-11:30: Coffee Break

11:30-13:00

**Jennifer Bates**  
Duquesne University  
*Can Hegel's Philosophy of Nature be Used to Argue for a Non-Anthropocentric Theory of Sustainability?*

13:00-14:30: Lunch Break + Coffee

14:30-16:00

**Eli Friedlander**  
Tel Aviv University  
*„From the Pagan Context of Nature ... into the Jewish Context of History“*

16:00-16:30: Coffee, conference ends

18:30 dinner for invited speakers at Restaurant Tauberquelle in Stuttgart City (Torstraße 19, near S-Bahn station Stadtmitte)