

PHILOSOPHY AND PHENOMENOLOGICAL RESEARCH
A QUARTERLY JOURNAL

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
INTERNATIONAL PHENOMENOLOGICAL SOCIETY

THE UNIVERSITY OF BUFFALO

BUFFALO 14, NEW YORK

March 21, 1947.

Professor Georg Lukacs
University of Budapest
Hungary

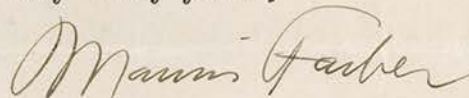
Dear Professor Lukacs:

I trust that you will receive a copy of our journal. The current March issue was sent to you the other day. You will note the broad program of the journal. Enclosed is a copy of a speech I made on our program.

You have been known to me for an entire generation, and I recently read a splendid essay which you wrote in the German language on Lebensphilosophie, which was sent to me from Russia. As a result, I suggested that you be asked to contribute to a forthcoming volume on Modern Materialism which is being edited by Professors Sellars, McGill and myself. I hope we may have the pleasure of your participation.

With cordial greetings,

Very truly yours,



Marvin Farber

MTA FIL. INT.
Lukács Arch

MF/mkk
Encl. 1

THE UNIVERSITY OF BUFFALO

BUFFALO 14, NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

May 29, 1947

Professor Georg Lukacs
IV. Ferencz József
rkp.2.V.em.5.
Budapest, Hungary

Dear Professor Lukacs:

I was very much interested in reading the paper on Existentialism which you sent for our cooperative volume on Modern Materialism. Professor McGill and I agree that it will find a welcome place in the volume. It is strong and well-deserved blow against a most pretentious and objectionable movement. As for the references to Phenomenology, I agree with you in rejecting Phenomenological Idealism. It is the descriptive findings achieved by Husserl which speak for themselves and command acceptance - insofar as they are themselves free from constructions which have no basis in experience. My own version of Phenomenology, in which I try to delimit what is sound, places it as one among various procedures which may be used for special purposes. I think we agree in making Husserl primarily to be a philosopher of Logic. Sometime I hope we may be able to discuss philosophical matters personally and more fully.

With regard to your new book on Hegel, I think especially of International Publishers, 381 Fourth Avenue, New York 16, New York, as a possibility for an American edition. I do not know whether one of our ^{other} commercial publishers might be interested, and I shall bear this matter in mind when meeting some of them. Marcuse's book on Hegel was published by the Oxford University Press (New York). I look forward to reading your book and hope you will have a review copy sent to our Journal office as soon as it appears. I shall see that a competent review will appear.

I expect to be in France in a few months (probably from about September 20 to November 20). I mention this in case your plans of travel will bring you to western Europe, or in case there are any persons there you would suggest that I meet. Although I have no address there as yet, the American Express Company of Paris would no doubt forward mail to me.

With cordial greetings,

MTA FIL. INT.

Lukács Arch.

Yours sincerely,

Marvin Farber

Marvin Farber

MF/fms

THE UNIVERSITY OF BUFFALO

BUFFALO 14, NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

USA
D

Paris 6^e Hotel des Saints-Pères, Paris 6^e,
October 9, 1947

Dear Professor Lukacs,

Upon receiving your "Zusatz," or, rather, insertion for your Materialism Volume paper, I sent it to McBill in New York, who will see that the translator takes care to include it. It was a good idea to make that additional comment, which helps to clarify your position.

I succeeded in getting Prof. H. J. Pos of Amsterdam to agree to send us a paper on 18th century French materialism. Perhaps you know him. He is now very much interested in (and oriented to) Marx; so is Prof. A. Banfi of Milano, as Pos told me. Both men are members of my journal staff.

I am happy to have made the acquaintance of Cornu; and I am to meet Wallon, Maublanc, and some others before I leave, the end of this month (Lefebvre, ^{Kojève,} and Sarandy, I hope).

Perhaps you know about the Husserl Archives in Louvain. The Nachlass (and widow) of

Husserl were saved by Pater Van Breda, a young Franciscan. He made a Catholic out of Mrs. Husserl. Whether he will succeed in "making a Catholic" out of the dead Husserl remains to be seen. I found considerable interest among Catholic philosophers in phenomenology. No doubt it offers them one mode of attack on Existentialism; perhaps they hope to find in it another philosophical weapon. I also noted an interest in Heidegger, which is now so prominent in France, the reason there being clearly related to Marx. Again philosophy is a weapon.

Having met a number of the leading European phenomenologists, I am glad to say that I am by no means alone in not only rejecting the idealistic metaphysics and hopeless transcendentalism, but also in refusing to accept phen. as a "universal philosophy." My "pluralism" of methods derives from a "pluralism of problems." Phen. has its proper function and domain and no more. Its abuses are pathetic, if not dangerous.

MTA FIL. INT.
Lukács Arch.

The prestige of Heidegger, as a "thinker" is enormous in France. In talking with the various philosophers, I do all that I can to expose the illusion of that diminutive (but enormously pretentious) murderer of the German language. When Sartre told me he really valued Heidegger, I could not forbear telling him that Heidegger did not return the compliment, but said "Leider Gottes" with regard to the French Existentialists.

My old Berlin violin master and friend, Boza de Kresz, is now prof. in Budapest. His wife, too, is a distinguished musician. I hope you have had contact with them. De Kresz is a truly great artist.

With cordial greetings,

Very truly yours,
Maxim Gorky

51754-41737

(I regret not having taken along a typewriter.)

THE UNIVERSITY OF BUFFALO

BUFFALO 14, NEW YORK

January 12, 1948

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

Professor George Lukacs:
University of Budapest
Budapest, Hungary

Dear Professor Lukacs:

When Mr. Huntington Cairns (National Gallery of Art, Washington 25, D.C.) wrote me recently, asking me concerning a number of new translations into English of important European books, I mentioned your book on Hegel. Mr. Cairns has a connection with a publishing firm which is interested in such projects. I would suggest that you write Mr. Cairns, giving him some information about your book on Hegel, and if it is already in print, referring him to it. I have not yet seen it, and I am so unable to tell him anything about it.

Dr. Cornu wrote to me from Italy, evidently after having met you and Professor Banfi.

Plans for the new volume on materialism are going along rapidly, and we hope the volume will be available by the end of the summer. With best wishes,

Very truly yours,

Marvin Farber
Marvin Farber

MTA FIL. INT.
Lukács Arch.

MF:md

UML 14-457/6

THE UNIVERSITY OF BUFFALO

BUFFALO 14, NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

January 12, 1950

Professor George Lukács
Budapest IV
Belgrad RKP. 2 V. Em. 5
Hungary

Dear Professor Lukács:

I regret to learn from your letter of December 13th that an author's copy of the cooperative volume, Philosophy for the Future, was not sent to you by the publishers, the Macmillan Company of New York. I am writing at once requesting that a copy be sent to you. I do not understand their failure to do so in your case, any more than in the case of Professors Cornu and Pos. The latter two have received their copies, by special request. If you do not receive a copy within a reasonable time (perhaps four or five weeks) will you again let me know? As for royalties, nothing has been said so far, since the volume was issued late last May, and I suppose the first report will not be made until after the first year.

The volume is selling as well as might have been expected at the high price of \$7.50. The reception has been a very good one, except at the hands of the "Naturalists" who feel themselves challenged by an outspoken scientific philosophy.

Another cooperative volume in which I am interested, involving French and American philosophy, is about to appear in English and French. Cornu, Wallon, and Lefebvre are included in it, and Sellars, McGill, Edel, and I represent what might be called the left wing of American philosophy in the volume. In my essay, I make reference to your discussion of "Philosophies of Life," which I value highly. Did that essay, which was sent to me in the German language (a typewritten copy) by Voks of Moscow, ever appear in print in Russia? If so, I should appreciate the reference; and also any other reference if it appeared in any other language than Russian. I think it is important that students of philosophy know the historical significance of the movement from Dilthey and Simmel to Scheler and beyond.

With cordial greetings,

Very truly yours,

Marvin Farber
Marvin Farber

MTA FIL. INT.
Lukács Arch

P.S. Would you like a review copy of the forthcoming French-American volume? If you should wish to publish a review in any publication of your choice in Hungary, or elsewhere, I should be happy to send you a copy as soon as the book is off the press.