

Simon Høffding
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Year of birth: 1984

Profile and current research

I am a philosopher of phenomenology and qualitative interview methodologies passionately dedicated to the study of movement and cultural practices primarily concerning expertise. I am the principle investigator of a team of fifteen researchers in biology, anthropology, experimental psychology, engineering, computer science, complexity physics, music-psychology and -technology, and phenomenology, from five European research institutions. Together with some of the world's best musicians, we work on understanding the relations between the phenomenology and the physiology of various musical practices. As of 2020, I am associate professor at SDU. I continue to work on phenomenology and qualitative research, and mixed methods. This will have application for understanding arts, sports activities and health related research. From 2021 onwards I hope to go into music therapy.

Research interests

Topics: Expertise, interaction, absorption, reflection, bodily intentionality, self-awareness, 4E cognition.

Practices: Classical music, improvisation, athletics, therapy, education.

Methods: Phenomenology, phenomenological interviews, interdisciplinary methodology, mixed methods.

Employment

2020 -: Associate Professor, Department of Sports Science and Clinical Biomechanics, University of Southern Denmark
2018-2020: Post Doc., Department of Musicology/RITMO Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Rhythm, Time and Motion, University of Oslo.

2017-18: Post Doc., Department of Psychology, University of Copenhagen.

2016: Post Doc., Interacting Minds Centre, University of Århus.

2015-16: External lecturer, University of Southern Denmark.

2012-15: PhD student, Center for Subjectivity Research, University of Copenhagen.

Education

2019: University teaching certification: University of Oslo.

2015: PhD: Center for Subjectivity Research, University of Copenhagen.

Research visits at: Department of Cognitive Science, Macquarie University, Sydney and "Archives Husserl", Centre National de Recherche Scientifique, École Normale Supérieure, Paris.

2012: MA in Philosophy. Specialization in phenomenology and philosophy of mind: University of Copenhagen.

2009: MA in Philosophy: University of Liverpool.

2008: BA in Liberal Arts and Philosophy "Magna Cum Laude": Soka University of America. One semester study abroad at Soka University, Hachioji, Japan.

Publications

Forthcoming, under review and in progress

1) Høffding, S., Martiny, K., & Heimann, K. (Eds.) (forthcoming) "Working with others' experiences: Theory, Practice and Application" Special issue of *Phenomenology and the Cognitive Sciences*.

2) Høffding, S., Ravn, S., & McGuirk, J. (Eds.) (in preparation) *Improvisation: the competence of not being in control*. Routledge.

3) Høffding, S. (forthcoming) "Phenomenology." in (Eds. T. McAuley, N. Nielsen, and J. Levinson) *Oxford Handbook of Western Music and Philosophy*. Oxford University Press.

4) Ravn, S., & Høffding, S. (under review) "What is thinking in movement? An enactivist analysis of agency in artistic improvisation." *Phenomenology and the Cognitive Sciences*.

5) Høffding, S., Martiny, K., & Roepstorff, A. (under review) "Can we trust the phenomenological interview? Metaphysical, epistemological, and methodological objections" *Phenomenology and the Cognitive Sciences*.

6) Martiny, K., Toro, J. & Høffding, S. (under review): "Integrating Phenomenology and Social Cognition: Framing a Phenomenological Mixed Method: From Inspiration to Guidance" *Frontiers in Psychology*.

Monographs and edited volumes

- 7) Høffding, S. (2019) *A Phenomenology of Musical Absorption*. Palgrave MacMillan.
- 8) Praetorius, N. & Høffding, S. (eds.) (2016) "A New Approach to Studies of the Self" special issue of *Journal of Consciousness Studies*. 23(1-2): 1-301.
- 9) Høffding, S. (2015) *A Phenomenology of Expert Musicianship*. PhD dissertation. University of Copenhagen.

Articles and book chapters

- 10) Høffding, S., Houlberg, M., & Roald, T. (2019) "Participation and Receptivity in the Art Museum – a Phenomenological Exposition." *Curator: The Museum Journal*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/cura.12344>
- 11) Høffding, S. & Schiavio, A. (2019) "Exploratory expertise and the dual intentionality of music-making." *Phenomenology and the Cognitive Sciences*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11097-019-09626-5>
- 12) Høffding, S. & Satne, G. (2019) "Interactive expertise in solo and joint musical performance." *Synthese*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11229-019-02339-x>
- 13) Høffding, S. & Montero, B. (2019) "Not Being There: An Analysis of Expertise-Induced Amnesia." *Mind & Language*. DOI:10.1111/mila.12260
- 14) Høffding, S. & Roald, T. (2019) "Passivity in Aesthetic Experience: Husserlian and Enactive Perspectives." *Journal of Aesthetics and Phenomenology*, 6:1, 1-20, DOI:10.1080/20539320.2019.1589042.
- 15) Høffding, S. (2019) "Performative Passivity: Lesson on phenomenology and the extended musical mind with the Danish String Quartet" in (Eds. E. Clarke, D. Clarke & R. Herbert) *Music and Consciousness II*. Oxford University Press: 127-42.
- 16) Salice, A., Høffding, S., Gallagher, S. (2019) "Putting Plural Pre-reflective Self-awareness into Practice" *Topoi*. Vol. 38(1), pp. 197–209
- 17) Høffding, S. (2017) "The phenomenology of Expert Musicianship." *Danish Yearbook of Musicology*. Vol. 41: 10-11.
- 18) Høffding, S. (2017) "Losing oneself in the music: phenomenological considerations." *Quadern della Ginestra*. XIX: 45-51 <http://www.la-ginestra.com/disponibile-il-numero-xviii-dei-quaderni-speciale-attraverso-la-societa-degli-individui/>
- 19) Ravn, S. & Høffding, S. (2016) "The promise of 'sporting bodies' in phenomenological thinking – how exceptional cases of practice can contribute to develop foundational phenomenological concepts." *Qualitative Research in Sport, Exercise and Health*. DOI:10.1080/2159676X.2016.1187663
- 20) Høffding, S. & Krueger, J. (2016) "The First Person Perspective and Beyond: Commentary on Almass" in Praetorius & Høffding (eds.) "A New Approach to Studies of the Self" *Journal of Consciousness Studies*. Vol. 23(1-2): 158-78.
- 21) Høffding, S. & Martiny, K. (2016) "Framing a Phenomenological Interview: What, Why, and How" *Phenomenology and the Cognitive Sciences*. Vol. 15:539–564.
- 22) Schiavio, A. & Høffding, S. (2015) "Playing together without communicating? A pre-reflective and enactive account of joint musical performance" *Musicae Scientiae*. Vol. 19(4): 366–388.
- 23) Høffding, S. (2014) "スキルトなったコピングとは?" ("What is skilled Coping?") *Phainomenon kai Logos* (Annual Review of the Phenomenological Association of Japan). 30: 49-66.
- 24) Høffding, S. (2014) "What is Skilled Coping? Experts on Expertise" *Journal of Consciousness Studies*. Vol 21 (9–10): 49–73.
- 25) Rønn, K. V. and Høffding, S. (2013) "The Epistemic Status of Intelligence: An Epistemological Contribution to the Understanding of Intelligence". *Intelligence and National Security*. Vol.28(5): 694-716.
- 26) Høffding, S. (2004) "Kant's Perpetual Peace and Its Practical Actualization". *Papers of International Conference on Two Hundred Years after Kant* (November 20-22, 2004/Tehran-Iran), Department of Philosophy, Allameh Tabataba'i University. ISBN: 964-8415-30-7.

Reviews & commentaries

- 27) Høffding, S. (2019) "Grounding Enactivism." Triple book review of Dan Hutto and Erik Myin, *Evolving Enactivism* (2017, MIT Press); Shaun Gallagher, *Enactivist Interventions* (2017, Oxford University Press); Ezequiel Di Paolo, Thomas Buhrmann, and Xabier E. Barandiaran, *Sensorimotor Life* (2017, Oxford University Press) *Philosophy*. Vol 94(3): 492-499.
- 28) Høffding, S. (2013) "A musical exploration of consciousness. Book review of Clarke & Clarke (Eds.) (2011) *Music and Consciousness*." *Phenomenology and the Cognitive Sciences*. 12: 877-882.
- 29) Høffding, S. (2017) The Perils of "Open Science": How Radical and How Many? *Constructivist Foundations* 13(1):72-72.

Talks (selected among 100+ conference and workshop talks in four continents)

Keynotes

2022: 2nd European Guided Imagery and Music Conference, Fredericia. "Together in Music: Phenomenological Explorations of Musical Absorption."

Invited talks

2020, November: Phenomenology and Health Care. PhD course at Centre for Subjectivity Research, University of Copenhagen.

2020, February: Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris. "The phenomenology of joint musical action."

2019: Refined Audition: Music and Speech, University of Oslo. "What Do Expert Musicians Hear When They Perform?"

2019: 4Esthetics? Max Planck Institute for Empirical Aesthetics. "Physiological correlates of musical absorption."

2019: Dansk Amatørmusiker Forbunds Årsstævne, Askov Højskole. "Hvad er Musikalsk Fordybelse?"

2019: (long distance) Musicology Seminar, University of Graz. "Thinking in movement: An enactive account of improvisation."

2019: Phenomenology and Health Care. PhD course at St. Hilda's College, University of Oxford.

2018: A new model for dialogue between philosophy and psychiatry: Phenomenological interviews, University of Heidelberg. "The Phenomenological Interview and the Skepticist Philosopher."

2018: Enactivism: Theory and Performance, University of Memphis. "Improvising with Myself: becoming a dynamical system."

2018: Institute for Daisaku Ikeda Studies in Education, DePaul University. "The Mind of the Expert Teacher."

2018: six talks on phenomenology, embodiment, interview methodology and aesthetics at Universities of Okayama, Hiroshima, Tokyo and Soka University, Tokyo.

2018: Moving art - Philosophical and Psychological Explorations. University of Copenhagen. "Moved in Museums: the Intentionality of Aesthetic Absorption."

2016: Performance, Subjectivity and Experimentation in Artistic Research, Orpheus Institute, Ghent. "Absorbed Subjectivity in Music Performance."

2012: Music in the Brain seminar at Center for Functionally Integrative Neuroscience, University of Aarhus. "Like a rag doll mindlessly wobbling in sound: Intentionality and motor-consciousness in performing musicians."

Conferences, posters and other

2019: Nordic Society for Phenomenology annual conference. Panel on Phenomenology and Social Sciences: "The Phenomenological Interview and the Skeptic Philosopher."

2018: International Association for the Philosophy of Sports annual conference. Norwegian School of Sports Sciences. "What is Thinking in Movement?"

2017: Embodied Aesthetics, 19th Herbstakademie, University of Heidelberg, "Enacting Aesthetic Experience."

2017: Improvisation in the Arts, University of Copenhagen, "Expert Free Jazz Improvisation."

2016: A Body of Knowledge, University of Irvine California. "We-ing" in Joint Music Performance."

2016: Music, Mind, Movement, Meditation, Interactive Minds Centre, University of Århus. "Forms of musical absorption and connections to dreaming and sleeping."

2016: Aesthetics and the 4E mind, University of Exeter. "Is Musical Absorption a Question of Reflection?"

2015: 23rd Annual Meeting of the European Society for Philosophy and Psychology, University of Tartu. Paper in panel on Understanding Affective Phenomena in Psychopathology.

2015: 2nd International Conference on Music and Consciousness, University of Oxford. Paper in panel on "The Musically Extended Mind."

2015: Intercenter Workshop on Phenomenology (Husserl Archives Leuven/Paris and Center for Subjectivity Research) Husserl Archives, University of Leuven. "Musical Passivity: from the Body-Schema to Intercorporeity."

2014: 10th Conference of the Australasian Society for Cognitive Science, Monash University, Melbourne. "The Phenomenological Interview."

2014: Alternative Models of the Mind. Spindel Conference, University of Memphis. "The Musician's Model of the Mind."

2013: Phenomenological Association of Japan: Annual Conference, Nagoya University. "What is skilled coping? Experts on expertise."

2013: Annual Conference of the Royal Musical Association Music and Philosophy, King's College London. Paper in tripart panel on enactive and phenomenological approaches to music cognition.

2011: Annual conference of the Nordic Society for Phenomenology at University of Iceland. "Non-Intentional Conscious States? Merleau-Ponty and the Body Schema of the Expert Musician."

2009: Annual conference of the Philosophy of Education Society of Great Britain at New College, Oxford. "Conditions of Creativity: A Reading of Descartes, Kant, and Leibniz in the Context of Soka Education."

2008: World Congress of Philosophy, Seoul, South Korea. "A Bergsonian Fortification of Husserl's Phenomenology."

2004: Two Hundred Years After Kant, Tehran, Iran. "Kant's Perpetual Peace and Its Practical Actualization."

Funding obtained

2019: Norges Kulturråd/Statens Kunstfond, Danmark: "Kunst og Sociale Fællesskaber": «Sammen i Musikken – fri improvisation som en unik social begivenhed?» NOK 200.000 (Main applicant)

2018: University of Oslo, Life Science conference on "absorption". NOK 50.000 (Main applicant)

2016: NOS-HS Exploratory Workshops (Humanities and Social science) "The philosophy and practice of improvisation (IMPROV) 2016-00222/NOS-HS. DKK 440.000 (Co-applicant)

2016: FKK (Danish Council for Independent Research) (DFF – 6107-00273) "Aesthetic experience and the pre-reflective self. An investigation in phenomenological psychology" DKK 7.053.520 (Co-applicant)

Interviews and press coverage

New York Times: https://www.nytimes.com/2016/10/23/arts/music/danish-string-quartet-has-a-line-of-craft-beer.html?_r=0
Politiken: <http://politiken.dk/kultur/musik/ECE2571005/professionelle-musikere-kan---midt-i-en-koncert---taenke-lidt-paa-indkoebssedlen/>
Danish Broadcasting Corporation/P2: "Nørderne kommer" <http://www.dr.dk/playlister/p2/2013-12-15/noerderne-kommer-42/>

Teaching Experience

See "Teaching statement and portfolio".

Organizational experience and other academic work

2016-: Organization of PhD courses on phenomenology, health care, and qualitative science.

2013-: Organization of several small and medium sized, local and international workshops.

2010-14: Practical organizer of Summer Schools and major international conferences at the Center for Subjectivity Research, University of Copenhagen. <http://cfs.ku.dk/multimedia/summerschool/>

2005-08: Co-founder and organizer of the annual "Soka Education Conference", Soka University of America and of the research initiative "Soka Education Student Research Project"

Reviewer: *Phenomenology and the Cognitive Sciences*, *Journal of Consciousness Studies*, *Behavioral Sciences*, *Synthese*, *Musicae Scientiae*.

Languages

Fluent in Danish, English, French and Spanish; basic skills in German and Japanese.