

## Biographical Note (2024)

**Martin Saar** became professor of social philosophy (succeeding Axel Honneth) at Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main in 2017, after three years as a professor of political theory at the department of political science at Universität Leipzig. He received his M.A. (in philosophy, psychology and economics) from Freie Universität Berlin in 1997, his Ph.D. (in philosophy) from Goethe-Universität in 2004, and his habilitation (in political science) also from Goethe-Universität Frankfurt in 2011. From 2004 to 2011 he was an assistant professor at the department of political science in Frankfurt. Before taking up the positions in Leipzig and Frankfurt, he was a visiting professor teaching political theory and/or social philosophy in Bremen, Hamburg, and Berlin; he has also spent several semesters at the New School for Social Research in New York City (as a visiting graduate student, a visiting scholar and a visiting lecturer).

His areas of specialization and teaching are contemporary social and political philosophy and the history of early modern and modern political thought (with special focus on Spinoza, Nietzsche, Marx, Foucault, Critical Theory, Post-structuralism, and interdisciplinary research on collective memory, affect, ideology, aesthetics, democracy and power). He has published widely in various fields of political theory, history of political thought and social philosophy.

His dissertation was published in 2007 as “Genealogie als Kritik. Geschichte und Theorie des Subjekts nach Nietzsche und Foucault [Genealogy as Critique: History and Theory of the Subject after Nietzsche and Foucault]”, Campus Verlag. A revised version of his second thesis (“habilitation”) “Die Immanenz der Macht. Politische Theorie nach Spinoza [The Immanence of Power: Political Theory after Spinoza]” was published in 2013 (Suhrkamp Verlag; reed. 2019). Recent texts have dealt with conceptual problems and the “ontological turn” in political philosophy and current Critical Theory. A collection of his essays will appear with Suhrkamp in 2025.

He is a principal investigator at the research center “Normative Orders” and a member of the board and of the steering committee of the Institute for Social Research, both in Frankfurt. He is also a member of the steering committee of the German Spinoza Society. Presently, he fulfills the role of Vice Dean/Dean of Research at the Faculty for Philosophy and History.

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## Selection of Publications in English:

- Review of: Peter Dews, *The Limits of Disenchantment. Essays on Contemporary European Philosophy*, London 1995: Verso. In: *Constellations*, 3 (1997), No. 3, pp. 417-421.
- Genealogy and Subjectivity. In: *European Journal of Philosophy*, 10 (2002), No. 2, pp. 231-245.
- Review of: Ian Hacking: *Historical Ontology*, Cambridge/London 2002: Harvard University Press. In: *European Journal of Philosophy*, 11 (2003), No. 1, pp. 117-121.
- Review of: Wendy Brown, *Politics out of History*, Princeton 2001: Princeton University Press. In: *Constellations*, 10 (2003), No. 3, pp. 440-443.
- (with Christian Skirke): "A Realm of Velocity and Speed". *Reading Hybrid Life in Thomas Pynchon's Mason and Dixon*. In: Ian Copestake (ed.), *American Postmodernity: Essays on the Recent Fiction of Thomas Pynchon*. Bern u.a. 2003: Peter Lang, pp. 131-145.
- (with Martin Hartmann): *Bernard Williams on Truth and Genealogy*. In: *European Journal of Philosophy*, 12 (2004), No. 3, pp. 386-398.
- Review of: Michael Hardt/Antonio Negri: *Multitude: War and Democracy in the Age of Empire*, New York 2004: Penguin Press. In: *Constellations*, 13 (2006), No. 1, pp. 127-131.
- *A Politics of Experience? Response to Paolo Virno*. In: Daniel Birnbaum/Isabelle Graw (eds.), *Under Pressure: Pictures, Subjects, and the New Spirit of Capitalism*. Berlin 2008: Sternberg Press, pp. 46-49.
- *The Art of Distancing: Considerations Regarding the Logic of Social Critique*, in: *Texte zur Kunst*, 18 (2008), No. 70, pp. 124-130.
- *Understanding Genealogy: History, Power, and the Self*. In: *Journal for the Philosophy of History*, 2 (2008), No. 2, pp. 295-314.
- *Forces and Powers in Nietzsche's Genealogy of Morals*. In: Vasti Roodt/Herman W. Siemens (eds.), *Nietzsche, Power, and Politics: Rethinking Nietzsche's Legacy for Political Thought*. Berlin/New York 2008: de Gruyter, pp. 415-431.
- *Power and Critique*. In: *Journal of Power*, 3 (2010), No. 1, pp. 7-20.
- Artikel "Multitude". In: Mark Bevir (ed.), *Encyclopedia of Political Theory*. Thousand Oaks 2010: Sage, Bd. 2, pp. 912-914.
- Artikel "Power". In: Mark Bevir (ed.), *Encyclopedia of Political Theory*. Thousand Oaks 2010: Sage, Bd. 3, pp. 1098-1101.
- *Relocating the Modern State: Governmentality and the History of Political Ideas*. In: Ulrich Bröckling/Susanne Krasmann/Thomas Lemke (eds.), *Governmentality: Current Issues and Future Challenges*. London 2011: Routledge, pp. 34-55.
- Review of: Ursula Renz, *Die Erklärbarkeit von Erfahrung. Realismus und Subjektivität in Spinozas Theorie des menschlichen Geistes*, Frankfurt/M. 2009: Klostermann. In: *Notre Dame Philosophical Review*, 19.9.2011, <http://ndpr.nd.edu/news/26110-die-erklarbarkeit-von-erfahrung-realismus-und-subjektivitt-in-spinozas-theorie-des-menschlichen-geistes/>.
- Review of: Filippo Del Lucchese: *Conflict, Power and Multitude in Machiavelli and Spinoza: Tumult and Indignation*, London/New York 2009: Continuum. In: *European Journal of Philosophy*, 19 (2011), No. 4, pp. 647-654.
- (with Hannah Grosse Wiesmann) Review of: Simon May (ed.), *Nietzsche's Genealogy of Morality: A Critical Guide*, Cambridge 2011: Cambridge University Press. In: *Notre Dame Philosophical Review*, 7.3.2012, <http://ndpr.nd.edu/news/31832-nietzsche-s-genealogy-of-morality-a-critical-guide-3/>.
- *What is Political Ontology? Review of: Oliver Marchart: Die politische Differenz. Zum Denken des Politischen bei Nancy, Lefort, Badiou, Laclau und Agamben*. Berlin 2010: Suhrkamp. In: *Krisis: Journal for Contemporary Philosophy*, 12 (2012), No. 1, pp. 79-84, <http://www.krisis.eu/content/2012-1/krisis-2012-1-09-saar.pdf>.

- The Immanence of Power: From Spinoza to "Radical Democracy", *Mededelingen vanwege het Spinozahuis* 106, Voorschoten 2014: Uitgeverij Spinozahuis.
- Spinoza and the Political Imaginary. In: *Qui Parle: Critical Humanities and Social Sciences*, 23 (2015), No. 2, pp. 115-133.
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- Review of: Banu Bargu: *Starve and Immolate: The Politics of Human Weapons*, New York 2014: Columbia University Press. In: *Contemporary Political Theory*, 16 (2017), No. 1, pp. 158-160.
- Critical Theory and critical theories. In: *Philosophy and Social Criticism*, 43 (2017), No. 3, pp. 298-299.
- Saving History from Progress (part of: *Emancipation, Progress, Critique: Debating Amy Allen's The End of Progress*). In: *Contemporary Political Theory*, 17 (2018), No. 4, pp. 512-516; <https://doi.org/10.1057/s41296-018-0215-6>.
- Critical Theory and Poststructuralism. In: Peter Gordon/Espen Hammer/Axel Honneth (eds.), *The Routledge Companion to the Frankfurt School*. London 2018: Routledge, pp. 322-335.
- What is Social Philosophy? Or, Order, Practice, Subject. In: *Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society*, Jg. 118 (2018), No. 2, pp. 207-223, <https://doi.org/10.1093/arisoc/aoy009>.
- Genealogy. In: Amy Allen/Eduardo Mendieta (eds.), *Habermas Lexicon*, Cambridge 2019: Cambridge University Press, pp. 156-159.
- Nietzsche. In: Amy Allen/Eduardo Mendieta, *Habermas Lexicon*, Cambridge 2019: Cambridge University Press, pp. 634-636.
- Power, Powerlessness and the Politics of Hope. (Part of: *Spinoza: Thoughts on Hope in Our Political Present*). In: *Contemporary Political Theory*, online first, 25.5.2020, <https://doi.org/10.1057/s41296-020-00406-4>.
- Immanent Normativity and the Fact of Domination: Notes on "Immanent Critique". In: Julia Christ/Kristina Lepold/Daniel Loick/Titus Stahl (eds.), *Debating Critical Theory: Engagements with Axel Honneth*. London 2020: Roman & Littlefield International, pp. 51-66.
- Rethinking Resistance: Critical Theory before and after Deleuze. In: *Coils of the Serpent: Journal for the Study of Contemporary Power*, 5 (2020), No. 6, pp. 68-80, <https://coilsoftheserpent.org/2020/11/rethinking-resistance/>.
- Ultimate Grounds, Political Power, Philosophical Intervention: Inheriting the *Tractatus theologico-politicus*. In: *Crisis & Critique*, 8. Jg. (2021), H. 1, S. 354-362, <https://www.crisiscritique.org/uploads/09-07-2021/60e/83d/83c/60e83d83c1de5918909801.pdf>.
- Power, Affect, Society: Critical Theory and the Challenges of (Neo-)Spinozism. In: Arthur Bueno/Hartmut Rosa/Christoph Henning (Hg.), *Critical Theory and New Materialisms*. New York 2021: Routledge, S. 71-83.
- The Critique and Politics of Identity. On the Affinities between Critical Theory and Poststructuralism: A Conversation between Bernard E. Harcourt and Martin Saar conducted by Sarah Bianchi. In: *Coils of the Serpent: Journal for the Study of Contemporary Power*, 4 (2022), No. 10, pp. 118-130, <https://coilsoftheserpent.org/2022/07/the-critique-and-politics-of-identity/>.
- Rethinking Critique and Theory. In: *Constellations* 30 (2023), No. 4, pp. 426-430, <https://doi.org/10.1111/1467-8675.12731>
- After the Endgames: What Was and What is Philosophy? In: *Philosophy, Politics and Critique*, 1 (2024), No. 1, pp. 112-115, <https://www.eupublishing.com/doi/epub/10.3366/ppc.2024.0028>.