About Authors

Alin C. Cucu holds undergraduate degrees in both biology and chemistry from the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität of Munich. After some years as a high school teacher for biology and chemistry, he is currently a Templeton fellow at the International Academy of Philosophy in Mauren, Liechtenstein (as part of the project “The Openness of the Universe for Divine Interaction and Human Free Will”), completing his PhD in philosophy. He is interested in metaphysics of mind, philosophy of science, philosophy of action and will and philosophy of religion, but above all in an integrated approach to fundamental questions like the nature and origin of consciousness.
Address: Alin Christoph Cucu, International Academy of Philosophy, Fürst-Franz-Josef-Str. 19, FL-9493 Mauren, Liechtenstein; email: acucu@iap.li

Niels Hammer studied Sanskrit at the University of Copenhagen. He has written articles on Sanskrit and Indo-European etymology, consciousness research, Indian flora and fauna, butterfly ecology, a book on Sanskrit poetics and a novel. His interests include nature, poetry, literature, art, the numinous, affective neuroscience, interdisciplinary perspectives and the ineffable.
Address: Niels Hammer, Oras, 242 97 Hörby, Sweden; email: n.hammer@askerod.se

Jane McDonnell is adjunct research associate in the Philosophy Department at Monash University, Australia. She has doctorates in both theoretical physics and philosophy and over twenty years’ experience applying mathematics in academia and industry. She has held professional positions in high energy physics, industrial mathematics, corporate strategy and planning, and corporate finance. She has authored or co-authored more than eighty technical papers in physics, mathematics, finance and philosophy.
Address: Dr. Jane McDonnell, Philosophy Department, Menzies Building, 20 Chancellors Walk, Monash University, Clayton VIC 3800, Australia; email: jane@delphient.com.au

J. Brian Pitts received a PhD in Physics from the University of Texas at Austin and a PhD in Philosophy with a concentration in the History and Philosophy of Science from the University of Notre Dame. He has subsequently done research and taught at the University of Notre Dame and, since 2012, the University of Cambridge. His interests include the
philosophy of physics (especially space-time and gravitation) and the history and philosophy of science. He finds the philosophy of science relevant to intellectual history and other big questions.

Address: Dr. Dr. Brian Pitts, Faculty of Philosophy, Sidgwick Avenue, University of Cambridge, Cambridge CB3 9DA, United Kingdom; email: jbp25@cam.ac.uk

Terje Sparby studied philosophy at the University of Oslo and received his PhD in philosophy at Heidelberg University in 2012 for a study of Hegel’s conception of the determinate negation. After one year as a post-doc at Humboldt University (Berlin) and as a visiting scholar at the Mind & Life Institute (Hadley MA) he joined the Bender Institute of Neuroimaging at Giessen University in 2014. Currently he is at the University of Witten-Herdecke. His work focuses on philosophical studies of consciousness and meditation.

Address: Dr. Terje Sparby, Department of Psychology and Psychotherapy, University of Witten-Herdecke, Gerhard-Kienle-Weg 4, 58313 Herdecke, Germany; email: Terje.Sparby@uni-wh.de