

Tentative Speech-Acts: Unfolding Backgrounds and Making Sense

Public lecture by Donata Schoeller
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Árnagarður 101
University of Iceland

The lecture introduces the concept of “tentative speech acts”. Tentative speech acts make sense by literally speaking into a felt complexity. The meaning they might make depends on trying to formulate something which seems difficult to put in words. What one is trying to say in tentative speech acts might involve contexts and constellations, experimental settings, know-hows and tacit knowledge, specific details and vague feelings, immersed in a background of further experiences. The lecture explores ways to approach these speech acts in their philosophical relevance and as a philosophical practice.



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