Bibliographic Photoatlas

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Selected books in semiotics and philosophy of language of Susan Petrilli

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1. Biographical note

Susan Petrilli is Professor of Philosophy and Theory of Languages at the Department of Lettere, Lingue Arti - Italianistica e Culture Comparate (Letters, Languages, Arts - Italian Studies and Comparative Cultures), University of Bari “Aldo Moro”, Bari, Italy, and Visiting Research Fellow at the School of Psychology, The University of Adelaide, South Australia.

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1. Biographical note

Her principal research areas include philosophy of language, semiotics, bio-semiotics, general linguistics, communication studies, translation theory, theory of literary language, critical whiteness studies, gender and identity studies – with a special focus on the problem of interpretation and understanding, the relation between signs and values, the problem of ideology, the gift economy, the problem of subjectivity. With Professor Augusto Ponzio she has introduced the concept of Semioethics.

Professor Petrilli is Vice President of the International Association for Semiotic Studies (IASS) since 2014, a member of the Executive Committee since 1999 and Treasurer for the same Association from 2004 to 2014. She is also member of several academic associations in Italy and internationally.

She was elected 7th Thomas A. Sebeok Fellow of the Semiotic Society of America in 2008, a tri-Annual award for outstanding contribution to the development of the doctrine of signs, and first woman to receive this award. In 2008 she was also elected Fellow of the International Communicology Institute (ICI). She is Honorary Member of the Advisory Committee for the Institute of Semiotics and Media Studies (ISMS) at Sichuan University, Chengdu, China.
1. Biographical note

Furthermore, Professor Petrilli is a member of the advisory board of numerous international journals and book series including *Semiotica; International Journal for the Semiotics of Law; Russian Journal of Communication; Traduction, Terminologie, Rédaction; The American Journal of Semiotics; Chinese Semiotic Studies; Signs & Media; Biosemiotics; Encyclopedia of Media and Communication; Versus; Symbolon; Punctum; Signata; Encyclopedic Dictionary of Semiotics.* With Professor Ponzio she directs several book series in Italy and has just founded the new book series *Reflections on Signs and Language*, with the international publishing house Peter Lang. Professor Petrilli has just inaugurated the series with her book, *The Global World and Its Manifold Faces. Otherness and the Basis of Communication.*

In addition to her outstanding achievements and distinguished honors, she has published regularly in English and Italian. Beyond editing collective volumes and translating (from English and French into Italian and vice versa) over 60 books, she has authored more than 50 monographs. In addition to her works published originally either in English or Italian, her works are also translated into Chinese, Spanish, Portuguese, French, Romanian, Hungarian, Serbian, Turkish and Greek.

This volume, containing introductions and commentaries, presents a selection from Welby's published and unpublished writings delineating the whole course of her research through to developments with the Signific Movement in the Netherlands and still other ramifications, contemporary and subsequent to her. A selection of essays by first-generation significians contributing to the Signific Movement in the Netherlands completes the collection, testifying to the progress of significs after Welby and even independently from her. This volume contributes to the reconstruction on both the historical and theoretical levels of an important period in the history of ideas.

The aim of the volume is to convey a sense of the theoretical topicality of significs and its developments, especially in semiotics, and in particular its thematization of the question of values and the connection with signs, meaning, and understanding, therefore with human verbal and nonverbal behavior, language and communication.
2.2. Un mondo di segni. L’avere senso e il significare qualcosa (2012)

La semiotica globale non può prescindere dalla considerazione della “globalizzazione”, dell’organizzazione attuale del sociale in termini di comunicazione globale: la globalizzazione pervade l’intero mondo dei segni, sociale, culturale, “naturale”, organico, l’intera semiosfera l’intera biosfera (Sebeok): è questo il mondo dei segni in cui la vita, l’intera vita planetaria, e non solo quella umana, attualmente si svolge. Questo libro, di “semiotica e semioetica”, rivolge ad esso la sua attenzione. Tra i temi principali: semiotica e politica; mondo, mercato, guerra; paura dell’altro e terrorismo globale; migrazione come sintomo della comunicazione globale; democrazia e impostura; formazione come addestramento alla riproduzione dell’identico; uso dei segni del vivere insieme; dialogo e traduzione; amore, scrittura, lettura; significare; rapporto identità/alterità. L’ultima parte è dedicata a coloro che sui segni hanno rivolto la loro attenzione come semiotici, linguisti, filosofi: Charles Peirce, Victoria Welby, Michail Bachtin, Charles Morris, Susanne Langer, Thomas Sebeok.
2.4. Expression and Interpretation in Language (2012)

This book features the full scope of Susan Petrilli’s important work on signs, language, communication, and of meaning, interpretation, and understanding. Although readers are likely familiar with otherness, interpretation, identity, embodiment, ecological crisis, and ethical responsibility for the biosphere—Petrilli forges new paths where other theorists have not tread. This work of remarkable depth takes up intensely debated topics, exhibiting in their treatment of them what Petrilli admires—creativity and imagination. Petrilli’s contribution is at once historical and theoretical. It is historical in its recovery of major figures of language; it is theoretical in its articulation of a comprehensive framework. She expertly combines analytic precision and moral passion, theoretical imagination and political commitment.
Due i principali obiettivi di queste riflessioni sulla teoria del linguaggio e dei segni:
1) stabilire dove sia giunta oggi la ricerca semiotica, quale ne sia la sua attuale posizione; il che vuol dire chiedersi come si possa fare oggi un discorso sui segni che sia, criticamente, all’“altezza” delle attuali concezioni semiotiche;
2) considerare quale posto occupiamo noi, esseri umani – appartenenti a quella forma odierna di organizzazione sociale caratterizzabile come “comunicazione mondializzata” – rispetto al resto della vita, della semiosi (le due cose coincidono) sul pianeta: una domanda questa non soltanto di ordine teorico, gnoseologico, ma anche di ordine etico. Perché il riferimento all’intera vita sul pianeta riguarda anche la responsabilità che, nei suoi confronti, ha ciascun essere umano in quanto capace, una capacità specie-specifica, di usare segni per rendere i segni stessi oggetto di interpretazione.
This book examines the issues surrounding the problematic perpetuation of dominant sign systems through the framework of ‘semioethics’. Semioethics is concerned with using semiotics as a powerful tool to critique the status quo and move beyond the reproduction of the dominant order of communication. The aim is to present semioethics as a method to engage semiotics in an active rethink of our ability as humans to affect change.
Ostentation of the Subject is a practice that is asserting itself ever more in today’s world. The question of subjectivity concerns the close and the distant, the self and the other, the other from self and the other of self. It is thus connected to the question of the sign. It calls for a semiotic approach because the self is itself a sign; its very own relation with itself is a relation among signs. This book commits to developing a critique of subjectivity in terms of the “material” that the self is made of, the material of signs. Petrilli covers topics from identity issues which are part of semiotic views to the corporeal self as well as responsibility, reason, freedom. The last part includes one of the more stirring discussions available, about mental illness. Her book should be read by philosophers, psychologists, semioticians, and other social scientists.

La semiotica da una parte è considerata nei suoi orientamenti, configurazioni e possibilità future, dall’altra quale prospettiva per affrontare le questioni fondamentali del rapporto tra segni, comportamenti e valori in cui concretamente sussiste il soggetto individuale nell’attuale contesto della comunicazione. Soggetto, segno, corpo; conoscenza, libertà, responsabilità; dialogo e significazione; ideologia e riproduzione sociale, ospitalità e differenza culturale; tecnologie e comunicazione; globalizzazione e migrazione; interpretazione e traduzione; semiotica e sintomatologia sociale; semiotica come semioetica: questi i temi principali.
Victoria Welby (1837-1912) dedicated her research to the relationship between signs and values. She examined themes she believed crucially important both in the use of signs and in reflection on signs. Welby contends that signifying cannot be constrained to any one system, type of sign, language, field of discourse, or area of experience. On the contrary, it becomes more developed, enhanced and rigorous the more it develops across different fields, disciplines and areas of experience. Her reflections make an integral contribution to problems connected with communication, expression, interpretation, translation and creativity. This book also discusses Welby’s relationships to philosophers and semioticians past and present.
The Global World is a pivotal formula in present-day «Newspeak». The book’s leitmotif – if it is true that the faces of today’s global world are manifold – is that language opens to the other, that the word’s boundaries are the multiple boundaries of the relation to others, of encounter among differences. Otherness logic is in language and life. The aim is to evidence how, contrary to implications of the newspeak order, new worlds are possible, critical linguistic conscious-ness is possible – a «word revolution» and pathway to social change.

The method proposed in this book is located at the intersection of different scientific perspectives. It pertains to «philosophy of language», but in dialogue with the science of verbal and nonverbal signs, today «global semiotics», therefore it is also «semiotic». And given that how to understand «the global world» is not just a theoretical issue, but concerns how we relate to others, to differences in all their forms and aspects, it is also «semioethic». 
The bibliographic photoatlas or Bildatlas “Selected books in semiotics and philosophy of language of Susan Petrilli” presents selected activities (ten monographs) of semiotician from Italy - Susan Petrilli, professor at the University of Bari “Aldo Moro” in Bari.
This photoatlas is part of the project “Iconic Atlassing”, which develops the semiotic information technology and complements traditional textual references (for example, bibliographies).
This bibliographic photoatlas is compact (up to 20 slides), ubiquitous (usable anytime and anywhere) and presents advanced information products.

The initiator of this atlas is A.Wolodtschenko, co-editor of the e-journal <meta-carto-semiotics>.
4. List of publications


5. Book shelf

Selected books in semiotics and philosophy of language
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Selected books in semiotics and philosophy of language of Susan Petrilli
Bibliographic photoatlas.

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The bibliographic picture atlas or photoatlas presents selected books in semiotics and philosophy of language of Susan Petrilli, professor at The University of Bari "Aldo Moro". The picture atlas is aimed at semioticians, culture-semioticians and all who are interested in general and cultural semiotics.

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