
CV Dr. Marta Caravà

RESEARCH STATEMENT

I specialize in **philosophy of mind**, **philosophy of cognitive science** and **philosophical psychology**. The overarching questions of my research are these: how do our brains, bodies and the artifactual, cultural and social environment in which we live shape our cognitive and affective processes? How do different kinds of objects and features of the environment afford and determine the quality of our conscious experiences? Combining methods in analytic philosophy and empirically informed philosophy of mind, I used these questions as a guide to investigate three key themes:

- the nature of our contact with the environment and the active role of the environment in perception and action;
- the role of material objects in affective processes, in particular emotion regulation;
- the interplay of neural, bodily and environmental resources in remembering and forgetting.

Currently, I am building on the results of this research to investigate:

- how active and controllable forms of forgetting can contribute to one's psychological wellbeing thanks to their situated and embodied aspects;
- the types of experiences afforded by absent objects in perception and memory;
- the role of expressive properties of objects in emotion regulation.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **Visiting Post-doctoral Researcher.** Ruhr University Bochum (RUB), Institut für Philosophie II. 15/09/21–14/12/21
Project: Active forgetting and affective regulation.
Description: Research on the role of the body and the material environment in the process of forgetting; the contribution of forgetting to emotion regulation. Methods: analytic philosophy of mind, philosophy of neuroscience and philosophical psychology. In collaboration with the research unit 2812 *Constructing Scenarios of the Past: A New Framework in Episodic memory*, funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG).
Funding: RUB Research School Fellowship for international post-docs.
- **Expert Evaluator.** Universitat Rovira i Virgili, MFP COFUND Doctoral Programme (Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action funded under Horizon 2020). 3/11/21–3/12/21
Evaluation panel: Cognitive science and psychology.
- **Visiting Post-doctoral Researcher.** Ruhr University Bochum, Bochum/Osnabrück Research and Training Group 'Situating Cognition' funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG). 1/05/21–31/05/21
Project: Embodied approaches to memory and emotion regulation.
Description: Research on the neural, embodied and situated aspects of episodic memory and their relation to psychological wellbeing. Methods: empirically informed philosophy.
Funding: Virtual fellowship funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG) through the Research and Training Group 'Situating Cognition'.
- **Expert Evaluator.** Universitat Rovira I Virgili, MFP COFUND Doctoral Programme (Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action funded under Horizon 2020). 14/12/20–14/01/21
Evaluation panel: Cognitive science and linguistics.

- **Postdoctoral Researcher.** University of Bologna, Philosophy and Communication Studies Department. 1/09/18–31/08/20
Project: Philosophical and experimental approaches to emotions in affordance perception.
Description: Philosophical and empirical research on the perception of affective properties of everyday objects and their effects on affordance perception; training on experimental methods in cognitive psychology.
Funding: Italian Ministry of University and Research through the PRIN project *Perception, Performativity and Cognitive Sciences* (PI: Antonino Pennisi) + post-doctoral fellowship of the Philosophy and Communication Studies Department (Assegno di Ricerca).
- **Professional Translator.** Publishing House Ombre Corte, Verona. 30/09/14–30/10/15
Description: First Italian translation of Gilles Deleuze's courses on Michel Foucault's concept of power, published as the book G. Deleuze (2018). *Il potere*. Verona: Ombre Corte (pp.388). Translation and editing of unpublished material from French to Italian.

EDUCATION

- **Ph.D. in Philosophy, Science, Cognition and Semiotics (mark: excellent).** 1/10/14–27/04/18
 University of Bologna, Philosophy and Communication Studies Department.
Dissertation: *The problem of representation between extended and enactive approaches to cognition.*
Funding: 3-year PhD fellowship from the Italian Ministry of University and Research.
- **Visiting research student.** University of Memphis, Philosophy Department. 18/8/16–1/12/16
Funding: External mobility funding, Philosophy and Communication Studies Department, University of Bologna.
- **Master degree in Philosophy (summa cum laude).** State University of Milan, Philosophy Department. 10/10/11–11/04/14
Funding: INPS scholarship for master students.
- **Erasmus student.** Université Paris IV-Sorbonne, Philosophy Department. 15/09/11–15/06/12
Funding: Erasmus Grant.
- **Bachelor degree in Philosophy (summa cum laude).** State University of Milan, Philosophy Department. 16/09/08–14/07/11
- **Highschool diploma in Foreign Languages (French, English, Spanish, Latin. Mark: 100/100).** Liceo Linguistico A. Manzoni, Varese. 15/09/04–15/07/08

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

- **Training course 'Implicit bias'.** Universitat Rovira i Virgili. 26/11/21
- **Training course 'Mitigating bias in academic recruiting'.** Universitat Rovira i Virgili. 9/12/20
- **Summer School 'Enactive cognition and narrative practices'.** University of Bologna. 21/06/19–22/06/19
- **Fall School 'Enactivist Interventions'.** University of Messina. 2/10/17–4/10/17
- **Spring School 'Social cognition, emotion and joint action'.** Ruhr University Bochum. 6/03/17–10/03/17

- **Summer School** 'Phenomenology and philosophy of mind'. University of Copenhagen, Center for Subjectivity Research. 18/08/14-22/08/14
- **Summer School** 'Phenomenology and phenomenological philosophy'. Ca' Foscari University of Venice. 15/07/14-18/07/14
- **Summer School** 'Phenomenology and phenomenological philosophy'. University of Calabria. 1/04/13-4/04/13

RESEARCH PRIZE

- **Early career researcher prize (2019)**, Université Grenoble Alpes/Centre for Philosophy of Memory (CPM).
Description: Prize for my research on enactive forgetting and emotion, received during the conference 'Issues in Philosophy of Memory 2' and awarded to me by the CPM with the support of the interdisciplinary Group de Recherche Mémoire of the CNRS (<https://gdrmemoire.com/>).

PUBLICATIONS

A. Journal articles

- (2022). Are forgotten memories literal experiences of absences? Episodic forgetting and metacognitive feelings. *Acta Scientiarum. Human and Social Sciences. Special issue on the Philosophy of Memory*, 43(3), 1-15.
- (2021). An exploration into enactive forms of forgetting. *Phenomenology and the Cognitive Sciences*, 20, 703-722.
- (2020). When affective relation weighs more than the mug handle: Investigating affective affordances. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 11, 1928 (with Claudia Scorolli; percentage of my contribution: 50%).
- (2020). La proposition expressiviste de Steiner et l'énactivisme. Divergences et convergences. *European Journal of Pragmatism and American Philosophy*, 12(1), 1-10.
- (2019). The threshold of representations. Integrating semiotics and the cognitive Sciences. *VS*, 128(1): 157-174.
- (2018). Une rencontre entre la philosophie et la sémiotique de Peirce, l'énactivisme et l'esprit étendu. *Interrogations*, 27.
- (2015). La nozione di 'mente estesa' tra scienze cognitive, semiotica e pragmatismo. Alcune riflessioni a partire dal tema del linguaggio. *Italian Journal of Philosophy of Language*, Special Issue: 139-151.

B. Book translation

- (2018). Gilles Deleuze, *Il Potere*. Corso su Michel Foucault (1985- 1986)/2. Verona: Ombre Corte (2018). (from French to Italian; with Marta Benenti. Percentage of my contribution: 50%).

C. PhD dissertation

- (2018). *The problem of representation between extended and enactive approaches to cognition*. AMS Institutional Doctoral Theses Repository.

D. Other

- (2017). (En)acting salience. Meaningful action in context (pp. 67-69). In *Codisco X*. Roma: Corsico Edizioni. (Conference proceedings)
- (2017). The Pragmatist Attitude. Habits, Practices, and Gestures in a Pluralistic Landscape. In *Circolo*, 4: 1-9. (Conference report)

E. Publications in preparation

- Conference paper/Journal article: 'Are affectively silent objects affective affordances? Expressive properties and emotion regulation'. With Marta Benenti (Università del Piemonte Orientale).

- Encyclopedia entry: 'Enactive memory'. Invited contribution to *the Palgrave Encyclopedia of Memory Studies*. Expected publication date: 2023.
- Journal article: 'Forgetting, self-regulation and psychological wellbeing'.
- Journal article: 'Enactive episodic memory through sensorimotor scenario construction'. With Anco Peeters (University of Nijmegen).
- Journal article: 'Semanticisation in episodic memory. A trace minimalist account'. With Chris McCarroll (National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University) and Markus Werning (Ruhr University Bochum).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS, COLLOQUIA, SEMINARS, AND COMMENTARIES (*=invited)

1. (Upcoming, June 2022). 'Are affectively silent objects affective affordances? Expressive properties and emotion regulation' (With Marta Benenti). Symposium on Affect and Technology, Midterm conference of the Italian Association of Cognitive Science, University of Parma.
2. (2022). Panel discussion 'Are we smart enough to understand our brains?'. Neurizons 2022, Max Planck Institute for Multidisciplinary Sciences in Göttingen.*
3. (2022). 'Enactive episodic memory through sensorimotor scenario construction' (With Anco Peeters). Online workshop 4E Cognition and Memory. Ruhr University Bochum & National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University.*
4. (2022). 'Rappresentazioni mentali e dimenticanza episodica'. Workshop Rappresentazione tra Filosofia, Scienze Cognitive e Psicologia, University of Roma Tre.*
5. (2021). 'Enactive memory loss'. Philosophy of Language Seminar, Ruhr University Bochum.*
6. (2021). Conference commentary on N. Figureido's talk 'Naturalized language: The intertwining between action and verbal language in linguistic enactivism'. 1st South American Colloquium on Naturalism and Experimental Philosophy, Universidade de Caxias do Sul, Online.*
7. (2021). 'Are forgotten memories experiences of absences?'. Conference: Issues in Philosophy of Memory 2.5, Co-organized by the Université Grenoble Alpes, the University of Illinois at Chicago, and the Jagiellonian University through the Philosophy of Memory Organization, Online.
8. (2021). 'Affording affectivity: affective affordances between perception and memory'. Interdisciplinary Reading Club: Recent Debates on Animal Cognition & Child Development - RTG Situated Cognition, Ruhr University Bochum & Osnabrück University, Online.*
9. (2021). 'Do you see just the mug handle? Let's take a look at affective affordances too!' (with Claudia Scorolli). 8th MindBrainBody Symposium, Max Planck Institute for Human Cognitive and Brain Sciences, Online.
10. (2020). 'Untangling forgetting. An enactive proposal'. Bochum-Grenoble Memory Virtual Colloquium, Ruhr University Bochum & Université Grenoble Alpes, Online.*
11. (2020). 'Ricordare la dimenticanza. Una proposta enattivista'. Annual Conference of the Pragma Association, Online.*
12. (2020). (Canceled due to the COVID Pandemic.) 'Creativity, memory, and emotion-regulation. An enactive approach'. Conference: Creativity and Improvisation in Thought, Practice, and Mind, University of Nebraska at Omaha.
13. (2020). (Canceled due to the COVID Pandemic.) 'Representation-hunger. A pragmatist conceptual analysis'. Conference: Cognitive Science meets the Humanities, Italian Association of Cognitive Science (AISC) Midterm Conference, University of Parma.

14. (2020). 'The philosophy of forgetting. An enactive approach'. Internal Seminar, Centre for Philosophy of Memory, Université Grenoble Alpes.*
15. (2019). 'Enactive-distributed forgetting. An exploration into cognitive and affective aspects of memory loss'. Conference: Issues in Philosophy of Memory 2, Université Grenoble Alpes.
16. (2019). 'Semiotic artifacts for extended cognition'. Conference: Embodied creativity: the role of performativity, University of Bologna.*
17. (2019). 'Diagrams for extended cognition'. Workshop: The philosophy of notation: operational iconicity and observational advantages in diagrams, University of Bologna.
18. (2018). 'Affordances for extended affectivity'. Workshop: Investigating the mind: Pain, emotions and affective disorders, Ruhr University Bochum.
19. (2018). 'Emotions out there. Affect and the extended mind hypothesis' (with Marta Benenti). 5th Conference of the European Philosophical Society for the Study of Emotions (EPSSE), Tallinn University.
20. (2017). 'The extended mind and the emotional life of objects' (with Marta Benenti). Workshop: Social cognition, emotion and joint action, Ruhr University Bochum.
21. (2017). 'Extended and enactivist approaches to cognition: Peircean interventions'. Conference: The Pragmatist attitude. Habits, practices, and gestures in a pluralistic landscape, University of Milan.*
22. (2017). '(En)acting salience. Meaningful action in context'. Conference: Performative dimensions in cognitive science, University of Messina.*
23. (2017). 'Non-representationalist approaches to cognitive science'. PhD lecture, University of Bologna.*
24. (2016). 'Mapping embodied cognitive science'. PhD lecture, University of Bologna.*
25. (2016). 'A semiotic turn in cognitive science?'. Conference: 2nd Conference of the International Association for Cognitive Semiotics (IACS), Marie Curie-Skłodowska University (UMCS), Lublin.
26. (2016). 'Extending artifacts'. Embodied Cognition Seminar, University of Memphis.*
27. (2016). 'Pragmatism and postclassical cognitive science. A philosophical encounter between Peircean pragmatism and enactivism'. Conference: 16th International Meeting on Pragmatism, PUC-São Paulo.
28. (2015). 'Pragmatism and enaction. For a Peircean account of cognition and the mind'. Second European Pragmatism Conference, EHES-ENS, Paris.
29. (2015). Commentary on G. Maddalena's talk 'Intuition and indexicality. Looking for synthetic reasoning'. Monthly Seminar in Theoretical Philosophy, State University of Milan.*
30. (2014). 'A pragmatic approach to cognitive science'. PhD lecture, University of Bologna.*
31. (2014). 'The role of material symbols in Clark's extended mind theory. A philosophical critique from Peirce's semiotics'. Workshop: The actuality of Peirce's thought, University of Lisbon.
32. (2014). 'La mente estesa e l'argomento del linguaggio: una prospettiva Peirceana'. Annual Conference of the Italian Society of Philosophy of Language, University of Bologna.

ORGANIZATION OF INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

- Co-organizer, **online workshop '4E Cognition and Memory'**. Ruhr University Bochum 2022 & National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University.
Description: 3-day workshop on the role of the body, the environment and culture in memory processes, involving philosophers, psychologists, cognitive scientists and researchers in cultural studies.

- Co-organizer, conference '**Embodied creativity: the role of performativity**', University of Bologna. 2019
Description: 3-day conference with leading experts on embodied cognition, philosophy of cognitive science, and philosophy of mind.
- Organizing committee member, '**14th Conference of the Italian Association of Cognitive Sciences**', University of Bologna. 2017
Description: 3-day conference with international researchers in cognitive science.

ORGANIZATION OF OTHER ACADEMIC EVENTS

- Co-organizer, **online reading group 'Embodied memory'**. 2021
Description: monthly reading group involving researchers specializing in philosophy of embodied cognition from the Ruhr University Bochum, the University of Utrecht, and the University of Campinas.
- Co-organizer, **summer school 'Enactive cognition and narrative practices'**, University of Bologna. 2019
Description: 3-day long summer school dedicated to all aspects enactivism, with lectures for PhD Students taught by Prof. Daniel D. Hutto (University of Wollongong).
- Co-organizer of '**SERIC Research Seminar Series**', University of Bologna. 2018–2020
Description: Interdisciplinary research seminar taking place every 2 weeks, involving Italian and international researchers working in the humanities.

FUNDING (Total approx. 89.000 Euro)

- **Visiting fellowship for international postdoctoral researchers**, RUB Research School 2021
- **Virtual postdoctoral fellowship**, Ruhr University Bochum/RTG Situated Cognition 2021
- **Postdoctoral fellowship (Assegno di Ricerca)**, University of Bologna 2018–2020
- **Conference participation grant**, Université Grenoble Alpes 2019
- **Conference participation grant**, Ruhr University Bochum 2017
- **Extra funding for international mobility**, University of Bologna 2016
- **Conference participation grant**, Pontifical Catholic University of São Paulo 2015
- **Ph.D. fellowship**, Italian Ministry of Higher Education/University of Bologna 2014–2017
- **INPS scholarship for master students**, based on academic merit and income 2012–2013
- **Erasmus grant**, University of Milan/Université de Paris IV-Sorbonne 2011–2012

SUPERVISING AND MENTORING ACTIVITIES

- **Ad-hoc mentoring:** 3 PhD students in philosophy and cognitive science, Ruhr University Bochum/ Osnabrück University 2021–
- **Co-supervisor:** M.A. dissertation on mental representations in the embodied cognition, University of Bologna 2017

EXAM COMMITTEE MEMBER

- Final graduation exams (**Philosophy of Language/Semiotics**, M.A. level), University of Bologna 2017
- Final semester exams (**Theoretical Philosophy**, B.A. Level), State University of Milan 2015

TEACHING (guest lectures)

- Introduction to embodied cognitive science (**master course**), University of Bologna 2018
- Introduction to enactivism and the extended mind (**master course**), University of Bologna 2017
- Introduction to the philosophy of embodied cognition (**master course**), University of Bologna 2016
- Introduction to Gilles Deleuze (**bachelor course**), State University of Milan 2015
- Introduction to American Pragmatism (**bachelor course**), State University of Milan 2014

EXPERIENCE AS A REVIEWER

- **Academic journals:** *Frontiers in Theoretical Psychology*; *Philosophical Psychology* (x2); *Phenomenology and the Cognitive Sciences*; *Phenomenology and Mind*; *Estudios de Filosofía*; *The Journal for the Philosophy of Language, Mind and the Arts*; *European Journal of Pragmatism and American Philosophy*; *Italian Journal of Philosophy of Language*; *VS*; *Noema* 2014–present
- **International workshops:** 4th Bochum Early Career Researchers Workshop in Philosophy of Mind and Philosophy of Cognitive Science; 5th Bochum Early Career Researchers Workshop in Philosophy of Mind and Philosophy of Cognitive Science 2021; 2022
- **EU-funded Doctoral Program:** Martí i Franquès COFUND-Doctoral Programme (funded under Horizon 2020), Universitat Rovira i Virgili 2020; 2021

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

- Review editor and member of the editorial board, **Frontiers in Psychology (Specialty section: Cognitive Science)** Ongoing
- Book review and critical notices section editor, **European Journal of Pragmatism and American Philosophy** Ongoing

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Italian: native**English:** full competence**French:** excellent competence**Spanish:** intermediate