

JOSEF FRÜCHTL (AMSTERDAM)

Interrational relationships, or The subject is only completely modern when it plays.

Schiller's culminating statement that the human being is only completely a human being when s/he plays is a document not only of modernity, but also of a swelled humanism. In my paper I want to argue that we have to emphasize the first aspect, and play down the second. Thus, first the subject takes the place of man, and the correspondent question is about theories of subjectivity throughout the past two hundred years, the epoch of modernity. In a second step I briefly discuss the philosophical concepts of play developed throughout the same period. Since Schiller has linked the concept of play to the one of man and completeness, I recall, thirdly, the status of anthropology in the 18th century, and then demonstrate in a fourth step that subjectivity, seen from the perspective of the respective philosophy, can never be a whole because it is inescapably linked to indeterminacy. Finally, I stick to completeness as an idea to the extent that it makes particular sense in the context of moral-practical subjectivity. Under modern conditions, leading a good life means trying to lead a non-damaged, only precariously balanced life. In this sense it means balancing the various dimensions of our rationality in a playful way.

JOSEF FRÜCHTL (<http://home.medewerker.uva.nl/j.fruchtl>) ist Professor für Philosophie mit dem Schwerpunkt Kunst und Kultur/Critical Cultural Theory an der Universität von Amsterdam (UvA). Von 2007 bis 2012 ist er dort auch Vorsitzender des Departments. Von 1996 bis 2005 Professor für Philosophie an der Universität Münster. Buchpublikationen u.a.: *Mimesis: Konstellation eines Zentralbegriffs bei Adorno* (Würzburg: K&N 1986); *Geist gegen den Zeitgeist. Erinnern an Adorno* (Hg. zus. mit M. Calloni, Frankfurt/M.: Suhrkamp 1991); *Ästhetische Erfahrung und moralisches Urteil. Eine Rehabilitierung* (Frankfurt/M.: Suhrkamp 1996); *Ästhetik der Inszenierung* (Hg. zus. mit J. Zimmermann, Frankfurt/M.: Suhrkamp 2001); *Das unverschämte Ich. Eine Heldengeschichte der Moderne*, (Frankfurt/M.: Suhrkamp 2004; engl. Übers.: *The Impertinent Self. A Heroic History of Modernity*; Stanford University Press 2009); 2013 erscheint *Vertrauen in die Welt. Eine Philosophie des Films*.