A Passport Photo of Two: On an Allusion in the Pictures of Wittgenstein and von Wright in Cambridge

Published Jun 26, 2014

Author Biographies

Christian Eric Erbacher, University of Bergen & University of Siegen

Christian Erbacher, born 1979, received his diploma in psychology from the University of Regensburg (Germany) in 2006 and his PhD in philosophy from the University of Bergen (Norway) in 2010. He is a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Bergen (Norway) with the project «Shaping a domain of knowledge by editorial processing: the case of Wittgenstein's Nachlass» funded by The Research Council of Norway (NFR). His publications include texts on the history of editing Wittgenstein's Nachlass, Wittgenstein's philosophy, Digital Humanities and negotiation practice.

Bernt Österman, University of Helsinki

Bernt Österman, born 1961, received his PhD from the University of Helsinki in 1995, where he has been teaching philosophy since the late 1980’s. His current position is Curator of the von Wright and Wittgenstein Archives at the University of Helsinki (WWA). His main research interests are value theory and the philosophy of Georg Henrik von Wright, but he has also published essays on subjects such as the philosophy of music. Currently, he is also active within Interbaas, a Finnish philosophical association, which arranges public philosophical discussions in Helsinki.

Abstract

The article draws a connection between three items preserved at the von Wright and Wittgenstein Archives at the University of Helsinki (WWA), namely a book by Wilhelm Busch and two copies of the photos of von Wright and Wittgenstein in Cambridge taken by Knut Erik Tranøy in 1950, by suggesting that the photos contain an allusion by Wittgenstein.
Christian Eric Erbacher, University of Bergen & University of Siegen

Christian Erbacher, born 1979, received his diploma in psychology from the University of Regensburg (Germany) in 2006 and his PhD in philosophy from the University of Bergen (Norway) in 2010. He is a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Bergen (Norway) with the project «Shaping a domain of knowledge by editorial processing: the case of Wittgenstein’s Nachlass» funded by The Research Council of Norway (NFR). His publications include texts on the history of editing Wittgenstein’s Nachlass, Wittgenstein’s philosophy, Digital Humanities and negotiation practice.

Bernt Österman, University of Helsinki

Bernt Österman, born 1961, received his PhD from the University of Helsinki in 1995, where he has been teaching philosophy since the late 1980’s. His current position is Curator of the von Wright and Wittgenstein Archives at the University of Helsinki (WWA). His main research interests are value theory and the philosophy of Georg Henrik von Wright, but he has also published essays on subjects such as the philosophy of music. Currently, he is also active within Interbaas, a Finnish philosophical association, which arranges public philosophical discussions in Helsinki.

References


Open Journal Systems

Current Issue
Georg Henrik von Wright always mentioned that his academic teachers had been Eino Kaila and Ludwig Wittgenstein. He even spoke of the two as his “father figures”. Georg Henrik was a sunny boy, but... It is not wrong to see von Wright as a follower of Wittgenstein, and von Wright’s life-long work was decisive for the fact that all of Wittgenstein’s Nachlass is now available. In what follows, I will concentrate more on Kaila and his Viennese connections than on Wittgenstein. I make an attempt of trying to see the two “fathers” from a perspective that was or at least could have been von Wright’s contemporary view. Vienna – or, more accurately – the recent past of Vienna was also von Wright’s city of dreams.