

## Cultura Visuale in Italia (Palermo, 28-30 Sep 06)

Michele Cometa

International Conference

Cultura Visuale in Italia. Prospettive per la comparatistica letteraria  
Palermo  
28-30 settembre 2006

Organisation: Ministero dell'Istruzione, dell'Università e della Ricerca  
scientifica PRIN 2005 | Università di Palermo | Facoltà di Scienze della  
Formazione | Dipartimento di Arti e Comunicazioni | Centre Culturel  
Français  
| Istituto Svizzero di Roma | Associazione Siciliana Amici della Musica |  
Alitalia | Feedback | :duepunti edizioni | Broadway Libreria dello  
Spettacolo | Master in Comunicazione e Cultura Visuale | Laboratorio di  
Cultura Visuale | Con il Patrocinio del Senato della Repubblica

Conference Organizer: Prof. Dr. Michele Cometa, Dipartimento di Arti e  
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Palermo, Jolly Hotel  
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Research concerning the interrelation between literature and visual culture  
is by now a well-established international tradition showing remarkable  
progress also in Italy. National philology especially (German, English,  
French, etc), theory of literature and comparative literature have amply  
acknowledged and developed international stimuli both on a theoretical  
level

and on an applicative one. In the last decades of the twentieth century, in  
particular, we have witnessed a renewal of the debate on the "reciprocal  
illumination between the arts" obviously encouraged by the still growing  
role that images have "for" literature, "in" literature (the problem of  
explicitly intermedial production) and in the "system of literature" as a  
whole (distribution etc.).

The meeting intends to define the methodological bases for a comparative  
study of literature and visual culture that is fundamental both at the  
level

of literary theory - which has always shown meticulous interest with regard

to the relationship between verbal and visual, that today seems to be at the

core of the cultural debate - , and at the level of the contribution that this connection may be able to provide to the redefinition of the role that literature can and must acquire within the field of Cultural Studies and Communication Studies.

The aim of this project is focused upon the analysis of literary phenomena moving from the alterations that the gaze (individual and social), the optical devices/media (from the camera obscura to the cinema) and the new images produce upon literature both on a thematic level (media and gaze as literary themes) and on that of writing, in the strict sense of the word (literary optics, ékphrasis, etc.).

In such a view the comparative study of "literacy" and "visual literacy" can

contribute to reinforce the role of literary studies in the constitution of interpretative paradigms of our society, therefore avoiding the isolation of

literature from the most productive and the widest context of the study of cultures.

The research project in particular intends to focus its attention - in accordance with the competences already acquired by each scholar that is part of this work unit - upon three fundamental phases of the encounter between literature and visual culture: 1) a pre-photographic phase which will look at the presence in literature of the gaze changes produced by visual technologies such as camera obscura, microscope, telescope etc., up to the invention of photography (which is to say, a period that extends from

Pre-romanticism to Naturalism); 2) a post-photography phase which will concentrate upon the encounter between photography and literature both on a biographic level (writers-photographers) and on the most crucial level of the modifications imposed by photography as a means of communication to literary; 3) a pre- and post-cinema phase in which, beyond the problem relative to the adaptation, the purpose will be to highlight how cinema, as an instrument of communication, and film writing have shaped and modified literary writing.

## CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Thursday September 28, 3.30 p.m.

Welcome

Chairman Camilla Miglio

Hans Belting (IFK, University of Vienna)

Per un'iconologia dello sguardo

W. J. T. Mitchell (University of Chicago)

Realism and the Digital Image

Discussion

Friday September 29, 9.00 a.m.

Chairman Maria Luisa Roli

Ulrich Stadler (University of Zurich)

Besser sehen, anders sehen. Über den wissenschaftlichen und poetischen

Umgang mit visueller Erfahrung

10.00 a.m. Coffee break

Michele Cometa (University of Palermo)

Letteratura e cultura visuale nell'era prefotografica

Giovanni Sampaolo (University of Rome)

Skia-graphia: silhouettes, ombre cinesi e letteratura intorno al 1800

Rita Calabrese (University of Palermo)

Con gli occhi di un'ebrea: Dorothea Mendelssohn Veit Schlegel

Friday September 29, 4.00 p.m.

Chairman Federico Bertoni

Philippe Hamon (University of Paris 3 - Sorbonne Nouvelle)

La littérature, la ligne, le point et le plan

5.00 p.m. Coffee break

Silvia Albertazzi (University of Bologna)

Letteratura e cultura visuale nell'era della fotografia

Ferdinando Amigoni (University of Bologna)

Gli strani grovigli del vedere: Celati, Ghirri, Herzog

Donata Meneghelli (University of Bologna)

"Il cervello comincia dall'occhio". Raccontare le immagini, raccontare  
con

le immagini

Saturday September 30, 9.00 a.m.

Chairman Lucia Mor

Andreas Beyer (University of Basel)

Il volto. Descritto. Dipinto. Letto

10.00 a.m. Coffee break

Massimo Fusillo (Università dell'Aquila)

Letteratura e cultura visuale nell'era del cinema

Clotilde Bertoni (Università di Palermo)

Giornalismo nel cinema e cinema giornalistico

Vincenzo Maggitti (Università dell'Aquila)

Il "pictorial turn" nel racconto letterario del film

Saturday September 30, 4.00 p.m.

Chairman Mauro Ponzi

Cultura visuale in Italia. Prospettive a confronto

Round table: Antonio Bellingreri, Maurizio Cardaci, Ivano Cavallini,  
Gabriella De Marco, Francesco Faeta, Filippo Fimiani, Francesco Galluzzi,  
Fabio Lo Verde, Giuseppe Pucci, Antonio Somaini

5.30 p.m. Coffee break

Giulio Iacoli introduces the director

Antonio Capuano

Roberta Coglitore introduces the photographer

Giovanni Chiaramonte

Conclusions

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Languages: French, English, Italian, German

Reference:

CONF: Cultura Visuale in Italia (Palermo, 28-30 Sep 06). In: ArtHist.net, Sep 19, 2006 (accessed May 3, 2026), <<https://arthist.net/archive/28494>>.