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The Phenomenology of the Centaur: On the Oneness of Equestrian Bodies

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“Becoming one” with the horse is often understood as a romantic ideal. In this article, we want to explore in which ways human beings and horses in riding can be understood as one body. By means of the phenomenological tradition different aspects of the centaur’s embodiment are analysed. It is argued that the centaur is a merged unit that finds its movements, directions, time, and bodily contours through “pactive” movements, atmospheres, and habits. In this way, it is possible to train the ability to merge into new units. Centaurs do exist.