Thomas Drucker* (druckert@uww.edu). Why Is There a Question About Why There Is Philosophy of Mathematics At All? Preliminary report.

Ian Hacking has observed that philosophizing about mathematics is haunted by Plato's ghost. Reuben Hersh was part of a movement to lay Plato's ghost in understanding how mathematics works. His approach was based on observing mathematical practice and eliminating some of the traditional problems raised in a philosophical setting. This talk suggests that, while Hersh's approach has some distinctive features, it's not as though it suffices to lay Platonic issues entirely at rest. (Received September 15, 2020)