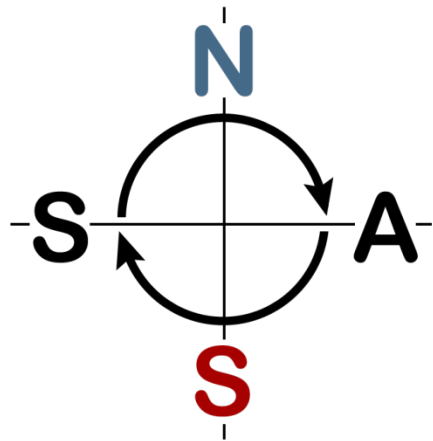




LETTER

NUMBER 28 (SUMMER 2026) – JULY 2026

EDITORS: INESA SAHAKYAN & MORTEN TØNNESSEN
(POST@NORDICSEMIOTICS.ORG)

Sneak Peek into XV NASS Conference,
Kristianstad University, Sweden, June 2027
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Regular sections:

News, CFPs
Upcoming academic events

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nordicsemiotics.org/
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and [X](#)

The NASS newsletter normally appears
twice a year (Spring and Autumn).

Visual profile of the next World Congress
And website link, *p. 5*



To subscribe (for free), or to contribute
with content (e.g. academic news,
upcoming events, country report,
subfield report) write to
post@nordicsemiotics.org

NASS XV Conference, June 2027

“Semiosis and Meaning in Motion: Semiotic Epistemologies and Experience”



We are pleased to announce that the next conference of the Nordic Association for Semiotic Studies will be held at **Kristianstad University, Sweden, near Lund and Malmö**, in June 2027.

About Kristianstad University

Located in the vibrant city of Kristianstad in southern Sweden, about 80 kilometers from Lund and 100 kilometers from Malmö, Kristianstad University offers an inspiring setting for academic exchange and collaboration. The university is known for its strong commitment to high-quality education, interdisciplinary research, and close connections with society. Kristianstad itself is a charming and welcoming city, combining a rich cultural heritage with beautiful natural surroundings, including nearby beaches, wetlands, and nature reserves. With its relaxed atmosphere, excellent accessibility, and renowned Scandinavian hospitality, Kristianstad provides an ideal environment for scholars to connect, exchange ideas, and enjoy a memorable conference experience.

The call for papers will appear in Autumn 2026, but here is a sneak peek for those curious about the conference topic!

The 2027 NASS Conference invites scholars to explore semiotic processes as dynamic relations of reaction, knowing, and experience, and to reflect critically on semiotic epistemologies and the foundations of semiotic inquiry itself.

Under the theme “*Semiosis and Meaning in Motion: Semiotic Epistemologies and Experience*,” the conference addresses how semiosis and meaning emerge, stabilize, and transform through embodied, cognitive, cultural, biological, and educational processes, and how different semiotic traditions investigate and conceptualize these movements. Both semiosis and meaning imply motion, yet they may relate differently to change. Semiosis involves ongoing processes that may stabilize as much as transform relations across biological, cognitive, and cultural domains. Meaning, by contrast, moves through experience, interpretation, and social negotiation, where even subtle shifts may reconfigure how worlds are perceived, inhabited, and shared. Motion, change and rest coexist with processes of meaning-making, from biological adaptation and cognitive development to artistic creation, cultural practice, and education.

Meaning emerges and moves through experience, knowing, and becoming, yet also stabilizes into habits, conventions, and shared understandings that sustain communication and learning. At the same time, meanings are never neutral. They move through relations of power, ideology, and truth. As meanings circulate across media, institutions, and pedagogical spaces, they become stabilized as truths, norms, or identities. Yet these stabilizations are always challenged, reinterpreted, and reanimated through human and ecological practices. To study meaning in motion is therefore also to engage critically with the politics and ethics of meaning—how truth-values are shaped, how authority is performed, and how meaning can be opened toward plurality and transformation.

Semiosis does not merely transmit information or represent worlds; it participates in the organization and transformation of relations between organisms, environments, technologies, and forms of life. From embodied interaction and affective responsiveness to symbolic practices and institutional structures, semiosis involves dynamic processes through which relations are established, maintained, disrupted, and reorganized.

The conference also invites epistemological reflection within semiotics itself. What kinds of knowledge do different semiotic traditions produce? How do our models, metaphors, and analytical frameworks participate in the sign processes they describe? How might semiotics contribute to broader discussions of knowledge, experience, learning, and ecological relations in contemporary society? In this way, the conference seeks to open a reflexive dialogue on semiotic inquiry as an evolving practice of knowing—one that both investigates and participates in the movements of meaning it seeks to understand.

We will welcome papers on topics of interest, including but not limited to:

- Semiotic epistemologies and theories of semiosis;
- Motion, stabilization, and sedimentation in semiotic dynamics;
- Relations between semiosis, experience, and knowing;
- Processes of interpretation, mediation, and inquiry;
- Empirical and practice-based studies of semiotic processes in biological, cognitive, cultural, and educational contexts;
- Habit, memory, and transformation in biological, cognitive, and cultural semiosis;
- Embodiment, affect, perception, and interaction in semiotic processes;
- Human and non-human semiosis across ecological and technological environments;
- Semiotics of learning, education, and developmental processes;
- Truth, ideology, and the politics of meaning and interpretation;
- Artistic, aesthetic, and performative dimensions of semiosis and experience;
- Language, non-language, and multimodal forms of semiosis;
- Semiotics of digital mediation, artificial intelligence, and algorithmic cultures;
- Ecosemiotic and biosemiotic perspectives on continuity, adaptation, and change;
- Semiotic methods and interdisciplinary approaches to experience and knowledge formation

Upcoming Academic Events¹

October 2026

International Conference Media Text, Semiotics, and AI: In Search of New Meaning



Yerevan State University, Yerevan, Armenia, October 15-17, 2026

An international conference titled "Media Text, Semiotics, and AI: In Search of New Meaning" will be held on October 15–17, initiated by the **Faculty of Journalism of Yerevan State University** and the **Armenian Association for Semiotic Studies**.

This conference aims to discuss the modern relationship among media texts, semiotics, and artificial intelligence (AI) in the complex, multi-layered reality we live in today. Media is no longer just a transmission platform. It creates reality, shapes memory, guides perception, and even influences how we collaborate.

The conference sections address several key issues, ranging from the semiotics of suggestion and the culture of human–AI cooperation to the transformation of audiovisual media, the reflection of the linguistic landscape in the media, the formation of digital citizenship, the city's cultural memory, and the construction of an image of the future.

It is assumed that the topics of the sections are not only of theoretical interest but also directly related to the development of our societies, our visual and cultural self-awareness, and the responsible building of the future.

Conference papers will be published in the conference proceedings and in other international academic journals with which we have partnerships, such as *Urbis et Orbis*, *Microhistory* and *Semiotics of the City*.

Contact email: conferencesemiotic@gmail.com

¹ This list of events, and the academic news presented above are indicative and do by no means pretend to be exhaustive. Therefore, our members are strongly encouraged to send their suggestions to be considered for further editions of the newsletter to the editors at post@nordicsemiotics.org

Confirmed keynote speakers:

- Massimo Leone
- Martin Henzelmann
- Christo Kaftandjiev
- Nicolae-Sorin Drăgan

For further information, see the conference [webpage](#).

Conference Partners



July 2027

This is the visual profile of the upcoming 17th World Congress of Semiotics, which will be held in Cali, Colombia, in July 2027. A [webpage](#) for the congress has been established and will soon be filled with meaningful content, including a call for papers.



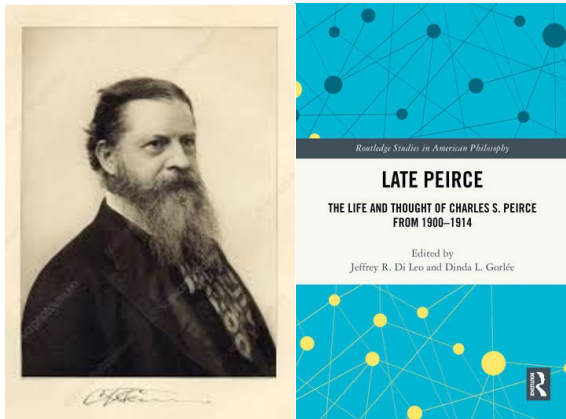
Semiotic Publications

Books

Late Peirce: The Life and Thought of Charles S. Peirce from 1900-1914

Editors: Di Leo, Jeffrey R., and Dinda L. Gorlée

London: Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003567615>



This volume explores the later life and thought of Charles S. Peirce, a 15-year period that spans from 1900 until his death in 1914. It is the first volume devoted to this period of Peirce's philosophical work. Peirce moved to the house he named Arisbe in Milford, Pennsylvania, in 1888. Here, he lived in relative isolation and continued to work on his scientific and semiotic philosophy. Peirce developed a modern logic that was influenced by changes he saw in the interdisciplinary study of science and technology, transforming his Pragmatism into his

Pragmaticism. This action regarding Pragmaticism was a reaction against the downfall of deductive logic, and led Peirce to believe in the vagueness ("would-be") of logical realism in deduction and later abduction. In Peirce's later phase, he situated the "new" mathematics as a labyrinth of semiotic signs through which the quasi-mind of the logician could find a specialized sense to intuit the evolutionary semiosis of reality. The chapters in this volume examine all major dimensions of his thought during this period. Late Peirce will appeal to scholars and graduate students interested in Peirce, American philosophy, pragmatism, logic, and semiotics.

Semiotics: Signs of the Times is Brill's new series devoted to the study of semiotics across disciplines.

The book series is edited by Dinda L. Gorlée.

These are the three most recent books in the series:

- Signs, Intentionality, and Imaginability: Selected Papers by Horst Ruthrof
- Motifs in Art as Agents of Meaning by Arthur Crucq (forthcoming, January)
- A Dictionary of Philosophy by Charles S. Peirce (forthcoming, January)

More information can be found [here](#).

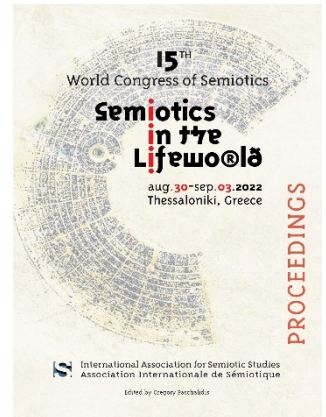


Proceedings Publication: Semiotics in the Lifeworld. Proceedings of the 15th World Congress of IASS/AIS

The 15th World Congress was likely the most improbable and challenging in the more than fifty-year history of the IASS-AIS World Congresses of Semiotics due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite institutional cuts and restrictions that prevented many colleagues from attending the Congress, the program featured 63 thematic panels and more than 600 papers and keynote addresses from participants in 63 countries. Against all odds, the Congress proved to be a truly global gathering of the international semiotic community.

Specifically, the Congress theme, Semiotics in the Lifeworld, aimed to highlight semiotics' ongoing engagement with everyday life, shared experiences, imaginations, meanings, and practices. It emphasizes semiotics as a socially engaged and critical examination of sign- and meaning-making processes at the core of human world-building. Semiotic research is grounded in the historical lifeworld – concrete timescapes and semioscapes – in the vibrant and evolving fabric of semiotic practices that shape human experience and communication by continually (re)articulating the perceptual and the conceptual, the discursive and the performative, the ethical and the aesthetic, the ideological and the figurative, the material and the immaterial, the human and the non-human, the natural and the man-made.

The preparation of these Proceedings also proved challenging. The volume comprises just over 100 papers, significantly less than those presented in person. The thematic sections adopted in this volume do not always reflect those found in the Congress program. Finally, in line with standard practice, the keynote speakers' papers are due to be published in a separate volume in the Semiotics and its Masters series. The editors express their deepest appreciation to all Congress participants for their insightful contributions, which made this a meaningful, inspiring, and memorable scientific event. Despite the modest number of papers submitted to the Proceedings, this volume remains a powerful and eloquent testament to that.



Digitally Divided. The Impact of Technology on Belief and Societal Polarization

Editors: Leone, Massimo, Steven Umbrello

Springer Cham. 2026

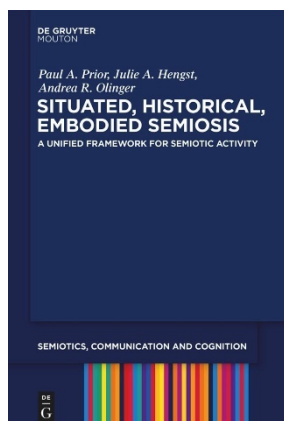


This book offers a critical exploration of how digital technologies are reshaping religious belief, ethical frameworks, and social cohesion. As faith and ideology increasingly migrate to online platforms, the book examines how algorithm-driven content, echo chambers, and decentralized authority structures influence discourse and deepen societal divides. Drawing from interdisciplinary perspectives in religious studies, sociology, philosophy, and digital humanities, this volume interrogates how sacred rituals, spaces, and moral narratives are being transformed in the digital age. Amid rising concerns over misinformation and polarization, this timely work challenges the assumption that technology must inevitably fragment communities. Instead, it explores how digital spaces might also foster new forms of dialogue, connection, and meaning. From online religious practices to surveillance ethics and the digital reshaping of spiritual authority, *Digitally Divided* maps the risks and possibilities at the intersection of belief and technology. Essential reading for scholars, students, and practitioners across multiple disciplines, it is a vital contribution to understanding how we live, believe, and connect in an increasingly digitized world.

We are delighted to announce the publication of three new books in the *Semiotics, Communication and Cognition* series published by De Gruyter.

Situated, Historical, Embodied Semiosis: A Unified Framework for Semiotic Activity

Editors: **Paul A. Prior; Julie A. Hengst, and Andrea R. Olinger**



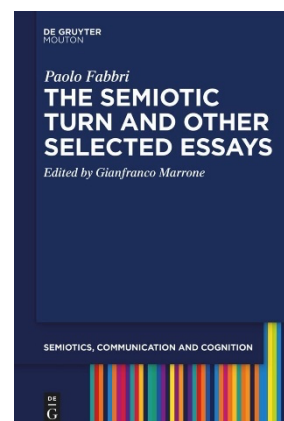
Situated, Historical, Embodied Semiosis offers a new synthesis of Peircean biosemiotics, empirical research on situated activity (including talk, gesture, and inscriptions), and intra-active frameworks for becoming-with. Examining and integrating a wide range of theory and research, the authors combine close analysis of situated semiotic activity (artifacts and practices) across production, reception, and use to account for semiosis as a matter of flat, dialogic histories. The book proposes an expansive, transdisciplinary agenda where semiotic theory is grounded in the details of situated research and situated research is framed by basic theories of dialogic semiotics.

The Semiotic Turn and Other Selected Essays

Author: Paolo Fabbri †;

Editor: Gianfranco Marrone

The Semiotic Turn is a milestone in semiotics. Written by Paolo Fabbri (1939-2020) at the end of the millennium, it orients semioticians in their purpose to critically analyze different cultural and social worlds. Given the influence of Fabbri's thought on semioticians worldwide, this English translation introduces Fabbri's work to English-speaking audiences. It includes previously unpublished texts by Fabbri and an introduction by the editor.



Semiotic Investigations. From Meaning to Pictures and Communication

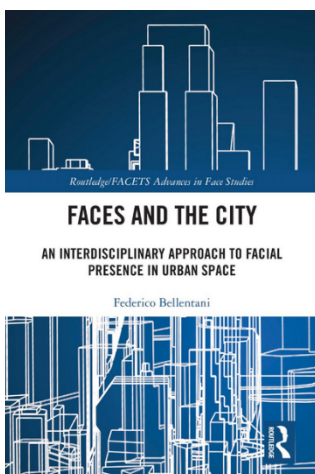
Author: Göran Sonesson †

Editors: Jordan Zlatev, Sara Lenninger and Todd Oakley



Summarizing his life-long engagement with the field of semiotics and extending this with cognitive science and phenomenology into the transdisciplinary science of cognitive semiotics, the author asks key questions like: What is meaning in general and sign use in particular? What is specific about the picture sign? What is communication? The book is divided into three parts, followed by an extensive case study on visual rhetoric. Edited posthumously by his closest colleagues, the book sediments the legacy of Göran Sonesson as one of the leading semioticians of our times.

Faces and the City. An Interdisciplinary Approach to Facial Presence in Urban Space



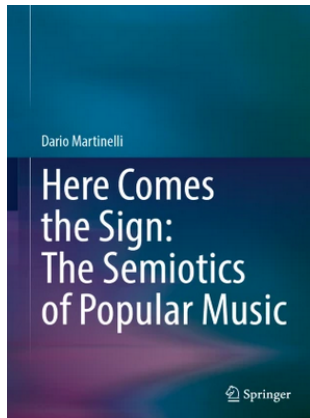
Bellentani, F. (2026).

Routledge.

Faces and the City advances the understanding of the role of faces and face representations, their meanings and interpretations, in physical and digital urban space. This comprehensive study builds a typology of biological, represented and digital faces within urban space and presents an interdisciplinary approach to the facial presence in urban space, which it is used to analyse in depth urban faces and facial representation in public art, monuments, memorials as well as memorial practices, including digital ones. This innovative volume will interest PhD students and scholars in semiotics, visual communication, digital humanities, cultural geography and urban studies, as well as those working in urban planning and design, architecture, memory studies and art history.

Here Comes the Sign: The Semiotics of Popular Music

Dario Martinelli (2025)



This text is an original and unique introduction to musical semiotics through the use of popular music acts and repertoires of global cultural impact. The basic idea of this is that the songs of The Beatles, Queen, ABBA, Madonna, Michael Jackson and others have become a lingua franca in nearly all cultures, thus making for excellent examples to illustrate musical semiotic theories. “Heroes” can perfectly explain Eero Tarasti’s Actantial Model, “Bohemian Rhapsody” is ideal to describe Tzvetan Todorov’s Equilibrium Theory, and so forth. Through case studies, in-depth analysis, original theoretical contributions from the author, but also a comprehensible and enjoyable writing style, this volume will be an engaging reading for students and at the same time an aid for instructors in semiotics, musicology and popular music studies.

JOURNALS

Sign Systems Studies



Sign Systems Studies is an international journal of semiotics and sign processes in culture and living nature. It publishes original scientific papers, review articles and book reviews on semiotics of culture and nature. Since 2009, each volume includes four issues. The official language is English. The journal is indexed in Web of Science Core Collection (Clarivate Analytics), in Scopus and other relevant databases.

The most recent issue of *Sign Systems Studies* Vol. 53 No. 3-4 (2025) can be found [here](#).

SEMIOTICA



We are pleased to announce the publication of the latest issue of *Semiotica* (International Semiotics since 1969), Volume 2026, Issue 270, which is available [here](#) with full access.

See also [issue 263](#) (a regular issue), [issue 264](#) (a regular issue) and [issue 265](#), a special issue on “Mystique et politique : Tension sémiotique entre l’être et le faire”.

Semiotica is the journal of the International Association for Semiotic Studies /
Revue de l’Association Internationale de Sémiotique

Editors-in-chief: Stephanie Walsh Matthews, Massimo Leone, Jamin Pelkey

It is published in six annual issues, in two languages (English and French). From time to time, Special Issues, devoted to topics of particular interest, are assembled by Guest Editors. The journal welcomes papers reporting results of research in all branches of semiotic studies. Research articles, in-depth reviews, guest editorials, and reports are the accepted formats.

Starting with Volume 2024 (Issue 256), *Semiotica* is transformed into a Diamond Open Access journal thanks to their subscribers participating in the Subscribe to Open (S2O) project. All current content will be published under a Creative Commons License (CC-BY 4.0) at no cost to authors and will be freely available to readers.

punctum.

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF SEMIOTICS

Volume 11 Issue 02 (2025)
**Generativity in language, cognition,
and artificial intelligence:
Theoretical convergences and
emerging paradigms**

Edited by: **Didier Tsala Effa & Rossana De Angelis**

The full issue can be downloaded [here](#).



Punctum. is a blind peer-reviewed, on-line journal dedicated to the semiotic study of contemporary cultural texts, practices and processes, published by the Hellenic Semiotic Society, member of the International Association for Semiotic Studies (IASS).

Aspiring to provide a venue for the advancement of international semiotic scholarship, the journal is published twice a year (July & December) in English, although submissions in French and German will be accepted as well. **Punctum's** Editorial Board reflects both its international scope and the diversity of contemporary semiotic research and theory.

Punctum invites submissions (original research papers, review articles, book reviews) across a wide range of semiotic fields and methodologies on an on-going basis, and regularly puts out calls for special issues with guest editors. The journal's contents are registered with **CrossRef** and indexed in **Scopus** and **EBSCO**.



Journal

Biosemiotics

Biosemiotics is a peer-reviewed journal focusing on the study of signs, communication, interpretation, and cognition in living organisms.

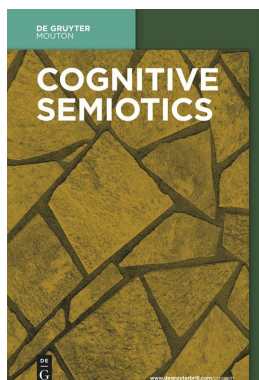
Editor-in-Chief: Yogi H. Hendlin
Co-Editor-in-Chief: Jana Švorcová

The latest issue of the **Biosemiotics** journal, Volume 19, Issue 1 (April 2026) has now been released and can be found [here](#).

Biosemiotics is a peer-reviewed journal focusing on the study of signs, communication, interpretation, and cognition in living organisms.

- Traces the growth and evolution of the discipline of biosemiotics.
- Bridges biology, philosophy, linguistics and communication sciences.

- Encourages both methodology development and application of theory in empirical case studies.
- Affiliated with the International Society for Biosemiotic Studies (ISBS).
- Challenges traditional assumptions on the nature of life and suggests alternative perspectives.



Cognitive Semiotics

Editor-in-Chief: **Peer F. Bundgaard**

Volume 19, Issue 1 (May 2026) is now out and can be accessed [here](#).

Cognitive Semiotics is a peer-reviewed, multidisciplinary journal devoted to high-quality research, integrating perspectives, methods and insight from cognitive science, cognitive linguistics and semiotics, placing meaning-making into the broader context of cognitive, social, and neurobiological processes. The journal is a platform for the study of meaning-making writ large: in our interactions with the surroundings in all domains, in the natural as well as in the social world, in language and other sign vehicles, as well as in perception, and in action.

Starting 2025, *Cognitive Semiotics* will be transferred to Gold Open Access on a year-by-year basis. All articles will thus immediately appear under the Creative Commons license CC-BY. There will be no publication costs for the authors. The Open Access transformation is based on [Subscribe-to-Open](#), an alternative model that enables the full Open Access transformation of journals through the continuation of existing subscriptions. The prerequisite for successful transformation is that subscriptions are continued to the same extent as before. The editors of *Cognitive Semiotics* and the publisher De Gruyter would therefore like to thank all subscribers for their support, which has made the transformation to Open Access possible.

Actes Sémiotiques



The Editor of Actes Sémiotiques, Juan ALONSO ALDAMA, is pleased to announce the publication of issue 134 (01/2026) available [here](#).

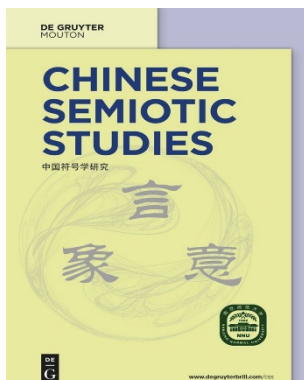
This issue contains a monographic dossier entitled « L'Échelle: mesure, démesure, incommensurabilité », edited by Denis Bertrand and Jean-François Bordron, many other texts and a series of reading notes on recently published works in semiotics.

Southern Semiotic Review

Southern Semiotic Review is focused on the Southern Hemisphere while maintaining an inclusive international reach. The latest issue 23 2026 (i) includes papers from South Africa, Argentina, Eastern Europe, Malaysia, Indonesia (3), Saudi Arabia, Cyprus, Spain and Australia, thus demonstrating the mission of the journal to represent international scholarship. The latest issue is now out and is freely available [here](#). Among others, it includes monographs by Liliana Maria Pazo ([Reading Acts](#)) and Humairaa Mayet ([Decoding Power: The Semiotics of Apartheid](#)).

In addition to general submissions, the journal invites papers focused on three continuing themes – creative arts and intermediality, semio linguistics, and structuralism today. Submissions on these themes can be made at any time, and will be published individually in a general issue. When there is an aggregate number they will be collected into a special issue online and it is planned in print. The themes are continuing. Over time there can be more than one special edition or issue on each.

Send submissions to: southernsemioticreview@gmail.com



Chinese Semiotic Studies

We are pleased to announce that the *Chinese Semiotic Studies* is now out with a new issue (Volume 22, Issue 2), all in Open Access!

The full issue is available [here](#):

CALL FOR PAPERS

2nd Call for Papers for the 13th International Conference on Multimodality

We are pleased to announce that the 13th International Conference on Multimodality will be held in Helsinki, Finland in June 2027. Below you will find the second call for papers for the conference, which may be of interest to many semioticians.

The phenomenon of multimodality – or how communication and interaction build on coordinated combinations of multiple forms of expression – is now actively researched within diverse fields of study. Given the multifaceted nature and complexity of the phenomenon, pursuing a constructive dialogue between different approaches to multimodality is essential for moving towards **a shared understanding**. This is the main theme of the 13th International Conference on Multimodality (13ICOM), which celebrates the 25th anniversary of organising the first conference in the series in Salzburg, Austria in 2002. For 13ICOM, we want to specifically emphasise the role of early-career researchers working on diverse aspects of multimodality by organising a doctoral consortium on June 1, 2027 ahead of the main conference on June 2–4, 2027.

The doctoral consortium features 5-minute pitch talks from participants and master classes in theories and methods from experts, with plenty of opportunities for networking with fellow early-career researchers.

The main conference will feature four plenary sessions and multiple parallel sessions with 20-minute presentations.

The confirmed plenary speakers for 13ICOM include (in alphabetical order):

- Pentti Haddington (University of Oulu, Finland)
- Maria Grazia Sindoni (University of Messina, Italy)
- Beate Schirrmacher (Linnaeus University, Sweden)
- Amanda Wasielewski (Uppsala University, Sweden)

Submission formats

We invite submissions for both doctoral consortium and the main conference using the same format. Submissions must be anonymous and are limited to a maximum length of 250 words excluding references. All accepted submissions must be presented in person. Submissions are limited to one per author, but a single author can contribute to several submissions. Doctoral candidates can submit to the main conference, but the doctoral consortium is only open to doctoral candidates.

All submissions will undergo a double-blind review process that evaluates their quality, novelty and relevance to the broad field of multimodality.

The submission portal is open from June 15, 2026 until September 15, 2026.

Practical information

The regular registration fee is 220€, and the reduced fee for pre-doctoral researchers is 50€. The conference dinner is not included in the registration fee.

The conference is organised by the Multimodality Research Group and will be held in the Main Building of the University of Helsinki (Fabianinkatu 33). All premises at this location are highly accessible.

If you have any questions, please contact the organisers at 13icom@helsinki.fi

Early Career Researchers Scholarships (ECR) – Nanjing Normal University Semiotics Symposium 2026

Submission deadline: August 16, 2026

The call for papers of the Nanjing Normal University Semiotics Symposium 2026 is open, [Dimensions of Trust: Signs, Interpretation, and Reconstruction](#) (23-25 October 2026). It is an event under the auspices of the IASS-AIS. Abstract submission Deadline: 23:59 PM, Sunday, August 16, 2026, Beijing Time (15:59 PM, Sunday, August 16, 2026, UTC). The symposium is the culmination of the “NNU International Semiotics Exchange Week” (Oct [19–23 2026](#)). We have now decided that *eight scholarships for Early Career Researchers outside China will be awarded to support their international trips*. The details of requirements are as follows:

1. These eight scholarships, 500 euros each, are intended to support international travels related to the symposium. The applicants must hold non-Chinese passports. To apply for the scholarship, one must also:
2. be an early career researcher, i.e., investigators under 40 years old who are either doctoral candidates or postdoctoral researchers who defended their dissertations no more than six years ago (Not be a tenured faculty member or full professor.),
3. have a demonstrable financial need,
4. submit an abstract for the symposium, and
5. include two letters of support from tenured faculty members or full professors with their signatures.

Adjudication of the applications will be carried out accordingly and on a merit basis. The deadline for submitting the application is the same as the deadline for abstract submission.

We strongly suggest that interested ECRs submit their applications alongside abstracts to njnusemiotics@163.com by July 19, 2026, as there should be sufficient time for the organizing committee to review the abstracts and subsequently for the selected ERCs to apply for visas, if need be.