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Preferred Panel: **Language of the Body**

Title of the paper: **Language of the Body in Three Plato’s Dialogues on Love and Friendship**

Length of the paper: **20 minutes**

### **Outline**

The proposed paper aims at investigating the language of the body in the dialogue frames of three Plato’s dialogues: Lysis, Phaedrus and Symposium. Thus, our interest is focused on all the gestures, movements, their arrangement in the space, and the physical presence of the dialogue participants in these works as a whole. The three works are selected firstly because in their philosophical parts similar topics are discussed, dealing each time with the problems of love and friendship in different aspects and with different starting points, but always including the question of bodily relationship as well. On the other hand, the three dialogues represent quite different dialogue situations with various constellations of participants (new friends, old friends, lovers, beloved etc.), so also various remarks of their behavior before or during the discussions are made by the author, explicitly or implicitly, in direct or narrated dialogical parts. At the end, we will try to prove the followed hypothesis, from the beginning of the investigation as our main methodological premise, that there exists a vivid connection between the result of the philosophical discussion and the complete everyday circumstances in which it develops – a connection, shown by Plato on different dialogical levels, among which the level of the language of the body of the dialogue participants, either in the mere dialogue frames, or during the discussion. On the basis of this conclusion a new more complex approach of reading the dialogues could be proposed as well.