

CALL FOR PAPERS

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Thinking Solitude

One of a number of themes that authors working in the areas of existentialist and phenomenological theory and culture have in common is their representation of the solitary subject—not entirely solitary, since the other is never far away, but one who is paradoxically all the more alone given that the other is always already co-existing with him or her. For all that, does the plurality of phenomena traditionally described and the experiences widely reported under the name of solitude allow itself to be subsumed under a single category? What relations really are there between the heterogeneity with the world of the Isolated (Kierkegaard), the independence of the strong (Nietzsche), the forlornness of *Dasein* (Heidegger), the desolation of the citizen (Arendt) or the abandonment of the human being (Sartre)? Does the very idea of solitude give itself only as a philosophical concept, where it is generally admitted that “in the beginning is the relation” (Buber)? Moreover, what of this reality characteristic of our modernity which, in this time of hyperconnectivity, paradoxically does not cease to grow in democratic societies? Disarmed as one is when one must *treat* it, is one not taken aback when one applies oneself to *thinking* it? Rereading their precursors, it assuredly comes back to philosophers today to take hold of these questions, those who have always been inhabited by a solitude proportionate to the retreat from the world that their work implies.

Articles should be submitted to the *PhænEx* website or to the editors of the issue. All submissions will undergo blind peer review. **The deadline for submissions is April 1, 2011.**



Image: Caspar David Friedrich, *Der Wanderer über dem Nebelmeer*, 1818 (oil on canvas, Hambourg, Kunsthalle)