Self-Introduction by members of our project
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Shinji Hamauzu (PhD) is currently a professor of clinical philosophy in the Graduate School of Letters at Osaka University, Japan. The starting point of his research was Husserl's phenomenology of intersubjectivity. In 1995 he published his dissertation titled "Husserl's phenomenology of intersubjectivity". He also published the Japanese translation of Husserl's "Cartesian Meditations" in 2001 and three volumes of Husserl's "Phenomenology of Intersubjectivity" in 2012, 2013 and 2015. In parallel with this research on intersubjectivity, he extended the area of his research to explore the related phenomenologists and philosophical anthropologists, moreover to understand the practical problems in our modern society. Since 2002, he has been engaged with research on 'caring' in a broader sense as a field of intersubjectivity and began a collaborative research on caring not only with scholars from other fields but also with practical workers. In 2005 he published an edited book "Introduction to Anthropology of Caring". He has organized a collaborative research on caring in Nordic countries with Japanese scholars from other fields for 6 years. From such backgrounds, he has started organizing a collaborative research on "phenomenology of vulnerability and limits" with Nordic phenomenologists.

Sara Heinämaa is professor of philosophy at the University of Jyväskylä and director of the research community "Subjectivity, Historicity, Communality" (SHC) at the Universities of Jyväskylä and Helsinki, Finland. In her systematic work, Heinämaa investigates the nature of human embodiment, intersubjectivity, and temporality. Her exegetic work is focused on Husserl, Merleau-Ponty, and Beauvoir. She has published widely in phenomenology, existentialism, philosophy of mind, and history of philosophy. Her most important publications include “Toward A Phenomenology of Sexual Difference” (Rowman and Littlefield 2003), “Phenomenologies of Mortality and Generativity” (Indiana University Press 2010), “New Perspectives on Aristotelianism and Its Critics” (Brill 2015) (with Virpi Mäkinen and Miira Tuominen), and “Consciousness: From Perception to Reflection” (Springer...
2008) (with Vili Lähteenmäki and Pauliina Remes). At the moment she is working on a book on personhood and generativity.

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**Jussi A. Saarinen** holds an MA in psychology and a PhD in philosophy. He is currently working as a university teacher in philosophy at the University of Jyväskylä. He is particularly interested in emotions, developmental psychology and artistic creativity (both separately and together). If you are interested in an overview of his work or in reading some of his papers, please visit: [https://jyu.academia.edu/JussiSaarinen](https://jyu.academia.edu/JussiSaarinen)

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**Erika Ruonakoski** (PhD) is a university lecturer in philosophy at the University of Jyväskylä, Finland, and a member of the research community “Subjectivity, Historicity, Communality” (SHC). In her research she has focused on the questions of empathy and the human–animal relationship, drawing especially from Merleau-Ponty’s phenomenology of the body. She has also studied the roles of embodiment and intersubjectivity in the reading experience in an interdisciplinary project dealing with animal figures in ancient Greek literature. In addition, she is one of the translators of the unabridged Finnish translation of Simone de Beauvoir’s *The Second Sex* (2009, 2011) as well as the translator of two other works by Beauvoir: a collection of essays including "Must We Burn Sade?" (2007) and *The Ethics of Ambiguity* (2011). Her current research deals with the links between androcentrism and anthropocentrism in existentialism.

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**Petra Nyman-Salonen** has a MA in psychology, is a psychotherapist and is at the moment doing her PhD in psychology at the University of Jyväskylä. She is doing her PhD on bodily attunement in the psychotherapeutic setting in the research project Relational Mind in events of change in multiactor therapeutic settings. The Relational Mind project has been developed within intersubjectivity research and aims to increase the understanding of the mutual attunement and mutual synchronization that happens in couple therapy in both the verbal dialogue and at the bodily level. Petra is developing a method for looking at the embodied attunement at the behavioral level. She sees bodily attunement as a part of bodily based empathy and is with her research aiming
to clarify the impact of bodily based empathy on the psychotherapeutic change process.

Irina Poleshchuk is currently a postdoctoral researcher at the university of Helsinki, her interest covers study of intersubjective relation within temporality of an ethical encounter of the face-to-face; the main focus aims at interpretations of conditions of ethical becoming of subjectivity considering temporal structure of forgiveness, justice, gift and welcome as well as temporal structures of maternity and the feminine. Conceptual context of her study is rooted in works of such authors as Levinas E., Henry M., Jonas H., Burggraeve R. She is also a founder of the Institute for Levinas Studies in Lithuania and is currently a docent at the European Humanities University in Vilnius. Her recent publications are: “The temporalization of listening in the intersubjective relation”, in Horizon, 4 (1) 2015, p.97-113, ISSN 2226-5260, “The ethics of futurity: messianism and intersubjectivity” , in International Journal of Humanities and Social Science, Vol.4, No.5 (1); March 2014, p. 56-66. ISSN: 2220-8488, Unfolding flesh towards the other: Levinas’ perspective of maternity and the feminine”, in Problemos vol. 84, 2013, p.138-151, ISSN: 1392-1126.

Takashi IKEDA (born in 1977 in Tokyo, Japan) is senior assistant professor at the School of Arts and Letters in Meiji University (Tokyo). He obtained his D. Lit. from University of Tokyo in 2008. His doctor thesis is on the existential ontology of Martin Heidegger. His research interests range from ontology, phenomenology, analytic philosophy of action and mind, care ethics and feminist political philosophy. He has published one authored book (in Japanese): Being and Action: Martin Heidegger’s Being and Time Reexamined (Sobunsyya 2011), and two edited books (in Japanese): Am I Responsible for My Life?: Towards Phenomenological Ethics (Hirosaki Daigaku Syuppankai 2012) and The Beginning of Martin Heidegger’s Philosophy (Koyo syobo, 2015). Papers in English and German include: "Agency and Mortality: Heidegger’s Existential Analysis of Death and its Practical Philosophical Background" (2011 in Bulletin of Life and Death Studies), "Das Zuhause als übersehener Ort des Denkens: Eine feministische-phänomenologische Perspektive" (2014 in Polylg-Zeitschrift), and
"Body and Needs: Perspectives on how the phenomenology of the female body may prove useful for feminist political activism" (2014 in Clinical Philosophy).

Hitomi NAKAZAWA is an assistant professor of philosophy at Nihon University, Japan. She received her B.A. in 1999 and M.A. in 2001 from Nihon University and obtained her Ph.D. in Merleau-Ponty studies from Nihon University in 2010. Her main research interests range from philosophy and feminist theory. Her recent research topics include: Body theory in western philosophy and feminist theory, female bodily expression in Western and Japanese cultures, freedom of body, and women’s reproductive health.

Tetsuo SAWADA is associate professor of philosophy and ethic at the University of Toyama. The starting point of his research was Merleau-Ponty’s and Husserl’s phenomenology. In 2008, he took a doctorate of philosophy and epistemology at the University of Paris-East (Créteil, former Paris XII) by a study of Husserl’s theory of affectsivity and its application to pathological phenomena. He published, in 2012, Merleau-Ponty. Phenomenology and Pathology (in Japanese). He also published a number of articles concerning the phenomenological anthropology, especially, in French phenomenological journal, Annales de phénoménologie, and in various Japanese philosophical journals. At the moment, he is studying Merleau-Ponty’s phenomenological approach of children’s expression, and Marc Richir’s new foundation of transcendental phenomenology and his approach to psychopathological phenomena.

Shojiro KOTEGAWA (PhD) is a senior assistant professor of philosophy at Kokugakuin University, Japan. The starting point of his research was Levinas’ phenomenology (especially his radical “rationalism”). In 2015 he published his dissertation titled “Rebirth of Levinas: A Reading of Totality and Infinity”. He also wrote in French “« Le tiers me regarde dans les yeux d’autrui » : qui est le « tiers » d’E. Levinas ?” (Revue internationale Michel Henry, 2015). Based on these achievement of his, he is now working on the phenomenology of emotion and the feminist phenomenology.
Mao NAKA is an associate professor of ethics and philosophy in the Graduate School of Letters at Kobe University, Japan. She started her career with Levinas’ philosophy, focusing on “corporeity”, “suffering” or “evil. Lately, her study has been centered around “reproduction” both from theoretical and practical point of views including considerations about reproductive technology, prenatal diagnosis or abortion. “Reproduction and the Other,” “Corporeity of Reproduction and Choice,” and “Sharing Corporeity of Reproduction” are some of the titles of her current articles.

Haruka TSUTSUI (PhD) is currently a research fellow of L2 project “Philosophy of Disability and Coexistence”, Uehiro Research Division for Philosophy of Coexistence, The University of Tokyo Center for Philosophy (UTCP). She received her M. A. in 2008 and Ph. D in 2015 from the University of Tokyo. She had started her research in analytic philosophy (especially philosophy of mind, philosophy of action, philosophy of social science) and then joined the research group of feminist phenomenology. Her doctoral thesis is on shared/collective agency. She also works on gender studies, started from neuroethics of sex/gender differences. Her recent research interests include: joint action, relational autonomy, feminist/care approach to action theory, and how popular (neuro-)scientific notion affects self-narratives.

Michael Gillan PECKITT was a student at the University of Hull in the Philosophy Department for both his undergraduate and postgraduate studies. He is currently a part time lecturer affiliated with Clinical Philosophy at Osaka University. His specialism is in Phenomenology, particularly the phenomenology of pain and disability having published two articles on the subject.

Kazuki FUJITAKA is a PhD student of Graduate school of Human Sciences at Osaka University, Japan. He has the interest in feminist philosophy. The main point of his research is Judith Butler’s philosophy. His research is focused on early thought of Butler, from Subjects of Desire to Gender Trouble. He investigates
the philosophical relationships between Butler and Hegel, Butler and phenomenology (Merleau-Ponty and Beauvoir).

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**Kenta AOKI** is a PhD student at the Graduate School of Letters in Osaka University. His interest is in Heidegger's argument about the death. He studies "thinking or talking about death" in relation to the concepts from *Being and Time*. Aoki also helps people to write a living will and holds workshops where people think about death through picture books and dialogue.

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**Tadashi KAWASAKI** is a PhD student at the Graduate School of Letters in Osaka University and is also a research fellow of Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. His main interest lies in intersubjectivity, sociality, and vegetality of human body. His conceptual basis is Merleau-Ponty’s phenomenological philosophy. He is now preparing for his thesis on Merleau-Ponty’s philosophy of corporeal and social existence developed in 1940’s. His recent publications in Japanese include “Merleau-Ponty and the Phenomenology of Love” (*Annual Review of the Phenomenological Association of Japan*, 31, 2015, pp. 125-134); “Tragedy of Social Life: the Problem of Sociality in Merleau-Ponty” (*Merleau-Ponty Studies*, 18, 2014, pp. 40-52); “The Primacy of Social Life in Merleau-Ponty” (*Metaphysica*, 46, 2015, pp. 59-71).