

On the meaningfulness of transgressions

Without the drawing up of borders there would arguably be no meaning; without a neat distinction between what something is and what it is not we would probably be unable to discriminate, and communicate, stable identities (or at least share the illusion of having them). If borders guarantee meaning, transgressions are apt to modify them, bringing potentially new meaning into the world. The talk will first focus on how man/woman as the meaning-generating animal starts, relies on, and becomes dependant on, the meaning-making process, and will then go on to discuss this process as a continuous discursive (and aesthetic) negotiation as well as re-negotiation of shifting identities in what has culturally been called the 'semiosphere'.