



Freiburg and München, 13.12.2021

Dear Members of the International Schelling-Society,

In the name of the entire board of the Schelling Society, we wish you Happy Holidays and all the best for the New Year.

The world is currently preoccupied with a theme which, quite some time ago, had already lead to heated debates: vaccination. In 1803, Kajetan Weiller – a catholic clergyman, philosopher and self-professed opponent of Schelling – expressed himself as follows: “While the as yet recently discovered cowpox inoculation can now already be found in Asia, here in Germany, hardly one person in a hundred thousand will let himself be inoculated with absolute Identity.” The person who had ensured a vaccination rate of even 0.001% was well known: “this is generally just a youth who doesn’t know any better, but who has a fiery imagination.” While the idea and the name of the cowpox inoculation lives on today in every vaccination (from the latin *vacca* for cow) one may well ask, in the meantime, how many are willing to let themselves be vaccinated with absolute Identity today.

The following indications seek to advocate for a higher form of “vaccination” in the manner of enticement, rather than obligation: In the Academy Edition of Schelling’s writings, two volumes containing central texts from Schelling’s Identity Philosophy were published: With volume I 14 of the published works, Patrick Leistner and Alexander Schubach have edited a number of Schelling’s writings from the period between 1803 and 1805, including “Philosophie and Religion” and the “Lectures on the Method of Academic Studies” (I 14). In the post-humous writings, Daniel Unger and Christoph Binkelman followed with volume II 7, including the “Würzburg System” and other texts written between 1804 and 1807. In the “Schellingiana” series, Philipp Höfele and Lore Hühn further published the volume “Schopenhauer reads Schelling. The Philosophy of Freedom and Nature in the Aftermath of Classical German Philosophy. With an Edition of Schopenhauer’s Handwritten Commentaries on Schelling’s ‘Freedom Essay’”. Furthermore, we may recommend the book “‘The Great Dissonance with which Everything Begins’. On Schelling’s Philosophy” by Damir Barbaric. Last but not least, the anthology “‘We must then go beyond the State!’ Schelling’s Philosophy of the Political” is currently being printed and will appear at the beginning of the Year 2022.

In the new year, we are eagerly anticipating countless contributions to scholarship on Schelling: Volume 9 of “Schelling-Studies” will focus on Schelling and Kepler as a way of celebrating Johannes Kepler’s 450th birthday – like Schelling, one of the famous sons of Leonberg; the contributions follow from an online conference held on January 22, 2021 with the participa-

tion of the city of Leonberg, just five days before Schelling's birthday. The journal will also be publishing an obituary of the highly-deserving Hungarian philosopher and Schelling scholar István M. Fehér, who passed away in June this year. In the series "Contributions to Schelling Scholarship", Silvia Pogliano's dissertation will also be published, bearing the title "The alternative Beginning. Ground and Freedom for Schelling and Pareyson. With a German translation of an essay from Pareyson's *Ontologia della libertà* (1991)". It is a notable lack of German-language scholarship that the Luigi Pareyson's decades of works have not adequately be recognized. In the course of the year, the volume "Time – History – Narrative. F.W.J. Schelling's Ages of the World" will follow, edited by Philipp Höfele, Lore Hühn and Philipp Schwab, as well as the anthology "Being – Ground – Unground. Schelling's Significance in Heidegger's Thought", edited by Philipp Schwab and Alejandro Rojas. Finally, in the fall of 2022, Jörg Jantzen and Friedrich Vollhardt will publish the conference proceedings "The Infinite Shown Finitely. Schelling's Philosophy of Art in the Context of Art and Aesthetic around 1800" as part of the "Schellingiana" series.

Due to the currently unpredictable situation, we will provide further information about any events on our websites, including whether or not they will actually take place. Above all, we wish to highlight the conference on the theme of "Schelling and Philosophies of Life" that we are planning together with the North-American and Japanese Schelling-Societies and that should take place in Toronto in May, 2022. Our 'smaller' gathering for Schelling's birthday at the end of January will be less spectacular: Dr Philippe Höfele (Penn State University) will give a video conference on a highly contemporary theme, namely the nature philosophy of Schelling and Steffens.

The most exciting news for international Schelling scholarship has been reserved for the conclusion: The long-term project "Schelling in Munich (1811-1841). Hybrid Posthumous-Edition" was recently approved from the DFG, taking the form of a 12-year-long collaboration between the Bayerischen Akademie der Wissenschaften in Munich (Christoph Binkelman, Eckhart Arnold) and the Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg (Lore Hühn, Philipp Schwab). Beginning in January 2022, we will publish the estate from the second half of Schelling's life, including philosophical sketches, lecture notes and letters, largely in digital format, but partially in print. Between this undertaking and complementary project – which was also approved this year and is already underway under the direction of Christian Danz and our colleagues in Vienna, – "Schelling's Berlin Philosophy of Revelation (1841-1845)", we will finally be able to unearth the last treasure of German Idealism and make it available to the public (free of charge!). Staying with our metaphor – we may well expect that these new editions will work as a "booster" for Schelling scholarship.

Once again, we wish you all the best for this holiday season, and send heartfelt greetings in the name of the board.

Yours,

Lore Hühn

Christoph Binkelman