

Sofia Livi

education

PhD - Philosophy

Scuola Normale Superiore (Pisa, IT) | 2022 - ongoing

Supervisor: Simone Gozzano, Internal Supervisor (SNS): Lorenzo Bartalesi.

PhD Project: **Olfaction and the Self.**

Areas of Interest: Philosophy of Perception, Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Psychology, Aesthetics.

My PhD project attempts a philosophical study of olfaction. The study faces multidisciplinary sources (from neuroscience to anthropology) via the methods of analytic philosophy, which has been the main area of training during my MA and BA. The roots of my interest in olfaction lie in the fascination with the concept of embodiment, as well as with the metaphysical problems that arise from the dichotomization of the mind and the body. I am firmly convinced that reflecting on the senses can be the way to provide a ground for problematizing the mind/body split.

Exchange period at SSAS - Rome (Scuola Superiore di Studi Avanzati, Sapienza), from March to June 2024. During this period, I am attending classes in Neuroscience and collaborating with the **Cosync Lab** (situated at the IRCCS Santa Lucia Foundation and the Department of Psychology of Sapienza University of Rome), a multidisciplinary laboratory led by Prof. Viviana Betti. The laboratory is focused on how body-environment interactions shape neural architecture during spontaneous and task-evoked activity. During my permanence at the laboratory, my task is to write a review article on the embodiment of tools, together with other PhD students with different academic backgrounds (neuroscience, psychology).

MA - Philosophy

Università degli Studi di Torino (Torino, IT) | 2019 - 2022

Final grade: 110/110 with Honours and Recommendation for Publication.

Thesis: **Moderate embodiment, or: theories that keep the body in mind.**

Supervisor: Alberto Voltolini, Co-supervisor: Alessandro Giovanni Bertinetto.

BA - Philosophy

Università di Pisa (Pisa, IT) | 2016 - 2019

Final grade: 110/110 with Honours.

Thesis: **Jaegwon Kim and the mind-body problem.**

Supervisor: Giacomo Turbanti.

Erasmus+ Programme

University of Bristol (Bristol, UK) | 2019

Scientific High School Diploma

Liceo Scientifico "Città di Piero" (Sansepolcro, IT) | 2011 - 2016

Final grade: 100/100 with Honours.

peer-reviewed publications

- Livi S., 2021, *Fodor, Kim e l'autonomia delle scienze cognitive* [Fodor, Kim and the autonomy of cognitive sciences], in *Rivista Internazionale di Filosofia e Psicologia*, 12 (1), pp. 71-87, URL <https://www.rifp.it/ojs/index.php/rifp/article/view/rifp.2021.0006/1127>.

presentations, conferences and seminars

- **Boundaries. Olfaction and the Embodied Self**, XXV World Congress of Philosophy, Roma, 1-8 August 2024.
- **The pleasantness of smells. Olfactory disgust and the embodied formation of the sense of the self**, 2024 Conference of the International Society for Research on Emotion, Belfast, 17-20 July 2024.
- **The Shaping of the Self Through Olfactory Preferences**, ISOT 2024 conference, Reykjavik/Iceland, 22 – 26 June 2024.
- **Airy nothing? The shaping of the embodied self through olfactory tastes**, 20th annual Conference of the Nordic Society for Phenomenology, Trondheim, Norway, 17-19 June, 2024.
- **The value of smell. A multidisciplinary approach on olfaction**, 19th Annual Conference of the Italian Association for Cognitive Sciences. "Values and Cognition", Genova, 14-16 December 2023
- **The Ambiguity of Olfaction: How Smells Shape Identities Through Attraction and Repulsion**, Annual International Graduate Philosophy Conference - University of Galway, online, 1 December 2023.
- **Visceral, yet ineffable: on the biases of olfaction**. Workshop - Implicit bias: What are we missing?, Munich School of Philosophy, 11-12 October 2023.
- **Perceptual style as embodied taste**. Leiden Summer School - The Agency of Style, University of Leiden, 21 September 2023.
- **Jade, jadeite and nephrite. An analysis of the Fodor-Kim debate in the light of some contemporary insights**, 5th TILPS History of Analytic Philosophy Workshop, Tilburg, 23-25 August 2022.

work experience

- **Teaching experience**, April 2024, Scuola Normale Superiore. Lecture: **On the Historicity of the Senses**, in the context of the course "Estetica - Storia della percezione: da Walter Benjamin al dibattito contemporaneo" (Prof. Lorenzo Bartalesi).
- Session chairing and assistance in the setting organization of the conference "**Is the Self Embodied?**", organized by Samantha Fazekas and Lilian Alweiss, Trinity College (Dublin), 6-7 May 2022, URL of the conference: <https://www.tcd.ie/Philosophy/assets/pdfs/Conference%20Poster%202022%20Page.pdf>.

courses and certificates

- *Leiden Summer School - The Agency of Style*, University of Leiden, September 2023.
- *Copenhagen Summer School in Phenomenology and Philosophy of Mind*, University of Copenhagen, August 2023.
- *Hamburg/Vienna Summer School - Alien Languages and Alien Metaphysics*, Vienna, July 2023.
- *Copenhagen Summer School in Phenomenology and Philosophy of Mind*, online, 2021.
- *Percorso Formativo 24 CFU* (Università degli Studi di Torino, a.a. 2019-2020).
- *Cambridge First Certificate in English (FCE) - B2* (2016).
- *Diplôme d'Etudes en Langue Française (DELFF) - B1* (2014).
- *European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL)* (2015).

languages

- English (Advanced).
- French (Intermediate).

affiliations

- Member of **European Chemoreception Research Organization (ECRO)** (2024).
- Member of **Nordic Society for Phenomenology (NoSP)** (2024).
- Member of **Smell Studies Graduate Student Working Group (SSG)** (2024).
- Member of **Odeuropa Network** (2024).
- Member of **AISC - Associazione Italiana di Scienze Cognitive** (2023).
- Member of **SIFA - Società Italiana di Filosofia Analitica** (2019).

scholarships

- Erasmus+ Scholarship (2019).
- Corso di Orientamento Universitario (Orientation Courses) - Scuola Normale Superiore (2016).

other activities

- From 2022 to 2023, voluntary work at the cinema L'Arsenale (Pisa) as receptionist.
- Active participant at the reading group "Stanley Cavell as a reader of Wittgenstein", organized by Paolo Babiotti. Università degli Studi di Torino, May 2020 - January 2021.