

Words of gratitude

for Pascah Mungwini



UNESCO WORLD PHILOSOPHY DAY 2024 | WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY

“Philosophy and our present moment in history:
A perspective from the global South”




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Lay-out
Naomie Tiefs

Photo's
Ellen Casey

Knowledge, Technology and Innovation,
Wageningen University

 Hollandseweg 1
6706KN Wageningen
The Netherlands

 +317 48 43 10

 info.cpt@wur.nl





One powerful element you spoke of was that dialogue breaks down when conversing with those prejudiced against you. You said "They don't speak the same language". Should we not attempt to speak theirs?

You really make philosophy sound like poetry. The analogies are absolutely beautiful. Tack så jättemycket för att du kom!

For ever-provoking my own philosophical development, by exposing and challenging me to openness of thought, richness of articulation, and depth in exploring truth.

Thought provoking analogies and metaphors you shared with us today

Thank you for making the world a better place and creating a space for everyone.

This lecture has been very inspiring, thank you so much!

Thank you for this great lecture! After hearing this, I will definitely aim to discover and explore more different cultures and perspectives and take many detours!

Thank you for your great insights and your lectures!

Thank you for the lecture!

Thank you for the insightful lecture!

Thank you for linking our ecological/climate crisis with Philosophy, and the importance of openness to different philosophies in a dialogue.

Thank you for the opportunity to learn about cultures different than mine and to think about things from a different perspective

Many thanks for coming all the way to Wageningen. Thank you for the interesting lecture and for the advice to explore more.

To support my detouring across thoughts, disciplines, people, other than human worlds and cultures

Music as a common language

Thank you for your passion

Thank you for the lecture, I found "To not mistake your own river for the ocean" a very inspirational quote

Thank you for participating in our working lecture homegroup, and joining our conversation

Listening to your lecture I became acutely aware how through philosophical detour I found my own self. Thanks for the thought provoking lecture.

I have no experience with African culture or philosophy previous to this course, so sometimes I feel incompetent, but you have a warm and clear invitation to empower myself. Thank you!

One thing I am grateful for is that you made me realize that we should see everyone as humans and to combat injustice in the world you have to never shy away from dialogue with the ones we don't understand

I really appreciate the effort to come. This intercultural discourse is absolutely essential and I hope to get more opportunities like these. Thank you!

The lecture resonated with me. I find myself wanting to take detours, to explore and be open. I find myself challenging views on "progress", rethinking humanism. Your presentation inspires me to travel

I am grateful that he takes his time to come to the Netherlands and share his thoughts with us.

Thanks for your lecture, I gain more insights on exploring more unfamiliar culture by myself

Thank you for sharing your knowledge with us. It has introduced me to new ways of looking at the world and the people around me. I will continue to walk this forever unfinished quest with gratitude.

Thanks very much for your inspirational and insightful talk. It sets some pathways to explore for better dialogues!

Thank you for opening up my perspective and contributing to the ideas how to stay connected to or reconnect with 'the other'.

In the chapter you refer to the contribution of Extinction Rebellion in drawing attention to ethical responsibility in the climate crisis. Thank you for including such a practical pathway!

Thank you so much for encouraging us/me to make detours and appreciate different landscapes, to take the time to think deeply, making sense of it and seeing it still as incomplete.

I feel grateful to have had the opportunity to question my own beliefs. And feel less comfortable about inflicting them on others.

I am glad I got to hear your lecture. Thank you for taking the time!

Thank you for diversifying my mind

Thank you!

Thank you for coming prof :)

Your lecture was really insightful, thank you! Especially the analogies were very helpful to me.

I appreciate you taking the effort to talk in English, so we can connect as humans, even when it feels like losing a part of yourself

Thank you for sharing these beautiful thoughts. Your talk makes me feel supported and excited in continuing my exploration throughout this phase in my life.

Thanks for talking to us and sharing your valuable ideas.

I want to thank you for making us aware that philosophy is about connecting the mind to the heart and hereby opens up the space for dialogue and connection, which is very hopeful in this day and age!

This lecture gave me a new perspective on why it is important to engage with philosophy from different cultures. I will incorporate this idea into my own reading and thinking. Thank you!

In the context of intercultural dialogue and world philosophies, I think your lectures and texts are a great example of a way forward and I learned a lot from it

You have awakened a desire to become an explorer and go on adventures journeys, to discover the unknown!

I loved the way you reminded us of our ontological oneness, and how you spoke about the climate crisis

Im amazed by the passion you put in your work and in your words

Thank you for encouraging openness to other ways of thinking and the engagement with emerging realities.

I would like to express my gratitude to your provoking thoughts to represent our global south's thinking! And thank you for coming in person to Wageningen!

Thank you for leaving me with more questions than I had before!

I loved Prof. Mungwini's metaphors on the different meandering streams in which we all have to swim during our (academic) lives and that eventually come together in the big oceans. Very inspiring!

Thank you for broadening my worldview and making me aware of the river with many streams, and connecting philosophy with climate change and diversity.

Your wisdom is so deep yet I am so perplexed at how simple these values and morals are that you share. I wish you the best and hope that the world will listen to you.

I am grateful for your wisdom and your time. It gave me a more insightful look into philosophy in general but specifically in Shona philosophy. Thank you.

The use of relatable analogies to convey various teachings in your lectures. And also the use of traditional Shona language, showing that you are in touch with your African side.

Thank you very much for your interesting lecture today. Beautiful insights

Thank you for the great analogies, that help make philosophy accessible.

Thank you for giving me food for thoughts, inspirations, new perspectives for living in the world

Thank you for your insights. They make me think and be more aware about things that I wasn't before and they give me a broader view of how I want to look at the world.

Your commitment to make African philosophy take a stand on the platform of world philosophies

I'm really grateful for the lectures. The methaphors that you use are really inspiring me, and they would be a guidance in the rest of my life and the way to look at the world and explore <3



Your teachings have helped give words to intuitions I have felt since I was a child, and turn them from something anxious to something hopeful. Thank you for having this part in my life.

Detouring and productive friction should become part of political and ethical agendas in every country.

Dear Mungiwini, Thank you for giving meaning to our detours. Thereby removing the feeling of guilt for allowing our mind to explore. And acknowledging the importance of experience and living

Thank you for reminding us to keep ourselves open to reflection and dialogue while engaging with reality practically

Thank you for your presence, calmth, and state of mind. I am grateful for having been able to listen to you and i wish that you can share this message with more people

Thank you for the wonderful lecture. I enjoyed the metaphors you've discussed (philosophical detours and allergies) and will keep these in mind as I continue my work in philosophy

I come from a river and have an auto-immune reaction. Your speech reminded me of a time when I bathed regularly in the ocean, and the symptoms of that reaction faded away. Thank you for that reminder!

Thank you for sharing your expertise and passion. I truly appreciated the opportunity to learn from you and gain insights!

One thing I like to share with Prof. Mungwini is that I am very thankful that he came all the way from South Africa to The Netherlands to give us an eye opening lecture on African Philosophy.

I will take with me your wise words "do not mistake your own river for the ocean". Very important and I wish more people will hear it.

I hope you'll narrate your book into an audiobook someday! I'd love to hear it read by your calm and clear voice!

Thank you prof!

I really liked the sentence: "The mind bewitches itself, by trying to defend itself." Dankjewel!

Thank you, for making me realize that philosophy is always incomplete, hence the reason why we should keep engaging and participate with each other to create more a inclusive philosophy.

I am curious how you think about nature. What words do you use to come to an understanding of nature? Our own nature, but especially the nature outside. Thanks so much for your contribution Daan Buijs

Thank you for pushing for intercultural, intergenerational, and interpersonal connection and equality.

Thank you for sharing the importance of detours. I will take many more detours with more philosophical joy. Your words are so carefully chosen. It is an inspiration.

I would like to thank you for the insightfull information that you gave during your lecture. Some things that I will take with me is your thought about how philosophy is incomplete and always moving

I hope my allergies get better, this is a great start. I will question my own assumptions and ways of acting. Very inspiring.

How do you make sure you can still have meaningful and transformative conversation with people who have a wildly different viewpoint than yours? Even if you think their ideas are "unsafe"?

Mungwini speaks of being open in doing philosophy, to a plurality. This would seem to suggest that a vital, active philosophical openness would certainly not imply avoiding other theories or opinions that one feels are "unsafe". The example given in the seminar room of the colleague who spoke of Indian philosophy, by facing and moving around, taking a detour, seems to indicate this.

Thank you kindly for the profoundly insightful presentation dear Prof. Please permit me to ask one question: What do you think is the intervention necessary to remedy our allergies to alternative worldviews and ways of being? Warm greetings, Ilana.

Thank you for a fundamentally insightful lecture and for a pathway of being human.

Although you target complex, existential, sometimes to me deeply frustrating topics (pluralism, intercultural understanding), I see no fear in your eyes. Thank you for sharing that calmth with us :)

There are allergies, but there are also maladies. In our philosophical explorations, how do we differetiate between them. Because not every new idea is 'safe'. Some ideas are unwelcome, how do we know and avoid these?







Wageningen School
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Thank you!

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UNESCO WORLD PHILOSOPHY DAY 2024

NOVEMBER 21 2024 | 10:00-11:30 (GMT+1) | WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY CAMPUS

Philosophy and our present moment in history

A perspective from the global South

Public lecture by **Prof. Pascah Mungwini**

Professor of Philosophy in the Department of
Philosophy, Practical & Systematic Theology,
University of South Africa (UNISA)

