

# Andrea Sereni

## *Curriculum Vitae*

### Personal Information and contacts

Born: Carpi (Modena, Italy), 26.07.77

#### *Office address and contacts*

Faculty of Philosophy  
Vita-Salute San Raffaele University,  
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### AREAS OF COMPETENCE AND SPECIALISATION

*Philosophy of mathematics*: mathematical platonism, indispensability arguments, epistemological problems in the philosophy of mathematics, Frege's philosophy of mathematics, neo-logicism, syntactic priority thesis, abstract objects, platonism/nominalism debate, abstraction principles, Field's nominalization program, Yablo's fictionalism, naturalism.

*Epistemology and philosophy of language*: theory of knowledge, classical epistemology vs. naturalized epistemology, naturalism, causal theories of knowledge, realism/anti-realism debate, epistemic access to abstract objects; pragmatics of communication, conversational implicatures and speech acts, criterion for ontological commitment, semantics/ontology relation, fictionalism.

### CURRENT POSITION

Lecturer – San Raffaele University, Faculty of Philosophy, Milan, Italy.

## EDUCATION AND DEGREES

- 19/06/2006 - *PhD in Analytic Philosophy*, Bologna University. Dissertation: *Speaking of Abstract Objects* (in English, supervisor Prof. [Eva Picardi](#), external examiners: Prof. [Crispin Wright](#) (University of St. Andrews), [Joseph Almog](#) (University of California at Los Angeles))
- 12/07/2001 - *Laurea (graduation)*, mark: 110/110 *cum laude*, [Facoltà di Lettere e Filosofia, Bologna University](#). Dissertation: *Uso, Competenza, Verità. Aspetti di una Teoria del Significato (Use, Competence and Truth. Aspects of a Theory of Meaning)*, in Italian)
- 1996 - *Maturità classica*, Liceo Classico "[L.A. Muratori](#)" di Modena, mark: 56/60

## AFFILIATIONS, GRANTS AND APPOINTMENTS

- May 2010 – Lecturer, [San Raffaele University](#), Milan, [Faculty of Philosophy](#).
- February 2008 – May 2010: *Assegno di ricerca (research fellowship)*, [San Raffaele University](#), Milan, [Faculty of Philosophy](#).
- 2009: *Teaching Assistant* (Supporto alla didattica), course *Philosophy of Language* (degree in Logopedy, Facoltà di Medicina e Chirurgia, Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia, 8 hours), course coordinator Prof. Annalisa Coliva.
- 2008: Lecturer, course: *Pubbliche relazioni* (M-Fil/05) [*Public relations and pragmatics of communication*, 42 hours], [Facoltà di Scienze della comunicazione e dell'Economia, Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia](#).
- 2008: *Teaching Assistant* (Supporto alla didattica), course *Philosophy of Language* (degree in Logopedy, Facoltà di Medicina e Chirurgia, Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia, 8 hours), course coordinator Prof. Annalisa Coliva.
- 2007/2008: *Lecturer*, course: *Didattica della scienza* (FIS/08) [*Theory of Knowledge*, 120 hours] [Facoltà di Lettere e Filosofia, Università degli Studi di Parma](#).
- 2007/2008: *Lecturer* (Laboratory on *Blogs and Communication*), [Dipartimento di Discipline della Comunicazione](#), Bologna University.
- 2006/7: *Lecturer* (Laboratory on *Blogs and Communication*), Dipartimento di Discipline della Comunicazione, Bologna University.
- 2006/7: *Teaching Assistant*, Dipartimento di Discipline della Comunicazione, Bologna University, Prof. Paolo Leonardi, seminars on *Conceptions of Truth*, W. Künne, Oxford University Press, 2005.
- 2007-2009: *Culture della materia* Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia, Dott.ssa [Annalisa Coliva](#)

## MEMBERSHIPS AND ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS

- *Member* of the steering committee of [SIFA](#) (Italian Society for Analytical Philosophy), 2008/2010
- *Associate Investigator*, [COGITO Research Centre in Philosophy, History of Analytic Philosophy Project, Università di Bologna.](#)
- *Member* of [CRESA, Center for Research in Experimental and Applied Epistemology, Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele, Milan.](#)

## RESEARCH ABROAD

- November 2004 – March 2005 – *Visiting scholar*, AHRC [Arché](#) Research Centre for the Philosophy of Logic, Language, Mathematics and Mind, St.Andrews University.
- 1999-2000, Erasmus Project, [St.Andrews University](#), Scotland.

## TALKS (SELECTION)

### *i. Accepted*

- “Indispensability Arguments and their Quinean Heritage” (with Jacob Busch): “*Word and Object*”, 50 years later. *Colloquium in Celebration of W.V.O. Quine*, Università La Sapienza, Roma,, May 28-29, 2010;
- “On the very idea of an Indispensability Argument”, *Open Problems in the Philosophy of Sciences*, Cesena, April 15-17, 2010;
- “Clarifying the Spectrum of Indispensability Arguments” (with Jacob Busch), [Trends in the Philosophy of Mathematics](#), Trends in Logic VII, Studia Logica Conference, Frankfurt, September 1-4, 2009.
- “On the very idea of an Indispensability Argument”, [Eighth National Conference of the Italian Society for Analytical Philosophy](#), Bergamo, September 25-7, 2008;
- “On The Indispensable Premises of The Indispensability Argument”, Joint Paris (IHPST) - Arché workshop on [Abstract Objects in Semantics and The Philosophy of Mathematics](#), Paris, February 29 – March 1, 2008:
- “Acceptance in Mathematics”, [ECAP V](#), Fifth European Conference in Analytic Philosophy, Lisbon, 27-31/8/2005:
- “Olismo e pratiche inferenziali” (Holism and Inferential Practices), [Fourth SIFA Conference](#) “*Ma dove hai la testa? Processi mentali, comunicazione e regole*”, Vietri sul Mare (SA), 2-3 October 2003.

## ***ii. Invited***

- “Mathematical Platonism: A Minimal Indispensability Argument”, *Logic and Analytic Philosophy Seminar*, Università di Padova, April 27, 2009
- “On the Premises of the Indispensability Argument”, *Friday Seminar in Analytic Philosophy*, Università di Parma, February 13 2009.
- “The indispensability Argument: discussion of a book's chapter pre-prints”, *Weakly Seminar in Analytic Philosophy*, Bologna, Faculty of Philosophy, September 14, 2008
- *Discussant* of W. Schwartz (“Emperors, Dragons, and Other Mathematicalia”) at *Italo-German Colloquium*, Heidelberg, December 16-18 2004.
- *Discussant* of Dr. Roy Cook (St.Andrews University) (“Clarifying the Logic of Clear Cases”), *Second Workshop on Vagueness*, January 9-10 2005.
- *Discussant* of Patrick Greenough (St.Andrews), *First Workshop on Vagueness*, Bologna, November 22 2001

## ***iii. Internal***

- *Introduction to the foundations of mathematics*, San Raffaele University, lectures series (*Logicism, Formalism, Intuitionism*), December 2008 – January 2009.
- *Epistemology Naturalized*, seminar series (whole), *San Raffaele University*, February-March 2008

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### ***i. Published***

#### ***a) Books***

- (*Author*) with Marco Panza (IHPST, CNR Paris), *Il problema di Platone. Un'introduzione storica alla filosofia della matematica*, Carocci, Roma, 2010.
- (*Editor*), with Sebastiano Moruzzi (Bologna University), *Issues on Vagueness. Proceedings of the Second Bologna Workshop*, *Il Poligrafo*, Padova 2005

### ***b) Articles or Chapters***

- “Argomenti di indispensabilità in filosofia della matematica”, *Aphex - Portale Italiano di Filosofia Analitica*, n.1, 2010 (<http://www.aphex.it/index.php?Temi=557D0301220274032103727677>).
- “Pensiero, realtà e passato: su alcuni scritti recenti di Michael Dummett”, *Iride*, n.1, 2008, pp. 213-224.
- “Introduction (Part I)”, in Moruzzi, S., Sereni, A., (eds.), *Issues on Vagueness. Proceedings of the Second Bologna Workshop*, Il Poligrafo, Padova 2005

### ***ii. Forthcoming***

- “Verità, lacune, e *oratio obliqua*. Una nota su *Conceptions of Truth* di Wolfgang Künne” (Truth, Gaps, and *oratio obliqua*. A Note on Wolfgang Künne’s *Conceptions of Truth*), *Nuovo Bollettino della Società Italiana di Filosofia Analitica*, 2010.
- Review of Penelope Maddy’s *Second Philosophy: A Naturalistic Method*, in *Aphex - Portale Italiano di Filosofia Analitica*, n.1, 2010.
- “Platonismo matematico e naturalismo” (“Mathematical platonism and naturalism”) in De Caro, M, et al. (eds), *Il platonismo e le scienze*, Carocci, 2011.

### ***iii. Submitted to peer-reviewed journals***

- “On the Indispensable Premises of the Indispensability Argument”, with Marco Panza (IHPST, CNR Paris) – revision phase for resubmission.

### ***iv. In Preparation for submission***

- “Clarifying the Spectrum of Indispensability Arguments”, with Jacob Busch;
- “Indispensability Arguments and their Quinean heritage”, with Jacob Busch;
- (invited) “Review of H. Putnam, *Ethics Without Ontology*“, *Aphex* (Italian website for analytic philosophy)

### ***v. Translations***

- Translation of Michael Dummett, *Thought and Reality*, Oxford University Press, Oxford 2006, Il Mulino, Bologna 2008.
- Translation of Christopher Peacocke, “Intuitive Mechanics, Psychological Reality and the Idea of a

Material Object”, in *Spatial Representation*, N. Elian, R. McCarthy e B. Brewer (eds), Oxford, Blackwell, 1993, p. 169, forthcoming in Dellantonio, S., Pastore, L. (a cura di), *Rappresentazione, percezione e coscienza*, Laterza, Roma-Bari, 2007.

- Translation of Matti Eklund, “Fiction, Indifference, and Ontology”, forthcoming in *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, in [Rivista di Estetica](#), n. 32 (2/2006), XLVI, pp. 71-92.

#### REFEREEING

- Referee for: Giuseppina Ronzitti (a cura di), *La vaghezza: un'antologia con testi di Edgington, Fine, Russell, Sainsbury, Tye, Williamson, Wright* (Sezione Contemporanea), [Bibliotec@Swif](#)

#### SEMINARS: ORGANIZATION AND GROUP MEMBERSHIPS

- April-May 2010 – (organization and discussion leader) *Platonismo e anti-platonismo in filosofia della matematica* (*Platonism and anti-platonism in the philosophy of mathematics*), COGITO Research Centre in Philosophy, Bologna University. and Padua University (<http://cogito.lagado.org/node/450>)
- 2009/2010 – (organization), *Advanced Reading Group*, Seminars of the Phd Program in Philosophy and Cognitive Sciences, San Raffaele University, Milan.
- 2008/2009 – (organization and discussion leader) *Advanced Reading Group* (on Putnam's *Ethics Without Ontology*), Faculty of Philosophy, San Raffaele University, Milan.
- 2008/2009 – (organization) *Seminar in Analytic Philosophy*, Faculty of Philosophy, San Raffaele University, Milan.
- 2007/2008 – (organization) *Mind and Language Seminar*, Faculty of Philosophy, San Raffaele university, Milan.
- 2006/2007 – (member) [Friday Seminar in Analytic Philosophy](#) Facoltà di Lettere e Filosofia, Università di Parma.
- 1999/2000 – (member) *Logical and Metaphysical Foundations of Classical Mathematics Seminar*, Arché, University of St.Andrews.
- 2001/2007 – (member) [Weakly Seminar in Analytic Philosophy](#) group, Dipartimento di Discipline della Comunicazione, Bologna University

#### CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

- Member of Scientific Committee, [9<sup>th</sup> SIFA National Conference, Truth, Knowledge and Science](#), September 23-25, 2010.
- Member of Scientific Committee, [2<sup>nd</sup> SIFA Graduate Conference: Language, Epistemology and History](#), COGITO Research Centre, October 29-31, 2009.
- Member of Organizin Committee, *Festa del pensiero e dell'immagine*, Cesano Maderno, October 14-19, 2008.
- (with Sebastiano Moruzzi) *Second Workshop on Vagueness*, Dipartimento di Discipline della Comunicazione, Bologna University, il 9 –10 gennaio
- Member of Organizing Committee, Fifth National [SIFA Conference](#), Bergamo 3-5/10/2002

#### RELEVANT EXTRA-ACADEMIC EXPERIENCES

- 2007/2009: Organizational coordinator, Research Project: *Il campo della cultura (The field of culture)*, [Fondazione Mario Del Monte](#), financed by [Fondazione Cassa Di Risparmio di Modena](#) (a two-years long research project with about twenty associated investigators and an extensive schedule of lectures, seminars and conferences).

#### LANGUAGES AND INFORMATICS

- English: proficiency; German: beginner; French: basic.
- Windows, MacOS, Linux, Web utilities, Web Publishing, Webmastering, Desktop Publishing, Office suites, etc.