

Robert Hopkins (NYU) "The Birth of an Icon"

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Abstract

Pictures are semantically structured, but how? And how does that structure relate to their spatial structure? One answer to these questions is offered by the Parts Principle: where a picture P depicts some object or scene O , every spatial part of P depicts some spatial part of O . Taking that principle as my point of departure, I will introduce some further notions needed to refine it in the face of serious challenges, and use the result to raise some novel questions in picture semantics.

Contact: gianfranco.soldati@unifr.ch