

**Philosophische Reihen  
an der Universität Potsdam  
Sommersemester 2018**



Di **16.00 – 18.00 Uhr**

Universität Potsdam – Am Neuen Palais 10 – 14469 Potsdam

**Raum 1.08.0.56**

Dienstag, 17. Juli 2018

**Stefan Snævarr  
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**„Philosophy and Literature: The No Gap Theory“**

Abstract: Neither the concept of philosophy nor that of imaginative literature can be given essential definitions in any fruitful manner. Instead we should talk about „indicators“ of on the one hand, something being a work of philosophy, on the other hand a philosophical work. The more indicators to be found in a work, the better sense it makes to call the work „a work of philosophy/literature“. Works of philosophy and literature actually tend to share a number of features such as dealing more successfully with possibilities than actualities, typically involving fictional stories, and not showing any clear-cut cognitive progress, while having some cognitive moments. Furthermore, both the concept of philosophy and that of literature are essentially contestable concepts. But arguments typically play a larger role in philosophy than literature. The conclusion is that there is no gap between philosophy and imaginative literature even though they are different in many ways. Hence, „The No Gap Theory“.