

PHILOSOPHICAL FORUMS IN CARLOFORTE, ITALY

We intend to hold two philosophical forums at the Ninth International Conference on Philosophical Practice, which will be held in July 2008 in Italy (www.carloforte2008.eu). Each forum will consist of a panel of 3-6 experienced philosophical practitioners, who will discuss, in front of the audience, an issue posed to them by the moderator. Each session will be an hour and a half long, and will be made of two parts: First, the panel will discuss the issue(s) presented to them. Second, the forum will open to the audience's participation, either by questions and answers or by dividing to small discussion groups, each one led by one of the panelists. It should be emphasized that the panelists' task is not to argue between themselves, but rather to examine together different ways of addressing the challenges. Differences of approaches will be explored in the collegial spirit of polyphonic dialogue.

FORUM 1: HOW TO LIVE THE PHILOSOPHICAL LIFE

The purpose of this panel is to explore ways of translating the abstract ideal of the philosophical life into concrete everyday attitudes and behaviors. The panelists will be presented with several concrete life-situations, and will discuss what it would mean to live them philosophically.

FORUM 2: COUNSELING FOR A FULLER LIFE

The purpose of this panel is to explore ways of conducting philosophical counseling aimed at helping the counselee live a fuller life towards wisdom. The panelists will be presented with a case of a counselee, and will discuss ways of counseling that person.

FORUM 3: COUNSELING FOR ORGANIZATIONS

This forum will deal with how philosophical practitioners can work with organizations, and what goals they can aspire to achieve in this kind of work. The panelists will be presented with several concrete situations, and will discuss how philosophical practice can be applied.

FORUM 4: LEARNING TO BE A PHILOSOPHICAL PRACTITIONER - CHALLENGES AND PERSONAL EXPERIENCES

This forum will give voice to new people in philosophical practice, with about one year involvement in the field or less. The panelists will be students of philosophical practice who will discuss the experience of entering the field, and how this experience can be facilitated.