

Baptiste Le Bihan

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Areas of Research and Teaching

Specialisation Philosophy of physics, philosophy of science, metaphysics

Competence Philosophy of mind, history of philosophy

Academic Positions

- 2023–2028 **Assistant Professor, Principal Investigator**, University of Geneva.
Principal investigator of a Swiss NSF Starting Grant project of CHF 1'750'000 entitled *Space, Time and Causation in Quantum Gravity*, including a PhD and two postdoctoral positions.
- 2019–2023 **Ambizione Research Fellow, Principal Investigator**, University of Geneva.
Principal investigator of a Swiss National Science Foundation research project of CHF 570.000 on the metaphysics of space, time and emergence in the context of quantum gravity, entitled *Composing the World out of Nowhere*.
- 2018–2019 **Scientific Collaborator, Senior Researcher**, University of Geneva.
Scientific collaborator associated with Prof. Wüthrich's Swiss National Science Foundation project *To and Fro: Scientific Metaphysics at Physics's Frontiers*.
- 2016–2018 **Postdoctoral Researcher**, University of Illinois at Chicago and University of Geneva.
Joint project *Space and Time after Quantum Gravity* lead by Prof. Huggett (Illinois at Chicago) and Prof. Wüthrich (Geneva).
- since 2015 **Associate Researcher**, University of Rennes.
- Fall 2014 **Temporary Lecturer**, University of Geneva.
Assistant of Prof. Marcel Weber.
- 2011–2014 **Temporary Lecturer**, University of Rennes.
Two years as a 'Mission d'enseignement' (2011–2013) and one semester as an ATER (spring 2014).

Education

- 2021 **Habilitation in Philosophy of Science**, *University of Bern*.
Title: 'Building on the ruins of spacetime: When quantum gravity meets metaphysics'. Supervisor: Prof. Claus Beisbart (University of Bern). Committee members: Prof. Vera Hoffman-Kolss (University of Bern) and Prof. Christian Wüthrich (University of Geneva). External reviewer: Prof. Kristie Miller (University of Sydney).
- 2010–2015 **PhD in Philosophy**, *University of Rennes*.
Title: 'Contingencies Within Spacetime'. Grade: very honourable with jury congratulations (highest grade). Supervisors: Dr. habil. Jiri Benovsky (University of Fribourg) and Prof. Pierre Joray (University of Rennes). Examiners: Prof. Fabrice Correia (University of Neuchâtel), Dr. Filipe Drapeau Vieira Contim (University of Rennes) and Prof. Frédéric Nef (EHSS). Defended on June 24 2015.
- 2008–2010 **MA in Philosophy**, *University of Rennes*.
- 2005–2008 **BA in Philosophy**, *University of Rennes*.

2005–2006 **BA1 in Physics, Chemistry, Geosciences and Engineering**, *University of Rennes*.

Academic Visits

- 2020 **Complutense University of Madrid**, February 25–March 3.
- 2020 **Paris-Sorbonne University**, February 10–17.
- 2019 **University of Western Australia**, December 13–21.
- 2019 **Oxford University, Pembroke College**, April 29–May 5.
- 2018 **University of Illinois at Chicago**, September 12–October 3.
- 2010 **University of Fribourg**, April 1–June 30.

Publications

Book

- 2019 *Qu'est-ce que le temps ?*, Paris: Vrin.

Edited Volume

- 2021 *Philosophy Beyond Spacetime*, Oxford: Oxford University Press. With Nick Huggett and Christian Wüthrich.

Articles

- Forthcoming 'Metaphysical Indeterminacy in Everettian Quantum Mechanics', *European Journal for the Philosophy of Science*. With D. Glick.
- Forthcoming 'Causal Theories of Spacetime', *Noûs*. With S. Baron.
- 2023 'Trouble on the Horizon for Presentism', *Philosophers' Imprint*, 23 (1): 2. With S. Baron.
- 2023 'What Does the World Look Like According to Superdeterminism?', *British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, 74 (3). With A. Baas.
- 2022 'Spacetime Quietism in Quantum Gravity', in A. Vassallo (ed.) *The Foundations of Spacetime Physics: Philosophical Perspectives*. New York: Routledge, 155–175. With S. Baron.
- 2022 'Composing Spacetime', *Journal of Philosophy*, 119 (1), 33–54. With S. Baron.
- 2022 'Quantum Gravity and Mereology: Not So Simple', *Philosophical Quarterly*, 72 (1), 19–40. With S. Baron.
- 2022 'Les théories méréologiques du faisceau', in *Métaphysique et ontologie*, D. Berlioz, F. Drapeau Contim and F. Loth (eds.). Paris: Vrin.
- 2021 'Spacetime Emergence in Quantum Gravity: Functionalism and the Hard Problem', *Synthese*, 199 (2), 371–393.
- 2021 'The Landscape and the Multiverse: What's the Problem?', *Synthese*, 199 (3-4), 7749–7771. With J. Read.
- 2021 'Analytic Metaphysics versus Naturalized Metaphysics: The Relevance of Applied Ontology', *Erkenntnis*, 86, 21–37. With A. Barton.
- 2021 *Philosophy Beyond Spacetime: Introduction*, Oxford: Oxford University Press. With Nick Huggett and Christian Wüthrich.

- 2020 'From Spacetime to Space and Time: A Reply to Markosian', *Analysis*, 80 (3), 456–462.
- 2020 'String Theory, Loop Quantum Gravity and Eternalism', *European Journal for Philosophy of Science*, 10, 17.
- 2019 'The No-Self View and The Meaning of Life', *Philosophy East and West*, 69 (2), 419–438.
- 2019 'Have We Lost Spacetime on the Way? Narrowing the Gap between General Relativity and Quantum Gravity', *Studies in History and Philosophy of Modern Physics*, 65, 112–121. With N. Linnemann.
- 2019 'Aspects in Dual-Aspect Monism and Panpsychism', *Philosophical Investigations*, 42 (2), 186–201.
- 2018 'Duality and Ontology', *Philosophy Compass*, 13 (12), e12555. With J. Read.
- 2018 'Space Emergence in Contemporary Physics: Why We Do Not Need Fundamentality, Levels of Reality and Emergence', *Disputatio*, 10 (49), 71–95.
- 2018 'Priority Monism Beyond Spacetime', *Metaphysica*, 19 (1), 95–111.
- 2018 'Contre les défenses du présentisme par le sens commun', *Igitur*, 9 (1), 1–23.
- 2018 'L'éternité sans le temps', *Revue philosophique de Louvain*, 116 (3), 441–462.
- 2018 'L'espace et le temps existent-ils ? Le mystère de la gravité quantique', *Implications Philosophiques*. <https://www.implications-philosophiques.org/implications-epistemologiques/lespace-et-le-temps-existent-ils/>
- 2016 'Super-Relationism: Combining Eliminativism about Objects and Relationism about Spacetime', *Philosophical Studies*, 173 (8), 2151–2172.
- 2016 'Les propriétés du vide et de l'espace-temps', *Philosophiques*, 43 (1), 49–66.
- 2015 'No Physical Particles for a Dispositional Monist?', *Philosophical Papers*, 44 (2), 207–232.
- 2015 'The Unrealities of Time', *Dialogue: Canadian Philosophical Review*, 54 (1), 25–44.
- 2014 'No-futurism and Metaphysical Contingentism', *Axiomathes*, 24 (4), 483–497.
- 2013 'Why a Gunk World is Compatible with Nihilism about Objects', *Studia Philosophica Estonica* 6 (1), 1–14.

Other writings

- 2021 Review of Alastair Wilson's *The Nature of Contingency*, Oxford: OUP, in *The British Journal for the Philosophy of Science*, <https://www.thebsps.org/reviewofbooks/le-bihan-on-wilson/>, 2021.
- 2021 'Philosophie et gravité quantique', in *La recherche*, 566, 24–28, July–September 2021.
- 2016 'Le temps (grand public)', *L'Encyclopédie Philosophique*, ed. M. Kristanek. <http://encyclo-philo.fr/temps/>
- 2016 'Le temps (public académique)', *L'Encyclopédie Philosophique*, ed. M. Kristanek. <http://encyclo-philo.fr/temps-a/>

Teaching Experience

- 2022-2023 Introduction to philosophy of science (BA course), Geneva.
- 2019-2020 Epistemology of science (MA seminar, with Christian Wüthrich), Geneva.

- 2018-2019 Introduction to metaphysics (BA tutorial), Geneva.
- 2018-2019 Introduction to philosophy of time (MA seminar), Rennes.
- 2014–2015 Introduction to philosophy of science (BA tutorial), Geneva.
- 2014–2015 Metaphysics of time (BA course), Rennes.
- 2013–2014 Introduction to logic (BA course + tutorial), Rennes.
- 2013–2014 Methodology (BA tutorial), Rennes.
- 2012–2013 Introduction to logic (BA course + tutorial), Rennes.
- 2012–2013 Introduction to the metaphysics of time (BA course), Rennes.
- 2011–2012 Philosophy of science: What is a law of nature? (BA course), Rennes.
- 2011–2012 Methodology: Reading history of philosophy, philosophy of language and philosophy of mind (BA course), Rennes.

Fellowships and Awards

- 2023–2028 Assistant Professor, University of Geneva, Principal investigator of a Swiss NSF Starting Grant project of CHF 1'750'000 entitled *Space, Time and Causation in Quantum Gravity*, including a PhD position and a postdoctoral position.
- 2019–2023 Scientific collaborator (research associate), project leader of the SNF project 'Composing the World Out of Nowhere: The Mereological Structures of Quantum Gravity', University of Geneva, Switzerland (CHF 570 000).
- 2010 Mobility grant from the European University of Bretagne: Visiting researcher at the University of Fribourg (April 1–June 30).

Membership in Scientific Committees

- 2023 Program Committee, Society for the Metaphysics of Science, Halifax, August 10-12.
- 2023 Program Committee, Annual Online Conference of the British Society for the Philosophy of Science, Bristol, July 5-7.
- 2022 Program Committee, Annual Online Conference of the British Society for the Philosophy of Science, Exeter, July 6-8.
- 2021 Program Committee, Annual Online Conference of the British Society for the Philosophy of Science, July 7-9.
- 2020 Program Committee, Annual Conference of the British Society for the Philosophy of Science, Kent.
- 2019 Program Committee, Annual Conference of the British Society for the Philosophy of Science, Durham, 2019.
- 2017 Prize Committee, JTF Essay Prize 'Space and Time After Quantum Gravity'.
- 2016 Prize Committee, JTF Essay Prize 'Space and Time After Quantum Gravity'.
- 2013 Program Committee, 'Workshop Young Researchers on Philosophy of Science', University of Rennes, Rennes, May 23–24.

Professional Service: Refereeing

- Funding Agencies National Science Center, Poland, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

Publishers Cambridge University Press, Routledge.

Analysis, Analytic Philosophy, Argumenta, Australasian Journal of Philosophy, Axiomathes, British Journal for the Philosophy of Science, dialectica, Encyclopédie philosophique, Entropy, Ergo, Erkenntnis, European Journal for Philosophy of Science, Foundations of Physics, Implications philosophiques, International Studies in the Philosophy of Science, Journal for General Philosophy of Science, Journal of Philosophy, Journal of Value Inquiry, Lato Sensu, Logic and Logical Philosophy, Manuscripta, Mind and Matter, Organon F, Philosophers' Imprint, Philosophical Papers, Philosophical Quarterly, Philosophical Studies, Philosophy of Science, Praxis, Scopus, Southern Journal of Philosophy, Studies in History and Philosophy of Modern Physics, Studies in History and Philosophy of Science, Synthese, Theoria.

Talks Selection

* *Invited*

+ *Refereed*

- 2022 'Prolegomena to a Metaphysics of Black Holes', The Metaphysics of Black Holes Workshop, Birmingham University, September 12.*
- 2022 'Multiplicity and Indeterminacy in Everettian Quantum Mechanics', 2022 Conference of the Metaphysics of Science Society, September 10, with David Glick.+
- 2022 'Duality, Metaphysics and Spacetime', Dualities Between Physics and Philosophy, XXV International Summer School in Philosophy of Physics, University of Urbino, June 6–11.*
- 2021 'Composing Spacetime Out of Nowhere', Working Group on Philosophy of Physics of the German Physical Society (SMuK 2021), Online, September 2.+
- 2021 'Can We Learn From Physics that We Live in a Multiverse?', Laboratoire Astroparticules et Cosmologie, University of Paris, June 17.*
- 2021 'Quantum Gravity and Mereology: Not So Simple', Warsaw Spacetime Colloquium, Warsaw University of Technology, May 21.*
- 2020 'What Does the World Look Like According to Superdeterminism?', Philosophy of Physics Seminar, University of Oxford, December 3.*
- 2020 'The Landscape Problem and the Multiverse', Conference on the Foundations in Cosmology and Quantum Gravity, New York University Abu Dhabi, January 19-21.+
- 2020 'Super-Relationism and the Emergence of Spacetime', Structural, Factual, and Super-Relationist Views of Objects: Complutense University of Madrid-University of Geneva Joint Workshop, Complutense University of Madrid. March 3.*
- 2019 'String Theory, Loop Quantum Gravity and Eternalism', Time and Emergence, University of Western Australia, December 17-18.*
- 2019 'Théorie des cordes, gravité quantique à boucles et éternisme', La métaphysique du temps, Collège de France, October 4-5.*
- 2019 'Spacetime Emergence and Functional Realization', British Society for the Philosophy of Science Annual Conference 2019, University of Durham, July 17-19.+
- 2019 'Fundamentality Beyond Spacetime', Workshop on Fundamentality in Metaphysics and in Science, University of Bristol, June 6-7.*

- 2019 'From Quantum Gravity to Eternalism', Philosophy of Science Research Seminar, University of Bonn, May 13.*
- 2019 'Contre la fragmentation de l'existence', Modes d'être, degrés d'être, Aix-en-Provence University, April 10.*
- 2019 'From Quantum Gravity to Neutral Monism', Mind and Matter: Exploring Alternatives to Physicalism and Dualism, University of Neuchâtel, March 14.*
- 2018 'A la recherche du temps et de l'espace perdus', Nuit de la philosophie, UNESCO, Paris, November 17. *
- 2018 'Vers une métaphysique de la gravité quantique ?', Les principes métaphysiques, Collège de France, Paris, October 2-3.*
- 2017 'All the Way Down into the Non-Spatial', Society for the Metaphysics of Science: 3rd Annual Conference, Fordham University, New York, October 5-7.+
- 2017 'Emergence or Mereological Composition in Quantum Gravity?', Symposium 'The Metaphysics of Spacetime Emergence', ECAP 9, LMU Munich, August 23-28.+
- 2016 'Eternity Without Time', Lundis de la philosophie, ENS Paris, December 12.*
- 2012 'A World Without Time', Workshop in Analytical Metaphysics: Challenging Perspectives on the Ontology of Time, University of Namur, May 14-15.*