



MONDAY, 15TH MARCH 2021  
H. 6PM-8PM (CET)

# Cognitive Semiotics, Sense-making and Enactivism

**Abstract:** Enactivism assumes that every cognition, perception, or thought results from the interactive relations that occur between an organism and the environment in which it is situated. From a cognitive semiotics' point of view, this environment is not a "natural" one, but a semiotic environment crowded with objects, norms, habits, institutions, and artefacts that shape our minds. Starting from the structural coupling between organism and environment, a subset of the myriad forms of coupling with the environment that are appreciated as meaningful by the organism, emerge. In his last works, Varela called this relationship "sense-making", thus identifying its semiotic structure from its name onwards. In my talk I will deal with sense-making from a cognitive semiotics' point of view, dealing with both arts and perception, claiming that cognitive semiotics understands cognition i) as an "enactive" skillful activity that involves the ongoing interaction with the external world; ii) as something that brings forth the world through meaning, whereas meanings are not representations of the world, but habits and sense-making activities; iii) through a point of view that thinks at the way in which texts, languages and semiotics systems scaffold the way humans come to know the world and represent the background of our perception of the environment.

*Click the Platypus  
to join the meeting*



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