

## **Seminar IRH-ICUB**

### **Consciousness and Cognition: An Interdisciplinary Approach**

<https://irhunibuc.wordpress.com/2016/04/05/new-seminar-consciousness-in-philosophy-and-neuroscience/>

**convenor Dr. Diana Stanciu**

<https://irhunibuc.wordpress.com/associated-members/>

**Date: Tuesday, 13 December 2016, 17h**

**Place: IRH-ICUB (1 D. Brandza Str.), conference room**

## **Dr. Bogdan Boghitoi**

**Dr. Bogdan Boghitoi** is a graduate of the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Bucharest, where he was also awarded an MA and then his PhD – the latter with a thesis on the scientific credibility of folk psychology. Subsequently, he did research in the field of knowledge representation that was relevant to knowledge management; he studied models of the mind employed by the cognitive sciences, with a special emphasis on the extended mind theory. His chief theoretical interests are the philosophy of mind, psychology and cognitive sciences. In parallel, he is interested in analytic aesthetics – especially in the philosophy of photography – neuroaesthetics and evolutionary aesthetics.

### ***Photographic Transparency – A Cognitivist Approach***

The talk will examine an aesthetic problem - that of photographic transparency - from the standpoint of the extended mind theory. Although there might be what I consider striking connections between the two areas of research, to my knowledge, nobody has attempted to effectively operate the rapprochement. My intention is to show that pictorial transparency can be reframed as a particular case of extended cognition, which, further down the road, can provide us with answers to some of our aesthetic inquiries. As a matter of fact, on the one hand, the classical Waltonian approach to transparency, based on the idea of mechanical production, can hardly cope with both photographic technology and photographic practice. Unfortunately, the proposed alternatives to Walton fare no better, because they fail to take into account the way visual cognition works. Finally, from the vantage points allowed by the extended mind theory, I will argue for photographic transparency, but, unlike Walton, I will grant it both to photographs and to handmade pictures.