



INTERNATIONAL SEMIOTIC CONFERENCE

SIGN - THOUGHT - WORD - WORK



University of Lodz 24-27 May 2015

GUEST OF HONOUR

Prof. Umberto Eco

UNIWERSYTET ŁÓDZKI **UNIVERSITY OF ŁÓDŹ** www.uni.lodz.pl

ISTITUTO ITALIANO DI CULTURA DI VARSAVIA www.iicvarsavia.esteri.it

WYDZIAŁ FILOLOGICZNY UŁ FACULTY OF PHILOLOGY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ŁÓDŹ www.filolog.uni.lodz.pl

ZAKŁAD ITALIANISTYKI KATEDRY FILOLOGII ROMAŃSKIEJ UŁ **DEPARTMENT OF ITALIAN STUDIES, INSTITUTE OF ROMANCE STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF ŁÓDŹ**

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www.anglistyka.uni.lodz.pl/ZPJ?department

INTERDYSCYPLINARNE CENTRUM BADAN HUMANISTYCZNYCH UŁ INTERDISCIPLINARY CENTER OF HUMANISTIC SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF ŁÓDŹ www.centrumhumanistyczne.uni.lodz.pl



CONFERENCE VENUE

Faculty of Philology

University of Łódź Pomorska 171/173 90-236 Łódź

Conference Center

of the University of Łódź Kopcińskiego 16/18 90-232 Łódź

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF

Embassy of Italy in Poland
President of the University of Łódź
Faculty of Philology, University of Łódź
Istituto Italiano di Cultura di Varsavia
Centro Internazionale di Scienze Semiotiche
Polish Pragmatics Association
Polish Semiotic Association
Linguistics Committee, Polish Academy of Sciences, Łódź
Committee of Slavic Onomastics, c/o International Slavic Committee

PUBLISHING PARTNERS

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ORGANIZERS

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CONFERENCE SCOPE AND THEMES



"The print does not always have the same shape as the body that impressed it, and it doesn't always derive from the pressure of a body. At times it reproduces the impression a body has left in our mind: it is the print of an idea. The idea is a sign of things, and the image is a sign of the idea, the sign of a sign. But from the image I reconstruct, if not the body, the idea that others had of it."

Umberto Eco, The Name of the Rose



A sign is what we perceive and realize. It comprises a whole range of phenomena, objects, and beings, as well as ideas within our mental maps. Each fragment of material and immaterial reality perceived by our mind and senses has to be processed by human thought, which becomes the first and most basic tool we use to harness knowledge expressed by various types of signs. It is thus not a truism to say that, seen from this perspective, human thought is boundless. Can it, however, encompass the totality of the world? Individually, it certainly cannot; socially and historically, depending on the accessibility of the surrounding world – both real and fictional – and depending on the language used to assign meanings to things once they are perceived, it can strive to reach the limits of its potential. And here is where a word comes into play. Being a sign itself, it can be used to indicate, describe and conceptualize a selected fragment of any material, spiritual, or imagined space. A sign and an idea give life to words. Is the reverse process possible? There are spheres where words, as parts of larger structures, describe and create the world. They are endowed with agency and performative potential. Merged with a sign by the thought, a word creates meaning for both the creator herself and the addressee. The "matter" of the word is thus constituted by acts of speaking and acts of encoding its meaning in writing. What emerges as a result of these two processes is work, the totality of what is communicated. Understood in this way, the work can be situated within the frames of various discourses, within the sphere of both everyday or specialized communication, and, last but not least, within the realm of literature. Hence, it should be viewed in the widest perspective possible, allowing for new interpretations and understandings.

Such a multidimensional perspective will be encouraged, explored and implemented in conference presentations and discussions on the dynamic nature of and relationships between four interrelated concepts: sign, thought, word, and work. The notions which are at the core of both domain-oriented and interdisciplinary semiotic research will become the focus of academic investigations and critical reflections in which we invite all those who are interested in semiotics to engage: linguists concentrating on the theory of language and its social function, philosophers, literary scholars and critics, translators rendering the work in another language, and humanists open to knowledge about the world and the signs present in it.

MAIN THEMES

- semiotics of communication and culture
- cognitive semiotics
- semiotics of art.
- literary semiotics
- media and film semiotics
- semiotics of advertising
- forms and functions of signs
- signs in discourse
- sign aesthetics
- words and signs
- from thoughts to signs and works
- pragmatic perspective on sign/word/work
- semiotics of lexis
- semiotics of onymy
- semiotics of visual design
- rhetoric of sign-oriented discourse
- defining literary, artistic and applied works
- text typology
- semiotic strategy and stylistic convention of text/work
- intentio operis, intentio auctoris and intentio lectoris in text reading and interpretation
- palimpsest story: the role of history in literary work

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CONFERENCE LANGUAGES

English, Italian, French, Polish



SUBMISSIONS

Regular paper presentations will be allocated 20 minutes plus 10 minutes for questions. Abstracts of max. 400 words should be sent by email as a Word attachment to semiotica2015@uni.lodz.pl by 28 February 2015. Please include name, academic title, affiliation, email address and paper title in the body of the email. Abstracts will be accepted subject to review by an International Scientific Committee. Notification of acceptance decisions will be communicated via email by 31 March 2015.

Laptops, PPT projectors and Internet access will be provided by the organizers.



REGISTRATION

Registration fee, 160 EUR (640 PLN), payable by 20 April 2015, covers all conference materials, 3 lunches (on the 25th, 26th, 27th) and coffee breaks, access to internet facilities, and publication. Participation without paper is possible but does

not change the fee.

Fees, paid in EURO or Polish Zloty (PLN), should be transferred to the account below with the reference "Semiotica2015", participant's name.

Please instruct your bank to apply exchange rates as on the transfer date, and make sure the amount transferred is clear of bank charges.

Uniwersytet Łódzki Bank PKO S.A., II O/Łódź ul. Piotrkowska 270, 90-959 Łódź, Poland Acc. no. (IBAN): PL 96 1240 3028 1111 0010 2943 1767 **BIC/SWIFT: PKOPPLPW**

Reference: Semiotica2015, participant's name



THOUGHT

WORD

WORK

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PROGRAM AND BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

An electronic version of the program will be e-mailed to registered participants by 30 April 2015. An e-book of abstracts will be uploaded to the conference website by 10 May 2015. Hard copies of both the program and book of abstracts will be included in your conference pack.



PUBLICATION

A peer-reviewed selection of conference papers will be published in a monographic collection produced by a reputable international publisher. Some papers may also be published as a special issue of an international journal: *Lodz Papers in Pragmatics* (http://www.degruyter.com/view/j/lpp), in printed and electronic formats.



ACCOMMODATION

The Conference Center (the conference venue) offers 60 rooms for participants. Services and amenities include free breakfast, private bathroom, satellite TV, radio, telephone, refrigerator and free internet access. The Conference Center houses its own restaurant and bar and is located about 2 kilometers from the downtown of Łódź, which is famous for its variety of restaurants, bars and vibrant nightlife.

The rooms are priced as follows:

Single room from 120 PLN to 140 PLN (c. 30-35 EUR)

Double room from 180 PLN to 210 PLN (c. 45-50 EUR per room)

Double room for 1 person from 140 PLN to 155 PLN (c. 35-40 EUR)

Early bookings by participants are strongly recommended. To book your room, please send an e-mail to cskul@uni.lodz.pl , writing "Semiotica2015" in the subject line. Alternatively, bookings can be made by phone (+48 42 6355490) or fax (+48 42 6355460), or by sending an email to semiotica2015@uni.lodz.pl. Payment can be made upon arrival, by cash or credit card. Invoices are issued upon request.

Organizers regret that they cannot arrange accommodation outside the Center on your behalf.

However, the list of recommended places will be provided on conference website at a later date.



TRAVEL

Łódź Airport operates only a small number of flights. Please see www.airport.lodz.pl/en for schedules. Most visitors arrive at Warsaw Chopin Airport (www.lotnisko-chopina.pl/en/passenger?cl=en&set _language=en) and take a train from Warsaw Central Railway Station to Łódź Widzew Station (journey time: 1.5 hours; frequency: every hour). There is an efficient train connection between Warsaw Chopin Airport and Warsaw Central Railway Station (journey time: 15 min.; frequency: every 20 min.). Train times can be looked up at rozklad-pkp.pl/bin/query.exe/en.





Łódź is internationally known for its nightlife and offers a range of sightseeing opportunities. Most sites can be found walking along Piotrkowska Street (www.lodz-online.eu/13,What_to_See_Walking_along Piotr.htm), which is also home to a host of restaurants, bars and clubs. The new Manufaktura Culture-Trade-Entertainment Centre (www.lodz-online.eu/5,Manufaktura_Culture-Trade-Enter.htm) boasts a large number of shops, cafes, restaurants and bars. General tourist information is available at www.lodz-online.eu.

WORD



IMPORTANT DATES

abstract deadline

notification of acceptance

registration deadline

conference program sent to participants

conference

deadline for article submission



CONTACT

Queries should be directed to: semiotica2015@uni.lodz.pl

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e-mail: artgal@interia.pl













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