Wednesday, 13 March, 2013, 11 a.m. Fellow Seminar

Elisabeth Pacherie

How does it feel to act together?

We very often perform actions together with others and these joint actions take a multitude of forms. But how does it feel to act together? What are the similarities and differences in how people experience agency for individual and for joint actions? Could our experience of agency for joint action differ not just quantitatively but also qualitatively from our experience of individual agency? Could it involve a transformation of the experienced unit of agency itself? In this presentation, I will consider a number of cognitive and motivational factors that may influence our experience of agency in joint action and will discuss two main ways in which it may differ from our experience of individual agency.

Elisabeth Pacherie received her Ph.D in Philosophy from the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, Paris, in 1992. She joined the National Center of Scientific Research in the same year. She is currently a CNRS senior researcher in philosophy at Institut Jean Nicod (UMR 8129, ENS, EHESS, CNRS), affiliated with the Institute for the Study of Cognition at Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris. She has held visiting positions at the University of Arizona in Tucson (USA), at Macquarie University in Sydney (Australia), The Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig (Germany) and at New York University.

Her research interests are in the philosophy of mind and action, the philosophy of cognitive science and the philosophy of psychopathology. Her current research focuses on two main themes: individual and joint agency, delusions and metacognition. She is the author of over 70 articles and book chapters. She is currently preparing a book on agency (Dynamics of Agency, OUP).