



TO MAGNIFICO RETTORE OF UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO

ID CODE 6462

I the undersigned asks to participate in the public selection, for qualifications and examinations, for the awarding of a type B fellowship at Dipartimento di Filosofia Piero Martinetti.

Scientist- in – charge: Prof.ssa Elisa Paganini

**SILVANA PANI**

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### PERSONAL INFORMATION

Surname	Pani
Name	Silvana

### PRESENT OCCUPATION

Appointment	Structure
Doctoral Fellow	Department of Philosophy (GW) of the University of Salzburg

### EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Degree	Course of studies	University	year of achievement of the degree
Degree	Master's degree in Philosophy, Department of Philosophy (GW)	University of Salzburg (Austria)	2019
Specialization	Philosophy of Mind (especially: mental imagery, perception, action and skills)		
PhD	PhD Programme in Theoretical Philosophy at the Department of Philosophy (GW)	University of Salzburg (Austria)	Expected dissertation defence: Spring 2024



	Dissertation: Mental imagery in action Supervisor: Univ.- Prof. Dr. Christopher Gauker  Second supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Johannes L. Brandl		
Other	Bachelor's degree in Politics, Philosophy, and Economics (PPE)  Exchange programme	LUISS Guido Carli University of Rome, Italy  Higher School of Economics of Moscow (HSE), Moscow, Russia	2017  2016- 2017

## FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Languages	level of knowledge
1) Italian	native
2) English	fluent
3) German	advanced
4) Spanish	intermediate
5) Russian	basic
6) Latin	high school level
7) Ancient Greek	high school level

## AWARDS, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, SCHOLARSHIPS

Year	Description of award
2016–2017	Scholarship for the exchange programme between LUISS Guido Carli University of Rome, Italy, and the Higher School of Economics of Moscow (HSE), Russia
2016–2017	INPS Scholarship (Borsa di Studio Universitaria)

## TRAINING OR RESEARCH ACTIVITY

Dissertation: The aim of my dissertation is to offer an imagination-based account of how plans are put into action. To this end, I first overcome three challenges to the idea that mental images play a significant role in the planning and monitoring of action. The first and most important challenge is to explain how differently formatted contents coordinate successfully in purposive bodily movements. The second challenge, related to the first, aims at uncovering the input-output link between perception and action. The third challenge seeks to solve the tension between the allegedly up-to-us character of



our imaginings and the need for imagistic representations to be sensitive and informative about the world. I will argue that we can make progress on all three challenges by distinguishing between images at different levels of generality of content. In my account, images are ubiquitous in action planning and performance. An overview of motor control mechanisms will grant the plausibility of action representations taking the form of images as opposed to propositions. Structurally characterized as map-like representations, mental images can be enriched by a mechanism of filling-in of details or aspects of the represented action. To the extent that mental imagery in action often precedes propositionally formatted intentions, it has the resources to minimize the points of format interlock with propositionally structured contents. Finally, and in so far as the existence of an imagistic repertoire of action is essential to the view on offer, I will consider the threat from unprecedented motor experience and countenance its potentially transformative power within my imagination-based approach to decision-making.

## CONGRESSES AND SEMINARS

Date	Title	Place
August 2023	<i>General and specific images: a distinction for the intention-motor interface and its implications for imagery construction</i> (peer-reviewed)	30th European Society for Philosophy and Psychology Conference, Czech Academy of Sciences, Prague, Czech Republic.
August 2023	<i>Transformative Imagination: Imaginative Constraints as a Solution to the Challenge posed by Transformative Experience</i> (peer-reviewed)	11th European Congress for Analytic Philosophy, University of Vienna, Austria.
September 2022	<i>General and specific images: a distinction for the intention-motor interface and its implications for imagery construction</i> (peer-reviewed)	11th Congress of the German Society for Analytic Philosophy (GAP), Department of Philosophy, Humboldt-University, Berlin, Germany.
November 2021	<i>Ist Liebe rational?</i> (invited)	University of Salzburg, Salzburg, Austria.
Since 2018	Around ten work-in-progress and PhD seminars on different topics.	University of Salzburg, Salzburg, Austria.

## PUBLICATIONS

<i>Mental imagery and choreographic practices: a new avenue for the intention-motor interface.</i> The Junkyard, September 6, 2023.
<i>Transformative imagination: imaginative constraints as a solution to the challenge posed by transformative experience</i> (Under review)
<i>General and specific images: a distinction for the intention-motor interface and its implications for imagery construction</i> (Under review)
<b>In preparation:</b>
<i>On three challenges and a solution from imagination: the up-to-us challenge, the interface challenge, and the many-many problem</i>



*Representational issues in internal models for motor control*

*Constraints on the ability to imagine for decision-making*

## OTHER INFORMATION - Teaching experience

Duties include designing syllabi, office hours, and final grading.

### 1) **Between Intention and Action (Spring 2023)**

An overview of kinds of intentions and theories of action constitutes the groundwork of the core question of this seminar, that is, how human minds fill the gap between intending to do something (e.g. to go on vacation, attend a seminar, drink a cup of coffee) and really acting, or failing to act, on intentions.

### 2) **Transformative Experience (Fall 2022-23)**

Based on the homonymous book by L.A. Paul (Transformative experience. 2014, OUP Oxford), this seminar considers and evaluates the impact of unprecedented subjective experiences on the capacity to imagine and compare future scenarios. Is having a child a rational decision? The normative standard for rational decision-making is that the agent should choose the act with the highest expected value. L.A. Paul contends that it is impossible to know what epistemically and personally transformative experiences would be like for us before we have already committed ourselves. Along the way, the problem of transformative experience and how we can handle preferences over time will be assessed against a few common views in theories of decision-making.

### 3) **Mental Representations (Spring 2022)**

It is widely agreed that the mind represents things and events in the external (or internal) world. It is less agreed by philosophers, psychologists, and neuroscientists how the mind represents. Students in this seminar will engage with a selection of main theories and debates on the nature, the contents, and the roles of mental representations in human cognition.

### 4) **Philosophical problems in decision-making (Fall 2021-2022)**

Which route should I take to get to the department (out of three possible ways)? Who should be (or should have been) prioritized for Covid-19 vaccines in our society? What is the difference between ordinary choices such as a restaurant order and a political decision with massive societal impact? How do we decide to move our bodies in the environment we live in? What kind of cognitive capacities underlie our choices? Answering these and other questions will provide a philosophical inquiry into some issues surrounding decision theory, from conceptions of utility and rationality to practical reasoning and heuristics, the effect of mentally representing choices, and the question of whether (and to what extent) we can compare values.

Declarations given in the present curriculum must be considered released according to art. 46 and 47 of DPR n. 445/2000.

The present curriculum does not contain confidential and legal information according to art. 4, paragraph 1, points d) and e) of D.Lgs. 30.06.2003 n. 196.



Please note that CV WILL BE PUBLISHED on the University website and It is recommended that personal and sensitive data should not be included. This template is realized to satisfy the need of publication without personal and sensitive data.

Please DO NOT SIGN this form.

Place and date: Salzburg, 02/03/2024