

CHRISTOFFER BASSE ERIKSEN

Independent Research Fund Denmark Postdoctoral Fellow, PhD
Institut für Geschichtswissenschaften, Lehrstuhl für Wissenschaftsgeschichte
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Unter den Linden 6, 10099 Berlin
eriksenc@hu-berlin.de + christofferbasse@gmail.com
@cbasseeriksen

Academic positions

- 15.1.2022-14.1.2024 Independent Research Fund Denmark Postdoctoral Fellow, Institut für Geschichtswissenschaften, Lehrstuhl für Wissenschaftsgeschichte, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
- 1.4.2019-14.1.2022: Carlsberg Foundation Internationalisation Fellow, Department of History and Philosophy of Science, University of Cambridge.
Parental leave from 1.7.2020-13.10.2020; covid-19-related childcare leave from 18.3-2020-17.6.2020/4.1.2021-3.4.2021
- 1.9.2018-31.1.2019: Research assistant, Department of Philosophy and History of Ideas, Aarhus University
- 2013-2018: Doctoral student, Department of Philosophy and History of Ideas, Aarhus University
Thesis title: “Beneath the visible: Nature and the sub-visible world in early modern microscopy”, defended May 4 2018, awarded May 18 2018. Committee: Stephen Gaukroger (Sydney), Anna Marie Roos (Lincoln), Kristian Hvidtfelt Nielsen (Aarhus)
Parental leave from 1.2.2017-3.5.2017
- 2015 (Sep-Dec): Visiting Student Researcher, Department of History, Stanford University
- 2014 (Sep-Nov): Visiting Scholar, The Sarton Centre for History of Science, Ghent University

Education

- August 12 2015: MA in History of Ideas, Aarhus University
- 2012-2013 (winter): Erasmus exchange student, Depts. of Philosophy and History, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Germany
- June 25 2012: BA in History of Ideas and German Literature, Aarhus University

Languages

Native Danish, near-native English, fluent German, conversational Swedish and Norwegian

Areas of specialization

History and philosophy of early modern science; history of the microscope

Areas of competence

Historiography of history of science and history of ideas; intellectual history from 1500-1800; history of the life sciences; visual studies of science

Fellowships and grants

- 2021 Independent Research Fund Denmark: International Postdoctoral Grant; project: “Orchard Laboratory: Beekeeping, Plant Breeding, and the Enlightenment Discovery of Insect Pollination”; host institution: Institut für Geschichtswissenschaften, Lehrstuhl für Wissenschaftsgeschichte, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin; 1.610.450 DKK
- 2019 Independent Research Fund Denmark: International Postdoctoral Grant; project: “The microscope between the laboratory and the field: The collective empiricism of early modern microscopy”; host institution: Department of History and

	Philosophy of Science, University of Cambridge and Centre for Science Studies, Aarhus University; <u>1.486.695 DKK</u> (<i>declined</i>)
2018	Carlsberg Foundation Internationalisation Fellowship; project: “Scaling the sub-visible world: The collective empiricism of early modern microscopy”; host institution: Department of History and Philosophy of Science, University of Cambridge; <u>850.000 DKK</u>
2015	Oticon Fonden: Research stay at Stanford University, USA; <u>10.500 DKK</u>
2015	Knud Højgaards Fond: Research stay at Stanford University, USA; <u>20.000 DKK</u>
2015	Fulbright Scholarship: Research stay at Stanford University, USA (awarded, but due to technicalities withdrawn and replaced with a Danmark-Amerika-Fonden Scholarship of the equal amount); <u>50.000 DKK</u>
2014	Augustinus Fonden: Research stay at Ghent University, Belgium; <u>7.500 DKK</u>
2014	Oticon Fonden: Research stay at Ghent University, Belgium; <u>5.000 DKK</u>
2013	Aarhus University, Faculty of Arts: Fully-funded PhD Fellowship
2012	Erasmus Programme (EU): Exchange student at Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Germany, <u>10.500 DKK</u>

Awards and prizes

2022	Independent Research Fund Denmark: Annual Honorary Award for Most Original Research Idea
2019	The Royal Society: The Lisa Jardine Award

Teaching experience

Workshop Essay 1, HPS MPhil program, University of Cambridge (2021)
Grading, Dissertation, HPS MPhil, University of Cambridge (2021)
Supervision, HPS graduate program, University of Cambridge (2020-2021)
Supervision, Essay 1, HPS MPhil, University of Cambridge (2020)
Laboratory on science and technology, Philosophy MA program, Aarhus University (2018)
Histories and practices of knowledge, History of Ideas MA program, Aarhus University (2018)
Early modern life sciences, History of Ideas MA program, Aarhus University (2016)
Methodology in the history of ideas, History of Ideas BA program, Aarhus University (2015, 2016)
History of science, History of Ideas BA program, Aarhus University (2015)

Offices

Book review editor	<i>Early Science and Medicine</i> (2021-)
Member	European Society for History of Science Young Scholars Initiative
Member	Renaissance Society of America
Referee	<i>Early Science and Medicine</i> , <i>Centaurus</i> , <i>Science Museum Group Journal</i> , <i>Gardens and Landscapes of Portugal</i> , <i>Slagmark</i> , <i>Philosophica</i>
Editorial board	<i>Slagmark – tidsskrift for idéhistorie</i> (2013-2019)
Editor-in-chief, founder	<i>Ny Jord – tidsskrift for naturkritik</i> (2015-2016)

Selected presentations

April 2022	<i>RSA Annual Meeting Dublin</i> : “The nutmeg and the mites: Spice trade, quality control, and scientific observation in the Dutch East India Company”
March 2022	<i>The Making of the Anatomy of Plants (1682): Nehemiah Grew and the World of Early Modern Natural History</i> ,” 4A Lab / Max-Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte / Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz: “Nehemiah Grew and the Making of the <i>Anatomy of Plants</i> ”

March 2022	<i>Recipes, technologies, and experiments workshop</i> , Department of Theoretical Philosophy, University of Bucharest: “Colouring Flowers: Books, Art, and Experiment in the Household of Margery and Henry Power,” with Xinyi Wen (<i>invited</i>)
November 2021	<i>Early Science and Medicine Workshop</i> , Department of History and Philosophy of Science, University of Cambridge: “Seeing Atoms”
May 2021	<i>Cabinet of Natural History</i> , Department of History and Philosophy of Science, University of Cambridge: “Nehemiah Grew, collector, curator, and cataloguer of plants”
April 2021	<i>Toulouse Seminar in History and Philosophy of Biology</i> , Laboratoire ERRAPHIS – LESPFI, Université Toulouse: “‘He that will build an House, must provide Materials’: The Foundations of Nehemiah Grew’s Anatomy of Plants,” with Justin Begley (<i>invited</i>)
April 2021	<i>RSA Virtual 2021</i> , “‘A Perfect Collection of Samples’: Reconstructing Nehemiah Grew’s Collections, Catalogues and Lists of Plants”
April 2020	<i>Early Science and Medicine Workshop</i> , Department of History and Philosophy of Science, University of Cambridge: “Picturing Seeds of Poppy: Microscopes, Specimens, and Visualisation in 17 th Century English Botany”
January 2020	<i>Visualizing Science in Media Revolutions</i> Research Group, Bibliotheca Hertziana, Rome, Italy: “Picturing Seeds of Poppy: Microscopes, Specimens, and Visualisation in 17 th Century English Botany” (<i>invited</i>)
June 2019	<i>Scientiae: Disciplines of Knowing in the Early Modern World</i> , Queen’s University Belfast, Northern Ireland: “Of the seeming bigness of walnuts: Knowing seeds of poppy in early modern England”
September 2018	<i>European Society for History of Science Biennial Conference</i> , London, England: “The ‘reall bignesse’ of plants: Nehemiah Grew’s botanical illustrations and the problem of scale”
March 2016	<i>Early Modern and Enlightenment HPS Seminar</i> , Turin University, Italy: “Microscopical Eyes: Empiricism, corpuscularianism and the observation of nature in the 17 th century” (<i>invited</i>)
December 2015	<i>History of Science Workshop</i> , Stanford University, USA: “The Advantages and Disadvantages of Having Microscopical Eyes: Microscopical Tensions in the 17 th Century”
May 2015	<i>Life and Living Beings in Early Modern Philosophy: 2nd Brussels Seminar in Modern Philosophy</i> , Free University of Brussels, Belgium: “Is the Body Just a Machine? Minute Matter and Living Beings in the Natural Philosophy of René Descartes”
October 2014	<i>Machines of Life, Development and Assimilation: Vitalist Themes</i> , Ghent University, Belgium: “Artefacts and Natural Bodies – On Descartes and his Worry over Life”
January 2014	<i>Economic Rationalities</i> , Aarhus University, Denmark: “The Pulse of the Political Body”

List of publications

1. Peer-reviewed journal articles

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse (2023): “Nehemiah Grew, collector, curator, and cataloguer of plants,” *Centaurus* (commissioned)

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse; Wen, Xinyi (2022): “Colouring Flowers: Books, Art, and Experiment in the Household of Margery and Henry Power,” *British Journal for the History of Science* (under review)

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse (2022): “Picturing Seeds of Poppies: Microscopes, Specimens, and Representation in Seventeenth-Century English Botany,” *Nuncius* 37/2, pp. 1-28

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse (2022): “Peber, ingefær, nelliker og muskatnød: Koloniale materialer og naturhistorisk ekspertise i Antoni van Leeuwenhoek’s mikroskopiske observationer” [Pepper, ginger, cloves, and nutmeg: Colonial materials and natural-historical expertise in Antoni van Leeuwenhoek’s microscopical observations], *Slagmark – tidsskrift for idéhistorie* 84, pp. 16-37

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse (2021): “Magnifying the first points of life: Harvey and Descartes on generation and scale,” *History of Science*, pp. 1-22

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse (2016): ”En Newton for græsstrået? Mekanisme, organicisme og disciplineringen af det levende i det 18. århundrede” [A Newton of the blade of grass? Mechanism, organicism, and the discipline of the living in the 18th century], *Arr – idéhistorisk tidsskrift* (2016/3–4), pp. 33-43

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse (2013): “Dannelse af liv – Johann Friedrich Blumenbach og forplantningsspørgsmålet i Oplysningstidens livsvidenskaber” [The formation of Life – Johann Friedrich Blumenbach and the problem of generation in Enlightenment life sciences], *Slagmark – tidsskrift for idéhistorie* (63), pp. 143-155

2. Peer-reviewed book chapters

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse (2021): “Microscopy in Early Modern Natural Philosophy”, *The Springer Encyclopedia of Early Modern Philosophy and the Sciences*, edited by Dana Jalobeanu and Charles T. Wolfe (Springer)

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse (2021): “Leeuwenhoek, Antoni van”, *The Springer Encyclopedia of Early Modern Philosophy and the Sciences*, edited by Dana Jalobeanu and Charles T. Wolfe (Springer)

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse (2021): “Grew, Nehemiah”, *The Springer Encyclopedia of Early Modern Philosophy and the Sciences*, edited by Dana Jalobeanu and Charles T. Wolfe (Springer)

Hutchins, Barnaby R; **Eriksen, Christoffer Basse**; Wolfe, Charles T. (2017): “The embodied Descartes – contemporary readings of *L’Homme*”, *Descartes’ Treatise on Man and its Reception*, ed. by Stephen Gaukroger and Delphine Antoine-Mahut (Springer), pp. 287-304

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse (2017): “Circulation of Blood and Money in *Leviathan*. Hobbes on the Economy of the Body”, *History of Economic Rationalities: Economic Reasoning as Knowledge and Practice Authority*, ed. by Jakob Bek-Thomsen (Springer), pp. 31-41

3. Reviews

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse (2020): Siegfried Bodenmann, Anne-Lise Rey (eds.): *What Does it Mean to be an Empiricist? Empiricisms in Eighteenth Century Sciences* (Dordrecht: Springer), in *Metascience* (29/2), pp. 271-273

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse (2019): Johan Östling, Erling Sandmo, David Larsson Heidenblad, Anna Nilsson Hammar, Kari. H. Nordberg (eds.): *Circulation of Knowledge: Explorations in the History of Knowledge* (Nordic Academic Press), in *b-soz-kult* (published 29.10.2019)

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse (2017): Keith Michael Baker, Jenna M. Gibbs (eds.): *Life Forms in the Thinking of the Long Eighteenth Century* (Toronto: Toronto University Press), in *Isis* (108/4), pp. 907-909

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse (2016): Stephen Gaukroger: *The Natural and the Human: Science and the Shaping of Modernity, 1739-1841* (Oxford: Oxford University Press), in *Early Science and Medicine* (21/6), pp. 605-608

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse; Wolfe, Charles T. (2016): Stephen Gaukroger: *The Collapse of Mechanism and the Rise of Sensibility, Science and the Shaping of Modernity, 1680-1760* (Oxford: Oxford University Press), in *Intellectual History Review* (26/4), pp. 561-564

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse (2016): E. R. Truitt: *Medieval Robots: Mechanism, Magic, and the Arts* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press), in *Preternature: Critical and Historical Studies on the Preternatural* (5/1), pp. 127-132

Demarest, Boris; **Eriksen, Christoffer Basse**; Wolfe, Charles T. (2015): Justin E. H. Smith: *Divine Machines: Leibniz and the Sciences of Life* (Princeton: Princeton University Press), in *Journal of Early Modern Studies* (4/1), pp. 128-132

4. Non-peer-reviewed articles and chapters

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse (2019): "Skaleringens historie: Kloder og atomer i Voltaires *Micromégas*" [The history of scaling: Globes and atoms in Voltaire's *Micromégas*], *Ny Jord – Tidsskrift for naturkritik* (3–4), pp. 117-127

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse; Johansen, Thomas Palmelund (2019): "'Den første bombe kastet mod det gamle regime' – Voltaire og de engelske breve," [The first bomb thrown against the old regime – Voltaire and the letters on the English nation], in Voltaire: *De filosofiske breve – om den engelske nation* (Klim), pp. 133-159

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse, Erslev Thomas (2019): "Introduktion: Livsvidenskabernes materialitet" [Introduction: The materiality of the life sciences], *Slagmark – tidsskrift for idéhistorie* (79), pp. 7-28

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse (2016): "Åbningen af den usynlige verden" [The emergence of the invisible world], *Ny Jord – Tidsskrift for naturkritik* (2), pp. 78-95

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse (2015): "Naturhistoriens bestyrer: Efterskrift til Buffon's 'Første afhandling'" [The director of natural history: Postscript to Buffon's 'Preliminary discourse'], in *Ny Jord – Tidsskrift for naturkritik* (1), pp. 45-54

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse (2015): "Molyneux-problemet og naturens umærkelige grader. Sensibilitet og anti-matematik omkring år 1700" [The Molyneux problem and the insensible degrees of nature. Sensibility and anti-mathematics around 1700], in *Kulturo - tidsskrift for kunst, litteratur og politik* (39), pp. 64-78

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse (2015): "Er kroppen blot en maskine? Minutiøs materialitet hos René Descartes" [Is the body just a machine? Minute matter in René Descartes], in *Semikolon – tidsskrift for idéhistorie, semiotik og filosofi* (15/28), pp. 11-20

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse (2012): "'Kød – eller sjæl, som min datter siger' – om Diderots materialistiske vitalisme" [Flesh – or soul, as my daughter says – On Diderot's vital materialism], in *Semikolon – tidsskrift for idéhistorie, semiotik og filosofi* (13/24), pp. 35-42

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse (2011): "Viden om verden: John Lockes empirisme set i naturfilosofiens lys" [Knowledge about the world: The empiricism of John Locke in the light of his natural philosophy], in *Semikolon – tidsskrift for idéhistorie, semiotik og filosofi* (13/22), pp. 103-110

5. Translations

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse (2016): Leif Weatherby: "Livet på dødslejet" [Scientific Allegory: How Alexander von Humboldt Bridged the Two Cultures Before They Existed"], in *Ny Jord – Tidsskrift for naturkritik* (2), pp. 125-129

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse; Jørgensen, Emma Bess Fløe (2015): Justin E. H. Smith: "Kafkas bo, eller hypotesen om den udvidede krop" [Kafka's Burrow, or the Extended Body Hypothesis], in *Ny Jord – Tidsskrift for naturkritik* (1), pp. 206-212

6. Edited volumes

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse; Mackenzie, Pamela (eds.) (2023): *Centaurus*, special issue: "Nehemiah Grew and the Making of the *Anatomy of Plants*" (commissioned)

Eriksen, Christoffer Basse; Erslev Thomas (eds.) (2019): *Slagmark – tidsskrift for idéhistorie: Livsvidenskabernes materialitet* (78), 190 pp.

Carstensen, J.; Meedom, P.; Ahl, S. I.; Fritsch, E.; **Eriksen, C. B.**; Holm, A. E. (eds.) (2015): *Ny Jord – tidsskrift for naturkritik* [*New Earth – Journal for Nature Criticism*] (1), 328 pp.

Carstensen, J.; **Eriksen, C. B.**; Meedom, P.; Otto, A. (eds.) (2016): *Ny Jord – tidsskrift for naturkritik* [*New Earth – Journal for Nature Criticism*] (2), 328 pp