Seminar Series Topics in the Aesthetics of Music and Sound

Thursday, December 4, 2014 3:15-5 p.m. in U67

Existence and Music: From Nietzsche and Wagner to Sartre and Jazz



Jacob Rendtorff Dr. scient. adm. (doctor scientarium administrationis), Ph.D, Mag. art. & Diplom Pol. Associate Professor, Department of Communication, Business and Information, Technologies, Roskilde University

Abstract: What is the relation between music and philosophy in creative existentialist philosophy?

Is music a part of philosophical expression or how can philosophy contribute to the understanding of music?

Nietzsche was a critical philosopher and he expressed his deconstructive reading of the metaphysical tradition from Plato to Hegel. In particular he thought that the operas of Wagner served to illustrate his philosophical thinking. In the same way Sartre represented an existentialist criticism of the metaphysical tradition. For Sartre it was jazz music that was a real existentialist and critical philosophy. Sartre argued that jazz music was



important to express the existentialist understanding of life. In this presentation we will discuss philosophy and music from the point of view of these different existentialist philosophies.

All are welcome – also via Skype 🛠

