

UC Merced

Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society

Title

Metacognition and marking-for-self in theatrical dance as a multimodal pattern of semiotic activity

Permalink

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/1wt8j0nf>

Journal

Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society, 44(44)

Authors

Perissinotto, Henrique Tavares Dias
Queiroz, Joao

Publication Date

2022

Copyright Information

This work is made available under the terms of a Creative Commons Attribution License, available at <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>

Peer reviewed

Metacognition and marking-for-self in theatrical dance as a multimodal pattern of semiotic activity

Henrique Perissinotto

Federal University of Juiz de Fora, Juiz de Fora, Minas Gerais, Brazil

Joao Queiroz

Institute of Arts, Federal University of Juiz de Fora, Juiz de Fora, Minas Gerais, Brazil

Abstract

Metacognition ("thinking about thinking") depends on representations and metarepresentations, which are usually treated as internal knowledge structures, rather than as external-oriented processes. We explore how multimodal patterns of external semiotic activity (not monomodal and internal symbolic-based processes) can provide a more accurate description of metacognition. To develop our ideas, we examine the act of marking-for-self in theatrical dance. To mark is to perform a dance phrase in a simplified, schematic, or abstract way. When marking, dancers use their bodies in motion to represent some aspects (properties, dynamics, or structures) of the complete dance-phrase they are thinking on. Marking-for-self occurs when dancers mark in their own idiosyncratic manner, a process that potentializes real-time reflection on its own dancing sequences and structures. According to our view, these representations are metacognitive embodied and externalized diagrammatic structures. We detail this phenomenon in light of recent developments in Cognitive Semiotics and diagrammatic reasoning approach.