

Special issue “Thinking with Images” & The Award for Young Scholars for Best Article

Submission Deadline: 1 July 2018

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Thinking with (mental) images is one of the recognized forms of non-verbal thought in contemporary cognitive psychology; it is essential for art practice; referring to images is basic for reasoning. Yet, a time-honored view, which is still prevalent, is that the utility of images is only instrumental. Images may, for example, illustrate definitions or steps in some reasoning; they may suggest an idea for investigation, or they may be used for communication purposes etc. Thus, images have a facilitating role. But that is it all?

In this Special Issue of *Avant*, we propose to understand *thinking with images* as mental capability of thinking in or with images – including external representations (eg., visual representations, diagrams, symbols, paintings, maps) and/or internal visual imagery (mental images); often used in combination. Examples of such combination include cases in which we are required to visually imagine in mathematics a certain spatial transformation of an object, which is represented by a diagram on paper.

We thus propose to treat internal and external images jointly; we invite you to consider the hypothesis that images may serve as a medium of thought, since when it comes to the content of thought there is no relevant distinction between the internal and the external representations.

The sample questions include (but are not limited to):

- What is an image?
- Whether and how does imaginistic thinking contribute to knowledge?
- What role does imaginistic thinking play in our cognitive processing and cognitive systems?
- How does it relate to current views on extended / embodied cognition and/or predictive coding?
- How does imaginistic thinking relate to language processing and/or perception and production of art?

We invite contributions of maximum 10 000 words, APA style formatting, with 5 key-words and short abstracts.

The Young Researchers Awards for best article submission is for MA and PhD students, and people up to 5 years after their PhD award. The main prize is 200 euros.

The peer-review process is double-blinded. The manuscript is sent out to two peer-reviewers. The copyrights remain with the Authors. Publications are free of charge. We publish in open access, on the online – first publication basis.

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