

## **“Conflict” in academia - Bergson vs. Bachelard**

My proposal for the *Re-staging Academia* Symposium is inspired by my reading of two contemporaneous French philosophers of the last century, namely Henri Bergson and Gaston Bachelard. The philosophy of the former in regard to duration, intuition, and knowledge was attacked persistently by the latter who developed a *philosophy of No*, against Bergsonism, propagating the notion of fragmented time, history and (scientific) knowledge.

For the occasion of the symposium, I will focus on the “conflict” between the theories of these two philosophers. Based on Bachelard’s argument according to which the production of knowledge cannot take place unless it proceeds dialectically with polemical discussions and strong oppositions (hence his attack on Bergsonism), my intention is to contextualise this past “academic” conflict as a means of knowledge production with current debates in academia, which can hopefully inform the scope of the Joint Symposia.

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