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PHILMATH SEMINAR

Research seminar in the philosophy of mathematics and the philosophy of logic

Organizers: Fabrice Pataut (SND - UMR 8011 Sciences, Normes, Démocratie, CNRS et Sorbonne Université) and Francesca Poggiolesi (IHPST - (UMR 8590, Institut d'Histoire et de Philosophie des Sciences et des Techniques, CNRS et Université Paris 1 Panthéon- Sorbonne)

Lundi 5 juin 2023, **17h-19h**, salle des conférences de l'IHPST, 13, rue du Four, 75006 PARIS

(format hybride)

Øystein Linnebo

(Philosophy, University of Oslo)

Titre : Definiteness: between mathematical practice and philosophical analysis (joint work with Laura Crosilla)

Résumé : Notions of definiteness play little role in today's mainstream mathematical practice. This makes it tempting to dismiss philosophers' appeals to such notions as "detached philosophy" and "mathematically sterile". To reject this criticism, we document how some of the most prominent mathematicians during the first half century of Cantorian set theory (1880 – 1930) appealed to notions of definiteness in their own theorizing. We distinguish two main notions of definiteness: *intensional* definiteness, i.e. that a concept is well-defined for any individual object to which it might be applied, and *extensional* definiteness, i.e. that the concept has a well-defined extension, namely, a collection of all the objects to which it applies. Both notions admit of interesting philosophical and logical analyses, which in turn give rise to valuable mathematics. These analyses involve modal or intuitionistic logic (or both).

Lien Zoom :

<https://pantheonsorbonne.zoom.us/j/95706317698?pwd=TDJhNjlQdEtoZWVxY08vTIVsVXVvUT09>

Meeting ID: 957 0631 7698

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