



Visual Sociology Newsletter

Volume 19 | December 2019

This special issue highlights the IV ISA Forum 2020 Porto Alegre.

In an **exclusive interview** with the chairperson of the Brazilian Local Organizing Committee of the ISA Forum, **Hermilio Santos**,

we learn more about **South America, Brazil, domestic political circumstances, and research challenges.**

It is very enlightening!

Also, see the extra activities by Visual Sociology Workshops before and during the IV Forum of Sociology.

Stay connected!



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Letter from the President

Dear friends,

Welcome to the winter edition of our RC 57 newsletter.

As we move into 2020, we enter another new year with considerable uncertainty. Protests in Hong Kong, civil unrest in Latin America, the issues of Brexit in Europe and a possible impeachment of the President of the US lingering on. However, the good ship RC 57 is on course for another fantastic year ahead, with all eyes on the Forum in Porto Alegre, Brazil next summer. Before we look ahead, let's take a moment to look back on what we have done this year.

We successfully hosted our 3rd International Workshop on Visual Research for Doctoral Students at the Alpen Adria University Klagenfurt, Austria. Headed up by Board member, Prof. Anna Schober-de Graaf, the focus of the workshop was 'Images as Agents in the Digital Age' and took place June 26 – 27, 2019. Attended by over 50 guests and hosting 13 doctoral students from Romania, India, Germany, Hungary and Italy to name but a few of the locations.

In addition, we commissioned, built and launched our [new website](https://isa-visualsociology.org) (<https://isa-visualsociology.org>), restructured the Board to ensure the site is utilised to its full capacity, ensuring we can reach as wide an audience as possible. We also launched our Twitter account, [@isa_visual](https://twitter.com/isa_visual) as well as set about planning for the next Racheal Tanur Memorial Prize, diligently organised by Thea Shahrokh (who has also just submitted her PhD – congratulations!).

As a new RC, we had the opportunity to apply for our first RC grant. Written by myself and RC Secretary, Maureen Michael, we were successfully awarded funds to support our free, pre-forum workshops as well as contribute to the development and maintenance of our new website.

Lastly, with fantastic support from our VP for research, Luc Pauwels and Ragip Zik, we planned our Pre and main Forum activities. As detailed in the Newsletter, we have two fantastic pre-Forum activities available for members and non-members to attend, prior to the main forum and will take place between the 13-14 July. Within the Forum proper, we are hosting 8 sessions, all fully subscribed with a range of interesting and innovative papers. The competition was intense, and we received 79 proposals in total, far outstripping our capacity to host them all, tough decisions were made, but we are very grateful for the effort and interest invested in our Visual Sociology sessions.

As the Forum approaches, we are working with local academics and organising committees to ensure it's the best Forum yet. This includes developing a call for films to be screened within the session, headed up by VP for research, Geoffrey Pleyers, members of the RC Board and chairperson of the Brazilian Local Organizing Committee of the ISA Forum, Hermilio Santos who Newsletter Editor, Christiane Wagner, has interviewed for this edition of our Newsletter.

It's been a busy year, and much has been achieved. I would like to extend my gratitude to the Board and the wider RC membership for their support. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible next year at the Forum and I wish you all the best for 2020, and have a peaceful and relaxing New Year,

Gary Bratchford,
President.

Dear friends,

The latest issue of the Visual Sociology Newsletter is ready. My role as editor has always been to try to provide more than the necessary information. There have been many challenges; however, I have encountered much support and freedom of ideas in our Visual Sociology RC57. In addition, our committee has demonstrated a significant amount of harmony, qualities, and results of teamwork, which is no coincidence. These values of cooperation are mainly the result of the collaboration in planning and the initiatives supported by all of us under the indispensable leadership of our RC57 president.

As reported by our president, we ended 2019 with many successful activities related to research in visual sociology. Furthermore, many other activities are being prepared for 2020, especially concerning the IV ISA Forum of Sociology in Porto Alegre. In our previous issue, we announced our proposals, which can now be seen in their finished formats on the official website of the event, for sessions coordinated by Luc Pauwels, our research president, and president Gary Bratchford. The approved proposals were communicated by e-mail to the organizers and participants.

When focusing on the IV ISA Forum of Sociology in Porto Alegre, Challenges of the 21st Century: Democracy, Environment, Inequalities, Intersectionality in this issue and considering the expectation of the participation of many researchers, I realized the need to highlight some current issues. Apart from the historical, political, and social knowledge that everyone has about this continent and country, many researchers will visit South America for the first time, specifically southern Brazil. For this reason, I began the initiative to work on an interview—on behalf of the Visual Sociology Newsletter—with the chairperson of the Brazilian Local Organizing Committee of the ISA Forum, Hermílio Santos, on issues such as the current international image of Brazil and the ISA Forum. This initiative was supported by the Research Committee in Visual Sociology RC57 Board. The interview is about South America, Brazil, the state of Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre city, domestic political circumstances, and research challenges in their cultural, historical, economic, and sociopolitical contexts. It is essential to develop this subject, and I hope we can learn more about Latin America.

I look forward to meeting you at the Porto Alegre Forum.

Enjoy reading and happy holidays!

Christiane Wagner,
Editor of Visual Sociology.



Interview with **Hermílio Santos**,
the chairperson of the Brazilian Local
Organizing Committee of the ISA Forum
by Christiane Wagner

“The emergence of the RC Visual Sociology has a great importance not only for being a space for the analysis and interpretation of society through produced images, but also for its relevance in showing how sociology investigation results can be expressed through images” (Santos 2019).

1. The most recurrent themes appearing in the international media today are environmental issues, sustainable development, and other aspects related to the consumption of non-renewable natural resources. Under these conditions, one of the most significant challenges for countries committed to solving these problems is achieving the goals set by the Paris Agreement of 2015. On the one hand, technological and industrial development enables the use of renewable energy and contributes to the fight against pollution. On the other hand, predecessor and environmentally harmful technologies are still the primary means of production, trade stability, and employment, forcing many countries to face the “21st-century challenge” of overcoming outdated technologies while creating new jobs and preventing unemployment. Considering these issues, how do you view the images that bear witness to this phenomenon worldwide? And, aiming at positive effects, what are the possibilities of showing what is not seen?

The challenges related to environmental issues have been pointed, if I’m not mistaken, mainly through images of forest areas. If on one side, in fact, deforestation should remain a central problem to this debate, on the other side, I believe that at least part of the discussion should be dedicated to problematic urban conditions. Considering that urban spaces demand the largest amounts of resources (energy, food, etc.), this is a matter to be explored with even closer attention, specifically regarding those countries with higher degree of urbanization and accelerated process of industrialization. Among countries with greater needs for natural resources we can find societies with major political influence, and not rarely, with less impactful civil societies. As an example,

several Chinese cities have low air quality, sometimes even harmful to their inhabitants. At the same time – and this a pretty emblematic example -, countries in a strong bargaining position frequently omit themselves from putting pressure over the Chinese government, since there's a growing and significant economic relation with China and its market capacity to absorb both commodities and technologies from other countries. The environmental issue related to the urban problem is especially critic in countries with impoverished population and high rates of inequalities, affecting directly the quality of daily life. I refer here explicitly to the issue of basic sanitation, almost completely implemented in the most economic developed countries, but still a first-hand problem in the more unequal countries, especially to the poorest population with limited access to basic infrastructure and water and sewage public services. In this sense, this environmental problem has especial public health implications to this specific population and, considering my own latest researches conducted in *favelas* of Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo and Recife, it is also associated with daily precariousness and the increase of everyday violent practices, especially against children. To illustrate the complexity of the problem, three images that I believe to be relevant would include one pointing to deforestation, one indicating the low quality of air in urban spaces, and a third showing the lack of basic sanitation as an environmental matter with highly problematic implications to the everyday life of urban population. With regard to positive aspects, generally less apprehended, I would point to images showing solutions proposed by urban peripheral populations aiming at improving life quality with actions focused on, for example, preservation or building of green areas, urban waste collection and the construction of recreational areas. These images with less global impact are not trivial to the more local aspects of these impoverished communities' daily lives. We have a lot of such initiatives, positive, on a smaller scale, but very impactful. This could be better disseminated.

2. Given the current crisis of liberal democracy in many countries, in your opinion, which image or images best reflect the internationally publicized appeal to democratic ideals?

First, we must consider that not only liberal democracies are in crises, but also the non-democratic alternatives to the different existing liberal models are in collapse. In this way, from my perspective, only as an attentive citizen, I see that images of people in the cities' streets have prevailed when the government's decisions are to be confronted. However, these strong images have not been sufficient to indicate sustainable solutions, capable of presenting minimally adequate solutions to the legitimate claims of the population. Consequently,

those societies with higher institutional capacity to process such demands will be in better conditions to subsidize more democratic alternatives without being captured by populist and non-democratic leaders, from right or left parties. Democratic and institutionalized solution not always provide the boldest images, but I believe those are the images that better correspond, from a democratic perspective, to the satisfaction of demands presented by different sectors of these societies.

3. It has long been known that the media produces both information and misinformation; today, however, with the presence of the internet and social media, images have come to contribute to the relatively disproportionate dissemination of so-called "fake news." Which image or images, in your point of view, offer the most misinformation to the detriment of democracy, equality, and rights?

The tendency here is maybe to think about still images, such as photographs, but I will try to answer the question with more dynamic images, movies, that could represent threats to democracy in contemporary world. One of these images is the one associated with populist leaders, as being the solution to the real problems in different societies. It is a strategy used by both left and right movements in Latin America, and by extreme-right movements in Europe, for example. Even with different orientations, they have the similar effect of dislocating the central matter of the democratic process that goes by institutional consolidation as a way to contain authoritarian or totalitarian initiatives. We must understand that authoritarian projects are renewed, and if at first, they were almost always represented by militarism, currently the non-democratic threats find other forms to be presented, not necessarily new, and sometimes using democratic rituals combined with actions that restrict the presence and manifestation of opposite ideas. For example, the formation of governments through the corruption of parliamentary basis with public and private resources has been a usual way of reducing the democratic competition. Several cases have been exposed in Latin-American countries. Some might think it's only a way of diversion of resources, a relevant but not central problem. Additionally, it is a completely arbitrary way to govern. That's why, currently, this seems to be one of the biggest dangers to the contemporary democracy, disguised with good intentions, discourses that actually raise relevant questions, but at the same time try to undermine the possibility of plurality in society – one of the main pillars of any democracy.

4. After the great repercussions of the fires in the Amazon were broadcast globally through the release of a few images, some international authorities spoke out about the necessity of preserving this South American region. How could the debates at the ISA Forum in Porto Alegre contribute to Brazil and Brazilian politics in this regard?

During the IV ISA Forum of Sociology, the Local Organizing Committee will be able to organize three semi-plenary. One of them will be dedicated to environmental issues and challenges. The idea is not to present exclusively the Brazilian case, but to have a significant presence of Brazilian researches, not only from sociology, to present data from recent empirical investigations and monitoring. I believe that exposing research results produced by Brazilian institutions and, eventually, from other countries, will be a great contribution.

5. During the governments of Fernando Henrique Cardoso, Lula, and Dilma Rousseff, Brazil won international prestige and was portrayed as a country fully exercising its democracy. In 2019, however, the sociopolitical reality changed entirely, with the country appearing in some cases as truly non-democratic. We are curious to know your opinion on this socio-political situation, primarily from the point of view of sociology rather than politics or ideology.

From a sociological perspective, the first distinction we must make here is that a society should not be reduced or treated as equivalent to its government. The tendency of a government to have authoritarian or even totalitarian characteristics does not imply that a society is similar to their governments, even when they were elected during legitimate democratic election processes. The Brazilian case is not different. The media is able to communicate with freedom despite the attempts of the government to restrict freedom of speech; the judiciary institutions and the parliament, as well as the state and city governments are also operating normally (which does not mean that the decisions made within these scopes are satisfactory). Brazilians have followed daily manifestations from the main leaders of the government, not only from the president - that tend to be authoritarian, to disseminate violence, to be disrespectful and to not show any affinity with the republican and democratic values. However, despite the fact that several government decisions have been made based on such values, it was a common action for different government sectors during 2019 to annul or adjust some of these decisions. Brazilian media and public opinion also had great relevance during these processes. Taking that into consideration, democratic societies seem to be more stable when

supported by transparent, legitimate and democratic institutions, and not by the good will and generosity of its leaders. But Latin-America (not only) was always keen of supporting populist leaders, both from the right and from the left, which represents an additional challenge to the sustainability of the democratic periods. Regarding specifically the internal disputes in Brazilian society, some people maintain the opinion that the attitudes and decisions already taken would be sufficient to open an impeachment process against the current president. The constitution is clear about having new elections if the impeachment occurs until the end of the second year in the presidency, but it is clear that the main parties are not interested in facing new presidential elections in the next months, since they are still not aligned about which candidates would be running for their parties. Others stand for the legitimacy of the democratic election that elected the current president. This last argument is controversial considering that impeachment processes could only occur against presidents elected democratically. It seems to me that behind this argument hides the idea that, because of his low approval rates among all sectors of society, it would be easier to dispute the next elections with the current president.

6. Some Latin American countries, namely Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Venezuela, and Peru, are currently undergoing sociopolitical conflicts, with citizens rising up against the repressive apparatus of the state. Unlike in the 1960s, when similar movements took place, the protestors are not seeking to transform the political regime but rather to reclaim the social rights that the state has suppressed. The international media has broadcast this Latin American socio-political drama across the world. With these current events, it is especially appropriate to be holding the ISA Forum in Brazil. This global event allows researchers, especially Latin Americans, to participate in the discussion more effectively by sharing their opinions on these events. How can the ISA Forum positively contribute in this regard?

Since the first ISA Forum, held in Barcelona in 2008, the event was conceived as a space between congresses to discuss recent concluded or ongoing researches. In this way, the Forum is not exclusively an opportunity to discuss problems related to country or region hosting the event. For example, the debates agenda of the previous Forum, held in Vienna, was not adjusted to the debates in Austria or that part of Europe, although the recent migratory waves to Europe were discussed. Clearly the change of location where the Forum is held is something considered positive, as it gives the opportunity to sociologists to

get in contact with realities that are fundamentally different from their own. On the other side, to chose Brazil as host of the Forum is a way to recognize the relevant Brazilian presence in the activities organized by ISA. During ISA events in Europe and Asia (Japan and Australia), the Brazilian engagement was one of the five more relevant. During the Forum in Vienna, there were more Brazilians than French, for example. In the II Forum, held in Buenos Aires, the Brazilian sociologists were the largest present "delegation". That said, the Brazilian sociological community is in a growing process of internationalization, despite the financial restrictions to academic activities in the last years. Also, we should not forget that the Brazilian participation in ISA is not recent. In the 1980's, Fernando Henrique Cardoso was the first Latin-American to hold the position of president of ISA until this moment. Since then, Brazilian sociology has grown and diversified, and the Brazilian participation is connected to several Research Committees of ISA. Finally, I believe that a great contribution of this Forum is to recognize the Brazilian sociological community and its universities, as well as the representative of this sector, the SBS, as adequate partners to promote dialogue among different theoretical and methodological perspectives.

7. What message do you ultimately want to convey to ISA-RC57 Visual Sociology members and interested readers?

The emergence of the RC Visual Sociology has a great importance not only for being a space for the analysis and interpretation of society through produced images, but also for its relevance in showing how sociology investigation results can be expressed through images. In fact, all our empirical researches, but also the theoretical ones, are in general visual. The challenge is to make these results and discussions visible in video or photograph format, for example. I could give you some highlights from my own experiences, since in the last years I have been producing documentary films to present the context, some results and the theoretical and methodological approaches to my investigations. For me, it has been a great learning process to be able to understand and express the investigated realities from a totally different perspective. At the same time, it has been a way of trying to make social problems, realities, theories and methods more accessible to younger generations of sociology students and to other students with different academic backgrounds. I believe that RC57 has a great capacity to communicate with all the other RCs. The presence of the RC57 at ISA Forum in Porto Alegre can be an additional opportunity to develop new partnerships with members of other RCs.

8. What message would you like to convey to the participants in the 2020 ISA Forum in Porto Alegre?

The roads that lead to this moment of organizing the ISA Forum have been fruitful and full of learning to everyone involved. It also represented uncertainties. One of these uncertain moments occurred in 2018, after the presidential elections in Brazil. The new elected president was known to be opposed to scientific knowledge and very distant from the basics of democracy. A few days after the election, negotiations between the presidents of the RCs pointed to the question about whether it would be a good idea to hold the ISA Forum in Brazil. The main goal was to manifest the political stands of ISA by refusing to organize the event in a country with this type of president. In fact, the president had already spoken out against researchers, and once in government explicitly declared himself against the humanities in general and against sociology directly. The discussion between the RCs' presidents was quite interesting because many of us, not only Brazilians, said that it would be even more important to hold the Forum in Brazil as an act of solidarity with the Brazilian colleagues. On the contrary, the absence would be the fulfillment of the will of an authoritarian and obscurantist ruler. From this discussion, the Forum gained an even bigger expression, and it is possible that we may have the largest Forum ever held so far. Several RCs that had never been to the ISA Forum will be present. Over 6,600 abstracts were submitted for over 1,200 scheduled sessions. We, sociologists working in Brazil, are all very happy to welcome colleagues from all over the world. This renews our conviction that sociology can greatly contribute to the understanding of the challenges faced by contemporary societies. The ISA Forum is a great opportunity to exchange and to deepen our knowledge about various contexts and social phenomena that will be presented through our colleagues' investigations.

Thank you for agreeing to be interviewed, Professor Hermílio Santos.

Therefore, I would like to give those of our readers interested in watching Hermílio's documentary films more information, considering that film also is an example of how the results of sociological research can be expressed through images. In my opinion, the movie *Infância Falada* is one of them. It is a narrative by children, concerning five social projects in five Brazilian states aiming to keep children away from violence. Hermílio Santos and Kamila Almeida direct it. It was produced by CAES-PUCRS (Centro de Análises Econômicas e Sociais) and Conta pra Mim Filmes. The other documentary film *Lifeworld – The Sociology of Alfred Schutz* centers on the Alfred Schutz work. The film was directed by Hermílio Santos, with editing and finalization by Thaís Zimmer Martins and the soundtrack by Filipe Miu.

You can click on the film title to watch the teaser!



Excerpts from Hermilio's documentary film *Infância Falada*.



Excerpts from Hermilio's documentary film *Lifeworld-The Sociology of Alfred Schutz*.



Visual Sociology Workshops before and during IV Forum of Sociology

Each year Visual Sociology Research Committee organizes extra activities in addition to the regular sessions at the ISA congresses and fora. These serve as platforms for collaborations between scholars, artists, community activists and policy-makers. The ethos of these events is to promote accessibly to knowledge and build relationship with local actors. RC57 will organize public workshops related to visual research that will be free of charge to all participants. The workshops will take place within two days before and during before the IV Forum of Sociology in Porto Alegre. Some of the confirmed events include:

Fieldnotes in Visual Sociology: Approaches, Practices & Ethical Considerations

by Casey Burkholder and Jennifer A. Thompson

The workshop will point out to the contested terrain of fieldnotes with methodological, ethical, theoretical and legal implications. These points of contention are often related to questions about power, including what is at stake when fieldnotes remain under-reported, as well as questions about positionality and who is writing about whom. Building on these the workshop will follow three cumulative phases:

- A participant-centered discussion on fieldnotes and qualitative research, and review of case studies;
- Interactive process of exploring a place/space and produce fieldnotes;
- Discussion on the production and sharing of fieldnotes.

A central theme within the workshop will explore methodological questions about learning and ethics within fieldnotes practices, with attention to the role of context and author positionality in shaping how fieldnotes practices develop and evolve. The workshop is scheduled for 13th and 14th July to be conducted in two 3-hour sessions. Please note that the number of participants is limited.

Subscribe via ragip.zik@fu-berlin.de



Urban Walks and Street Ethnography

by NAVISUAL (Nucleus of Visual Anthropology) and “Image Bank and Visual Effects” at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul

Coordinated by Cornelia Eckert, both NAVISUAL and “Image Bank and Visual Effects” (<https://www.ufrgs.br/biev/>) project focus on developing visual methodologies for street ethnography. They will conduct street ethnography workshops combined with urban walks based on various topics. Some of these topics are street art, historic town center of Porto Alegre, and historical paths of black culture in Porto Alegre. These workshops aim to explore the ways in which doing street ethnography while offering insights to the local history, culture, and politics of the city. The final dates of the workshops will be decided after the official program of the Forum is released. Please subscribe via ragip.zik@fu-berlin.de

If you wish to offer a workshop during or within two days before the Forum, please contact us. We might still be able to find a slot for collaboration.



The Rachel Tanur Memorial Prize for Visual Sociology

The 2020 Rachel Tanur Memorial Prize
is now open for applications.

Entries for the 2020 competition must be
received by January 22, 2020.

The prize recognizes students in the social sciences who incorporate visual analysis in their work. It is named for Rachel Dorothy Tanur (1958–2002), an urban planner and lawyer who cared deeply about people and their lives and was an acute observer of living conditions and human relationships.

Winners will be notified by March 30, 2020.

Up to three cash prizes will be awarded at the
IV ISA Forum of Sociology, Challenges of the 21st Century:
Democracy, Environment, Inequalities, Intersectionality,
to be held in Porto Alegre, Brazil on July 14-18, 2020.

Attendance at the forum is not a requirement but is encouraged.
Prizes will be awarded by the Research Committee on Visual Sociology
of the ISA. The first prize will be \$2,500 USD, the second \$1,500,
and the third \$500. The prize is awarded biennially.

The Rachel Tanur Memorial Prize for Visual Sociology
is offered through a generous gift from the Mark Family Fund.

To apply: www.racheltanurmemorialprize.org

Conferences,
Publications,
Announcements,
Fellowships, Jobs, etc.

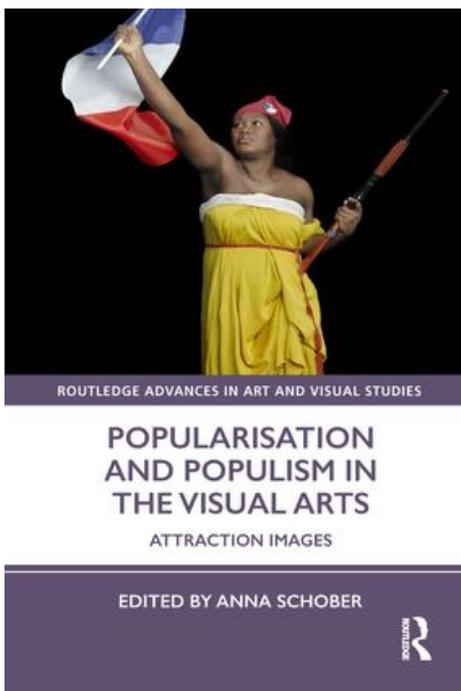


For more information, please click on
the written with **purple** color!

Popularisation and Populism in the Visual Arts Attraction Images

1st Edition, Routledge

Edited by Anna Schober, Alpen-Adria University Klagenfurt, Austria
Series: Routledge Advances in Art and Visual Studies



This book investigates the pictorial figurations, aesthetic styles and visual tactics through which visual art and popular culture attempt to appeal to "all of us". One key figure these practices bring into play—the "everybody" (which stands for "all of us" and is sometimes a "new man" or a "new woman")—is discussed in an interdisciplinary way involving scholars from several European countries. A key aspect is how popularisation and communication practices—which can assume populist forms—operate in contemporary democracies and where their genealogies lie. A second focus is on the ambivalences of attraction, i.e. on the ways in which visual creations can evoke desire as well as hatred.

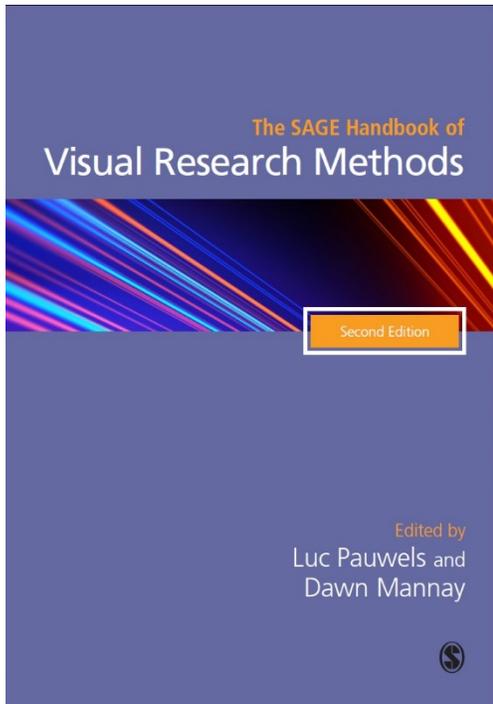
The SAGE Handbook of Visual Research Methods

Second edition (revised and expanded) 2019

Edited by:

Luc Pauwels - University of Antwerp, Belgium

Dawn Mannay - Cardiff University



The second, thoroughly revised and expanded, edition of *The SAGE Handbook of Visual Research Methods* presents a wide-ranging exploration and overview of the field today. As in its first edition, the Handbook does not aim to present a consistent view or voice, but rather to exemplify diversity and contradictions in perspectives and techniques. The selection of chapters from the first edition have been fully updated to reflect current developments. New chapters to the second edition cover key topics including picture-sorting techniques, creative methods using artefacts, visual framing analysis, therapeutic uses of images, and various emerging digital technologies and online practices. At the core of all contributions are theoretical and methodological debates about the meanings and study of the visual, presented in vibrant accounts of research design, analytical techniques, fieldwork encounters and data presentation.

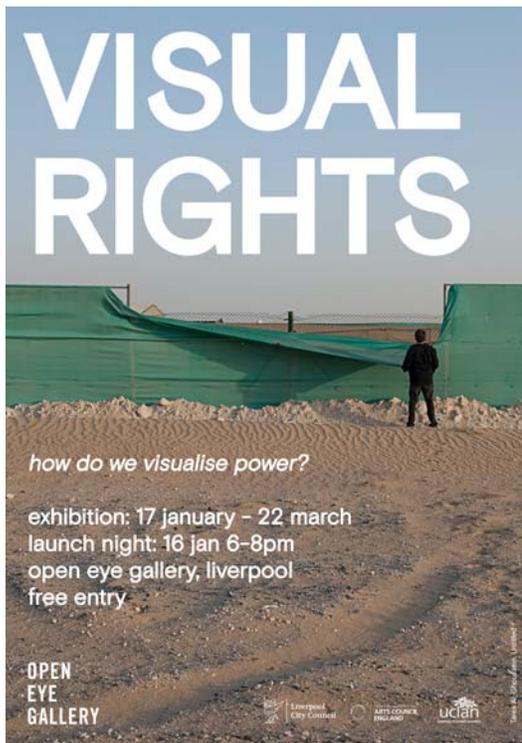
This handbook presents a unique survey of the discipline that will be essential reading for scholars and students across the social and behavioural sciences, arts and humanities, and far beyond these disciplinary boundaries.

Using Fieldnotes in International Educational Research Approaches, Practices, and Ethical Considerations

Routledge, 1st Edition [Available after 1st January 2020]

Edited by Casey Burkholder, Jennifer Thompson

The edited collection explores the heterogeneous--and often visual--practices of academics who use fieldnotes in their research within the social sciences. In particular, the book provides an engaged discussion of fieldnotes within visual and collaborative approaches to research—an original contribution. The book draws on case studies across numerous international contexts, including the US, Argentina, Cameroon, Canada, Ghana, Hong Kong, India, Kenya, Lebanon, Malawi, the Netherlands, South Africa, and the UK.



Visual Rights

How do we visualise power?
What does it look like, and for whom is it visible?

January 16, 2020

“Open Eye Gallery’s new exhibition *Visual Rights* looks at how images can expose uneven distributions of power, and shape the way we understand a place’s geography. From early attempts at mapping the world, to modern satellite imagery, territories – and people’s right to inhabit them – have continually been established and redrawn, contested or removed. This process often becomes concentrated in areas of conflict and geographical contest: in recent history, this has included Ireland, Kashmir and Ukraine. Curated by Gary Bratchford, a photographer and sociologist, *Visual Rights* presents work from artists in Israel, Palestine and the UK to examine this process” (Open Eye Gallery 2020).

Image: Hagit Keysar, Barak Brinker, Animation by Moshe Zilbernagel

Publication:

Performing Visibility: Representing the Palestinian Freedom Riders through Non-Violent Protest and Visual Activism

Author: Gary Bratchford

In: *Part Two: The Body Politicized, Mediated Interfaces, The Body on Social Media*

Editor(s): Katie Warfield, Crystal Abidin, Carolina Cambre

Bloomsbury Academic

About Mediated Interfaces:

Images of faces, bodies, selves and digital subjectivities abound on new media platforms like Snapchat, Instagram, YouTube, and others—these images represent our new way of being online and of becoming socially mediated. Although researchers are examining digital embodiment, digital representations, and visual vernaculars as a mode of identity performance and management online, there exists no cohesive collection that compiles all these contemporary philosophies into one reader for use in graduate level classrooms or for scholars studying the field. The rationale for this book is to produce a scholarly fulcrum that pulls together scholars from disparate fields of inquiry in the humanities doing work on the common theme of the socially mediated body. The chapters in *Mediated Interfaces: The Body on Social Media* represent a diverse list of contributors in terms of author representation, inclusivity of theoretical frameworks of analysis, and geographic reach of empirical work. Divided into three sections representing three dominant paradigms on the socially mediated body: representation, presentation, and embodiment, the book provides classic, creative, and contemporary reworkings of these paradigms.

Coming soon in the Visual Studies Journal

Keyboard Warriors? Visualizing technology and well-being with, for and by Indigenous youth through digital stories

Authors: Loebach, J. & Tilleczek, K. Chiasson, B. & Sharp, B.

Abstract | The Young Lives Research Laboratory is concerned with the lives of modern youth from education to technology to mental health. Technology is ubiquitous in the day to day lives of young people in Canada but little is known about the ways in which digital media affects their mental health, especially for Indigenous youth. Research seldom engages youth to clarify and or interrogate digital media and well-being. This paper addresses the dearth of empirical work and supports the development of practices which better reflect and address health impacts of digital technology on young lives. In using an empowering participatory process to provide Indigenous youth opportunity and tools to produce short digital story films helped them to reflect their unique experiences with digital media and its role in both personal and community well-being. The study also explores youth-produced filmmaking as an effective medium for communicating technology-related experiences and challenges. We share youth-produced films to exemplify the cultural process and products that arose in this project.

The Aesthetics of Global Protest

Visual Culture and Communication

Edited by Aidan McGarry, Itir Erhart, Hande Eslen-Ziya, Olu Jenzen, and Umut Korkut

Amsterdam University Press

Protest and Social Movements, December 2019

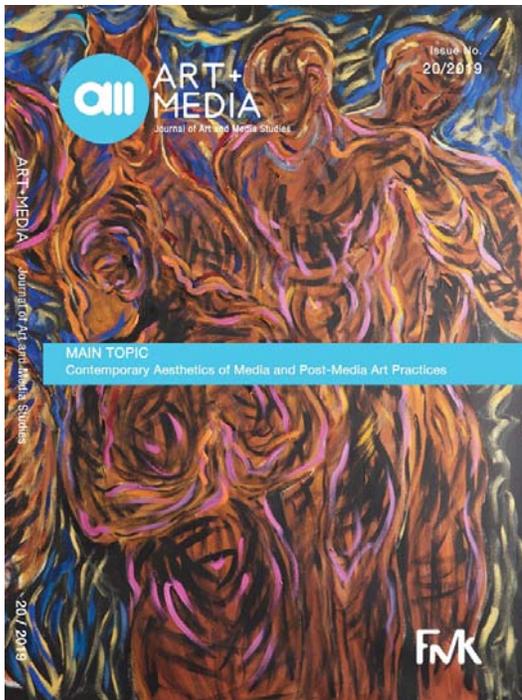
Protestors across the world use aesthetics in order to communicate their ideas and ensure their voices are heard. This book looks at protest aesthetics, which we consider to be the visual and performative elements of protest, such as images, symbols, graffiti, art, as well as the choreography of protest actions in public spaces. Through the use of social media, protestors have been able to create an alternative space for people to engage with politics that is more inclusive and participatory than traditional politics. This volume focuses on the role of visual culture in a highly mediated environment and draws on case studies from Europe, Thailand, South Africa, USA, Argentina, and the Middle East in order to demonstrate how protestors use aesthetics to communicate their demands and ideas. It examines how digital media is harnessed by protestors and argues that all protest aesthetics are performative and communicative.

Artworks and the Paradoxes of Media-Transmitted Reality

Author: Christiane Wagner

[ART + MEDIA] Journal of Art and Media Studies 20 (2019): 71-85.

DOI: 10.25038/am.v0i20.324.



This article analyzes selected classic art that influences contemporary images. The basis of this study is an analysis of the transformation of long-established and internationally-recognized artwork through digital technology and social media. This investigation also highlights the symbolic meaning behind the representation and reproduction of media images concerning the political impact of global visual culture. Visual culture consists of images of reality that are constantly being reconfigured. Thus, the visual arts develop consensually, based on democratic ideals and freedom of expression. Nonetheless, transgression occurs due to a lack of universal reference criteria and a dissolution of common human values. This situation explains why visual culture is often misunderstood and remains unassimilated.

In addition, actual tragedies in life even become confused with art due to the fact that art so often closely imitates reality. Visual arts, a significant area of concern for media outlets, involves deciphering the meaning of images that have been manipulated and instrumentalized according to particular political and ideological interests. The objective of the current proposal is to help people discern fact from fiction and to look at and understand society's emergence and relationship to democracy. Therefore, visual arts will be analyzed through a historical and iconological lens to investigate it as a form of communication and current social effects of political images. Finally, it is also considered the artifice of images and the absolute reference values of human existence on visual arts in the face of technological progress and their effects on social networks.

Confidence and the Effectiveness of Creative Methods in Qualitative Interviews with Adults

Author: Jon Rainford (2019)

International Journal of Social Research Methodology, 2019

In: Volume 23, 2020

Issue 1: Using Creative Methods to Research Across Difference Special Issue

DOI: 10.1080/13645579.2019.1672287

Abstract | This paper examines two contrasting creative methods; a drawing task and a LEGO building task used in a study exploring the gap between policy and practice in widening participation to higher education across two different types of university in England. These creative methods were used within 16 semi-structured interviews in seven universities to attempt to explore deeper understandings of everyday policy and what they mean in practice and to make comparisons across types of institutions. This paper examines the role that creative confidence played in the effectiveness of both methods through exploring the successes and failures of each arguing that understanding these barriers can improve the successful use of these methods, especially with adults. When these barriers are overcome, the paper also demonstrates how creative methods encouraged more reflective discussion of everyday issues, increased levels of rapport, and shared engagement in the interview process (“Confidence and the Effectiveness of Creative Methods in Qualitative Interviews with Adults” by Jon Rainford).

The Making of a Common Woman Figure: Convergence and Struggle of Visual Practices around Gezi's Icon

Author: M. Ragıp Zik

In: Popularisation and Populism in the Visual Arts, 2019

Edited by Anna Schober, Alpen-Adria University Klagenfurt, Austria

Series: Routledge Advances in Art and Visual Studies

Abstract | The Gezi movement of 2013 was a turning point in the history of Turkey's politics and social movements. The country saw an unprecedented visual production and image circulation through the protests and in the aftermath, both in conventional and social media. A number of visual elements contributed to the politicisation processes, including the photographs taken on site and their appropriations as illustrations. The Lady in Red photograph was among the first images to become an icon of the movement and achieve global resonance. While the protester was barely known by her name, the photograph joined a protest iconography of everybody figures, representations of ordinary people standing against the establishment. In politicisation processes, images of the common man and common woman perform an intermediary role between the individual and the universal to become everybody. While posing a symbolic challenge to the established order, they invite people to join a political struggle, to become activists. They create an aesthetic interplay by evoking temporalities in the image as they bring together the collective memory and an imaginary future. Everybody figures show the contentious dynamics of social relations and have the potential to reconfigure values and meaning-making systems. Going through the legacy of the Lady in Red, the essay offers a visual journey into why and how the photograph of an ordinary person, taken by an ordinary photographer, grows into a protest icon. It discusses contemporary popularisation practices through an image of the common woman by analysing its visual qualities for mobilising public affects.

Call for Papers

2020 International Conference in Durban, South Africa **Urban Capacities: The Migration Crisis and the Young**

Venue: University of KwaZulu-Natal, Howard College Campus, Durban, South Africa
Date: June 23-25, 2020

Organizing Bodies: International Urban Symposium-IUS and the IUAES Commissions on "Urban Anthropology", "Migration Studies" and "Children, Youth and Childhood".

Convenors: Dr Giuliana B. Prato, University of Kent, U.K.- Chair, IUAES Commission on Urban Anthropology - email: g.b.prato@kent.ac.uk; Prof. Italo Pardo, Ph.D., University of Kent, U.K.- President, International Urban Symposium-IUS email: i.pardo@kent.ac.uk ; Prof. Anand Singh, Ph.D., University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa - Chair, IUAES Commission for Migration Studies - email: SINGHAN@ukzn.ac.za; Prof. Deepak K. Behera, Sambalpur University - Chair, IUAES Commission for Children, Youth and Childhood - email: behera.dk@gmail.com.

To propose a paper, please send a title and 250-word abstract to the Convenors by 20 January 2020. This should be regarded as a firm deadline. Please include your university affiliation, if any, and contact information when submitting the proposal. Applicants will be informed about acceptance of their submission by Monday 24 February 2020.

Call for Abstracts

Yearbook of Moving Image Studies (2020) **Trilogy of Synthetic Realities I: Virtual Images**

The double-blind peer-reviewed *Yearbook of Moving Image Studies* (YoMIS) is now accepting articles from scientists, artists, designers, developers and film makers for the fifth issue, which is the first part of the »Trilogy of Synthetic Realities« concept, entitled »Trilogy of Synthetic Realities I: Virtual Images«. The issue in 2021 will focus on »Augmented Images« and 2022 will address »Mixed Reality Images«. YoMIS will be enriched by disciplines like media theory, film studies and philosophy, art and design, artistic research, image science, semiotics, phenomenology, art history, game studies, visual culture studies, computer graphics and other research areas related to the moving or moved image in general.

The official deadline for abstracts is **February 28, 2020**. The anonymous review feedback will be given in March 2020. Long abstracts should be 600 to 900 words in length. Please send a short biography, contact details and your abstract to Prof. Dr. Lars C. Grabbe and Prof. Dr. Patrick Rupert-Kruse via: contact@movingimagescience.com. The official deadline for the complete articles is **July 17, 2020**. The articles should be 5.000 to 7.000 words in length. If you are interested to contribute an abstract and article you will find a style sheet online: www.movingimagescience.com. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the managing editors via mail.



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