



JAMES TARTAGLIA

Areas of Specialisation

PHILOSOPHY: Philosophy of Mind, Rorty, Metaphysics,
Metaphilosophy, Meaning of
Life

JAZZ: Tenor Saxophone, Composition

Areas of Competence

PHILOSOPHY: History of Philosophy, Continental and Chinese
Philosophy

JAZZ: Alto Saxophone, Piano / Keyboards / Organ

1. PERSONAL DETAILS

Born: 1973
Nationality: British
Business Address: School of Politics, International Relations and Philosophy,
Keele University, Staffordshire, ST5 5BG, United Kingdom
Email: j.tartaglia@keele.ac.uk
Staff Webpage: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/spire/staff/tartaglia/>
Personal Website: <http://www.jamestartaglia.com/>
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2. QUALIFICATIONS AND AWARDS

1989 Second place in Daily Telegraph Young Jazz Musician of the Year
(GCSE category)

1991 Winner of Daily Telegraph Young Jazz Musician of the Year
(Soloist category)

1992 Awarded major scholarship to study at Berklee College of Music, USA
(from competitive auditions in Frankfurt, which I was invited to after
sending a demo tape)

1992-3 Diploma in Performance Studies, Berklee College of Music, USA
(saxophone teacher: George Garzone)

1993-6 BA (Hons) in Philosophy - First Class
University College London

1996-8 M.Phil. in Philosophy – Passed, no amendments
University College London

Thesis Title: ‘Understanding intentionality in terms of natural selection’

1998-2002 Ph.D. in Philosophy – Passed, no amendments (viva in 2001)

University College London

Thesis Title: 'The Obstinacy of Appearance: An analysis and attempted resolution of the explanatory gap debate about consciousness'.
(Examiners: Galen Strawson and Scott Sturgeon)

2009 Teaching and Learning in Higher Education Postgraduate Certificate,
Keele University

2011 Keele Award for Excellence in Teaching and Learning

3. RESEARCH FUNDING

1996-1998 British Academy Studentship, competition A
1998-2000 British Academy Studentship, competition B
2000-1 A.J. Ayer and Dawes Hicks Scholarships in Philosophy
2005 Keele University Research Leave, one semester
2010 Keele University Research Leave, one semester
2013 Keele University Research Leave, one semester
2015-6 APRA Foundation Berlin Multi-disciplinary Fellowship

4. PRESENT APPOINTMENT

Senior Lecturer in Philosophy, Keele University
Appointed as Lecturer in Philosophy, 2002

- **ADMINISTRATION**

Philosophy Programme Director 2007-10
Elected Member of Senate representing Humanities and Social Sciences, 2011-14
Director of Admissions, Recruitment and Marketing for the School of Politics,
International Relations and Philosophy, 2012-present

Other posts include:

School and College Liaison Officer and Widening Participation Officer
Study Abroad Officer and Erasmus Exchange Coordinator

- **UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING**

Modules designed and coordinated:
Introduction to Philosophy (foundation year); 10 Problems of Philosophy (level 1);
Philosophy of Mind (level 2); Work Experience Module (level 2); Empiricism (level 3);
Philosophy of Kant (level 3); Existentialism (level 3); Rorty and the Mirror of Nature (level
3); Metaphysics (level 3). Also teaching on: Human and Moral Agency (level 1); Pursuit
of the Good (level 2); Dissertation Module (level 3)

- **POSTGRADUATE TEACHING**

Ph.D., M.Phil. and M.Res. supervision
Design and teaching of Metaphilosophy module (M.Res.)
Ph.D. internal and external examining

- **RESEARCH ORGANISATION**

Set up and helped organise Royal Institute of Philosophy lectures, 2002-present

5. PREVIOUS APPOINTMENTS

2001-2: Visiting Lecturer, University of Birmingham
2001-2: Teaching Fellow, University College London

OTHER TEACHING EXPERIENCE

1997-2001: Weekly undergraduate tutorials, UCL
2000-1: Undergraduate lectures in Epistemology and Metaphysics, UCL
2001: Personal Tutoring, Heythrop College, London
2002-3: Tower Hamlets and Hackney 'Summer University' project [a government-funded widening participation project]

6. INVITED PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCE PAPERS

- 'Rorty's Ambivalent Relationship with Kant', Keele University, Launch Event for the Keele-Oxford-St. Andrews Centre for Kantian Studies, November 2014
- 'Contemporary Philosophy of Consciousness', Philosophy in the North West Conference, University of Manchester, July 2013
- 'Contemporary Philosophy of Consciousness', 'Rorty's Metaphilosophy' and 'Personal Identity Online', University of Bucharest, Romania, May 2013
- 'What can an *a priori* objection to *a posteriori* physicalism show?', Moral Intuitions, Reflective Equilibrium, and Moral Disagreement Conference, University of Gdańsk, Poland, 2012
- 'Rorty on the Galileo / Bellarmine Controversy', University of Gdańsk, Poland, 2012
- 'Horizons, PIOs, and Bad Faith', Personal Identities after the Information Revolution Conference, University of Hertfordshire, 2011
- 'Conceptualising Physical Consciousness', Oxford Brookes University, 2011
- 'Games: Using Competition in Seminars', Keele University Interdisciplinary Sharing of Good Practice Seminar, 2011
- 'Two Approaches to the Problem of Consciousness', Royal Institute of Philosophy, Keele University, 2010
- 'Conceptualising Physical Consciousness', University of Sheffield, 2010
- 'The Metaphysics of Richard Rorty', University of Cardiff, 2009
- 'The Mark of the Mental', Royal Institute of Philosophy, Keele University, 2008
- 'Consciousness, Intentionality, and the Mark of the Mental', Former Research Students Conference, University College London, 2008
- 'The Horizontal Account of Personal Identity', Institute of Philosophy, School of Advanced Study, London, 2008
- 'Rorty on the Galileo / Bellarmine Controversy', *Provocations on Richard Rorty*, Forum for European Philosophy, *Institut Français*, London, 2008
- 'Rorty on the Galileo / Bellarmine Controversy', SPIRE Research Workshop, Keele University, 2007
- 'Philosophy and the Biological and Medical Sciences: Applied Causation Workshop', Delegate and Chair, University of York, 2007
- 'The Concept of Consciousness', University of York, 2005
- 'The Concept of Consciousness', University of Durham, 2005
- 'Fixing the Mind in Thought', University of Surrey Roehampton, 2004

- 'Three Ways of Thinking about Consciousness', Royal Institute of Philosophy, Keele University, 2002
- 'The Modes of Access Response to the Explanatory Gap', University of Birmingham, 2001
- 'Consciousness: An Open or Shut Case?', Mental Phenomena Conference, Inter-University Centre, Dubrovnik, Croatia, 1998
- 'The Case Against Accidental Thought', Joint Session of the Aristotelian Society and Mind Association, University of Warwick, 1997

7. REFEREEING AND EDITING

- Journal refereeing for: *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*, *Philosophy and Technology*, *International Journal of Philosophical Studies*, *Humanities*, *Philosophical Psychology*, *Topoi*, *Tropós*, *Journal of Philosophical Research*
- Book refereeing for: *Routledge*, *Cambridge University Press*, *Harvard University Press*, *Palgrave Macmillan*, *Bloomsbury*
- Member of the editorial board of *Annals of Philosophy* (a Romanian peer-reviewed journal, founded in 1950)
- Member of the executive committee of *The Oxford-St Andrews-Keele Centre for Kantian Studies*

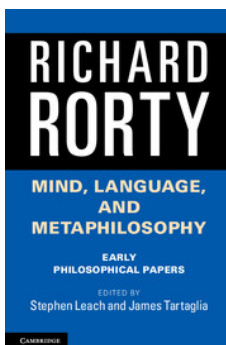
8. PUBLICATIONS (PHILOSOPHY)

BOOKS

Forthcoming 2015:

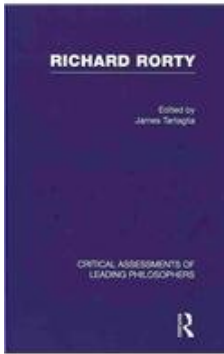
- *Philosophy in a Meaningless Life: A System of Nihilism, Consciousness, and Reality* (London: Bloomsbury)

An 8-chapter monograph (c. 120,000 words), presenting a metaphysics of experience, time and universals, within a metaphilosophical framework centering on the question of the meaning of life.



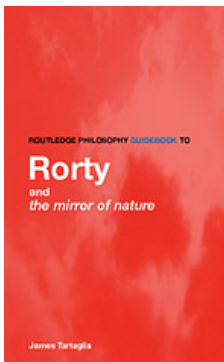
Mind, Language, and Metaphilosophy: Early Philosophical Papers
(Cambridge: Cambridge University Press 2014)

Collection of Rorty's papers co-edited with Stephen Leach; foreword by Daniel C. Dennett, 318 pp.



Richard Rorty: Critical Assessments of Leading Philosophers
(London: Routledge 2009)

4 volume edited collection with an introduction to each volume, 1552 pp.



Rorty and the Mirror of Nature
(London: Routledge 2007)

Monograph, 264 pp.; reviewed *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*, 17:2, 2009: 451-3

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- 'Rorty's Thesis of the Cultural Specificity of Philosophy', *Philosophy East and West: a quarterly of comparative philosophy*, 65:4, 2014: 1016-1036
- 'Conceptualizing Physical Consciousness', *Philosophical Psychology*, 26:6, 2013: 817-838.
- 'Does Rorty's Pragmatism Undermine Itself', *European Journal of Pragmatism and American Philosophy*, 4:1, 2012: 284-301
- 'Horizons, PIOs, and Bad Faith', *Philosophy and Technology*, 25:3, 2012: 345-361
- 'Philosophy between Religion and Science', *Philosophy's Future: Science or Something Else?*, *Papers in Philosophy*, 12:2, 2011: 224-241
- 'Did Rorty's Pragmatism have Foundations?', *International Journal of Philosophical Studies*, 18:5, 2010: 607-627
- 'Consciousness, Intentionality, and the Mark of the Mental: Rorty's Challenge', *The Monist*, 91:2, 2008: 324-46
- 'The History of Mind', *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*, 12:4, 2004: 743-752

OTHER ARTICLES

- 'Rorty's Philosophy of Consciousness', in A. Malachowski (ed.) *A Companion to Rorty*, Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell (forthcoming)
- 'Philosophy and the Mirror of Nature', in A. Malachowski (ed.) *A Companion to Rorty*, Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell (forthcoming)
- 'Are Causal Pressures a part of the Way the World Is?', in J. Tartaglia (ed.) *Richard Rorty: Critical Assessments of Leading Philosophers*, vol. 1 (London: Routledge 2009)
- 'Metaphilosophy' in A.C. Grayling, A. Pyle & N. Goulder (eds.) *The Continuum Encyclopedia of British Philosophy* (Bristol: Thoemmes 2006)
- 'J.J.C. Smart', 'U.T. Place', 'B.A. Farrell' in Stuart Brown (ed.) *Dictionary of Twentieth Century British Philosophers* (Bristol: Thoemmes 2005)
- 'Davidson's Causal Theory of Action', CD-ROM survey article for Instituto de Filosofia da Linguagem, Universidade Nova de Lisboa (2001)

BOOK REVIEWS

- 'Review of Philosophy and the Mirror of Nature: Thirtieth Anniversary Edition by Richard Rorty', *European Journal of Philosophy*, 19:1, 2011: pp. 165-9
- 'Review of The History of the Concept of Mind, Volume 2 by Paul Macdonald', *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*, 17:1, 2009: pp. 225-9
- 'Review of From Passions to Emotions by Thomas Dixon', *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*, 13:4, 2005: 811-4
- 'Review of Richard Rorty, eds. C. Guignon and D. Hiley, and Richard Rorty by Alan Malachowski', *Philosophical Books*, 46:1, 2005: 79-81
- 'Review of Rorty and His Critics, ed. R. Brandom, and Richard Rorty: Critical Dialogues, eds. M. Festerstein & S. Thompson', *Philosophical Books*, 44:2, 2003: 168-171
- 'Critical Study of Merleau-Ponty by Stephen Priest', *Noûs*, 35:2, 2001: 317-323
- 'Review of Truth and Progress: Philosophical Papers, Volume 3 by Richard Rorty', *European Journal of Philosophy*, 8:3, 2000: 393-6

WORK IN PROGRESS / UNDER REVIEW

- *Consciousness and the Great Philosophers* [co-edited collection with Stephen Leach]
- 'Is Philosophy all about the Meaning of Life?' [article]
- 'Rorty's Ambivalent Relationship with Kant' [article]

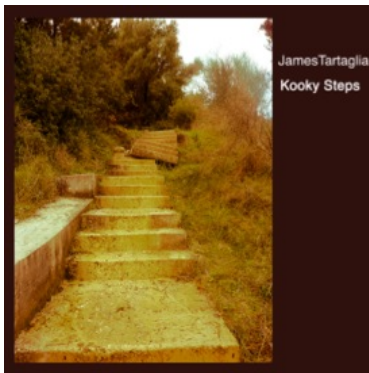
- 'Metz's Quest for the Holy Grail' [article]
- 'Meaningful Lives and The Meaning of Life' [article]

9. PUBLICATIONS (OTHER)

- *100 Jazz Compositions* (self-published 1997)
- *Pew* (CreateSpace 2014) [a children's storybook written with my daughter; illustrations by Emilie Arnoult]

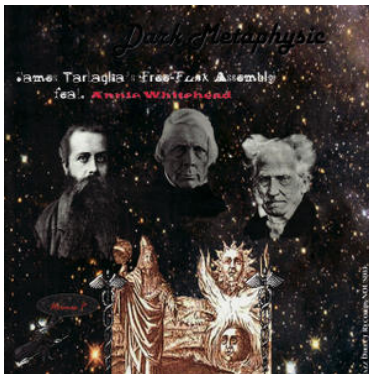
10. RECORDINGS

ALBUMS



Kooky Steps (JazzDirect Records 2014)

1. Kooky Steps (James Tartaglia)
2. Schopenhauer's Blues (James Tartaglia)
3. Video Games (Ornette Coleman)
4. You, me, and the Spring (Lalo Schifrin)
5. Change has Come (Albert Ayler)
6. It's just his Bleedin' Mouth (James Tartaglia)
7. Friends and Neighbours (Ornette Coleman)
8. Gibbons (James Tartaglia)



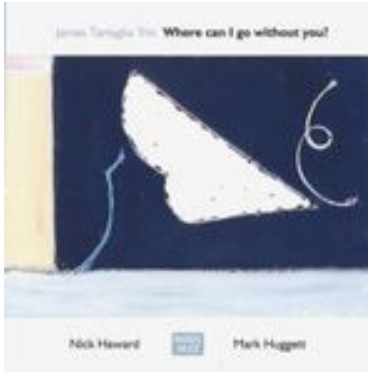
Dark Metaphysic (JazzDirect Records 2008)

1. Priests In White Coats (James Tartaglia)
2. Rhythm Pitch (James Tartaglia)
3. Silent Soliloquy (James Tartaglia)
4. Tribute To The Artist Bruce Nauman (James Tartaglia)
5. Pornographer Scum (James Tartaglia)
6. Hermetic Emanations (James Tartaglia)
7. That Boy Was Gonna Play A Solo (James Tartaglia)



A Free Jazz Treatise Concerning Current Affairs (JazzDirect Records 2003)

1. Paedophile Priest (James Tartaglia)
2. Asylum Seeker (James Tartaglia)
3. Weapons of Mass Destruction (James Tartaglia)
4. Peace Process (James Tartaglia)
5. Economic Migrant (James Tartaglia)
6. Paedophile Priest (Live)
7. Peace Process (Live)
8. Weapons of Mass Destruction (Live)



Where can I go without you? (JazzDirect Records 2002)

1. Isotope (Joe Henderson)
2. Jayne (Ornette Coleman)
3. Ray's Idea (Ray Brown)
4. Prelude to a Kiss (Duke Ellington)
5. Dear John (Freddie Hubbard)
6. Where Can I go without you? (Peggy Lee)
7. Fried Bananas (Dexter Gordon)
8. Poutin' (Ben Webster)

OTHER RECORDINGS

- *James Tartaglia Volume 1: Recordings 1991-2006* (self-published 2007)
[12 tracks with various line-ups; sold at live performances]
- *James Tartaglia Volume 2: Recordings 1991-2006* (self-published 2007)
[12 tracks with various line-ups; sold at live performances]
- Wilson / Huggett Project – *Field of Hope* (JazzDirect Records 2011)
[tenor saxophone and some arrangements]
- Wilson / Huggett Project – *Max Roach Park* (JazzDirect Records 2006)
[tenor saxophone; a South Africa Music Awards nominated album]
- Blaubac – *Perdurance* (Moth Records 2002)
[tenor saxophone on the track 'Fraxis']

11. ALBUM REVIEWS

A FREE JAZZ TREATISE CONCERNING CURRENT AFFAIRS:

“Treatise employs the musical language of Albert Ayler ... to explore some particularly difficult current issues. [...] This approach works extraordinarily well, the pieces - all first takes - mixing expressive solo tenor lines and childlike, often wordless singing over marching beats ... Not an easy listen, as if its subject matter would allow that, but certainly a hugely rewarding one.”

SIMON ADAMS, *JAZZ JOURNAL INTERNATIONAL*, MARCH 2004

DARK METAPHYSIC:

“[A] fun mix of girl group new wave, free jazz and retro funk.”

- SELWYN HARRIS, *JAZZWISE*, FEBRUARY 2009

“The philosophical references accumulate pretty fast and furious—there's a piece dedicated to conceptual artist Bruce Nauman (...) as well as a song about Hermes

Trismegistus (...) the lyrics are a witty part of the disc's attempt to communicate philosophically, from the cheerleading affirmation of science in "Priests In White Coats" to the bitter, anti-music-biz screed "That Boy Were Gonna Play A Solo." (...) In their long solos (...) the players face a challenge: how can improvisers trained to exploit harmonic cues sustain inventiveness over single-chord vamps with little melodic variation? (...) Arguably, this gauntlet thrown down by Davis is the conundrum most thoroughly engaged by *Dark Metaphysic*, and here, the musicians prove they have something significant to say."

-JEFF DAYTON-JOHNSON, WWW.ALLABOUTJAZZ.COM, JUNE 2009

"*Dark Metaphysic* is a highly distinctive record; funk music doesn't normally deal in such esoteric subject matter. There is some great playing on these idiosyncratic tunes with some fine horn solos and a pulsating groove from an exemplary rhythm team."

-IAN MANN, THEJAZZMAN.COM, JANUARY 2009

"Although this album's accompanying press release describes *Dark Metaphysic* as a 'unique synthesis of jazz-funk, the avant garde and conceptual art', its cover art features pictures of three German philosophers, and its lyrics range over numerous subjects, including the validity of science, attitudes to pornography and the undervaluing of jazz in the recording industry, it can be readily approached and enjoyed under the first heading, jazz-funk, alone."

-THE VORTEX CD REVIEWS, WWW.VORTEXJAZZ.CO.UK, 2009

KOOKY STEPS:

"This is the fourth album by Tartaglia, and with this one you feel his attempt to fuse interesting harmony and melody with a little conceptual art and a lot of free jazz fire has really come together for the first time. The band, consisting of his old collaborators Huggett and Morgenstern, British jazz luminaries Maidman and Whitehead, and rising star Ford, gels perfectly, and everything you hear was played live in one or two takes; you can hear the spontaneity fizzle throughout. Each track is its own, unique thing, making this one of those albums where you relish the prospect of the next track as each draws to its conclusion. This is original music that deserves a wide audience."

-CEDARI REY, JAZZDIRECT, 2014

12. LIVE PERFORMANCES

Too many to list over a 26 year professional playing career (I played my first gig aged 14), but highlights include the London, Birmingham and Brecon International Jazz Festivals, a two-week tour of Wales, a three-year residency at 'Break for the Boarder' on Tottenham Court Road, London, a two-year residency at the 'Brighton Rock' Pub in Brighton, and various gigs in Boston, USA (which were very hard to come by for Berklee students (as opposed to teachers)).