



LEADING ARTICLE

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It is with great pleasure that we announce the publication of the new issue of our journal, RIFAJ 6:2, which is a special one focused on philosophy of language. This issue is coupled with a forthcoming graduate conference on philosophy of language, which will take place in early 2016: a call for abstracts will be announced soon on PhilosophyLanguageWorkshop.wordpress.com.

Philosophy of Language has been constantly evolving in the last century, now including a wide range of different topics and approaches, from classic Analytic Philosophy to the cognitive study of the faculty of Language, also with a work side by side with linguistics and psychology. The present issue of RIFAJ reflects this variety with a series of different and yet interconnected contributions.

Let us start off by presenting the FIRMA D'AUTORE, which is written by the linguist and neuroscientist Professor Andrea Moro. In his essay, Professor Moro considers the issue of the linguistic universals, which he locates within the current debate of various disciplines regarding language as well as the discussion in the historical tradition. We are delighted to have such a multidisciplinary paper, insofar as it sets the tone for the overall issue. Namely, the subsequent REVIEWS section goes on to display how language is treated in different traditions and disciplines which may not be strictly philosophical but anyway raise philosophical questions and problems. So, Stefano writes about Claudio Faschilli's *Come comprendiamo le parole. Introduzione alla semantica lessicale*, an introductory book about lexical semantics, that precisely relies on different kinds of evidence and literatures, coming from classical approaches in analytic philosophy as well as recent neuroscientific discoveries. Secondly, Simone Cuconato – a guest-reviewer for this issue – reviews *Cattive argomentazioni: come riconoscerle*, where Francesco F. Calemi and Michele Paolini Paoletti discuss what a fallacy is and analyse the philosophical literature regarding the main kinds of fallacies.

As far as the REPORT section is concerned, two events related to the topic are presented: Leda reports the "Brain and the Lexicon" international conference that took place in Turin on the 22th and 23rd of September, where various researchers tackled the issue of semantic processing and neural representation of lexicon. Dur-

ing the talks, evidence and theories regarding cognitive models of language were presented, testifying the lively debate regarding linguistic skills. Bianca presents a report on the talk held by Geoffrey Nunberg, "The Social Life of Slurs", at the Institut Jean Nicod in Paris, where the need to consider slurs as a stand alone class of terms was discussed, highlighting the peculiarities of the category. The section also contains a report by Fabio, Ilaria and Maria on the International Conference "The Metaphysics of Properties and Relations" held in Bergamo on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd of July. During this important event, prominent scholars from all around Europe highly disputed issues such as the semantic values of connectives, transcendent universals, dispositional essentialism and trope theory.

The EX-CATHEDRA section of this special issue is a piece by Martina Germani Riccardi, "Un po' di blu in mezzo a un mare di bianco" ("Some blue in a sea of white"). With her delicate words, Martina evokes the relationship between ourselves and language as a way to express oneself and as a part of our being.

As for the peer-reviewed ARTICLES, we are glad to present three contributions, even though not related to Philosophy of Language. Luca Castaldo, in "In difesa del Monismo Anomalo" presents a defence of Davidson's Anomalous Monism, arguing for its advantages and showing the weaknesses of the critiques made by Honderich and Jagewon. Francesco Testini in "La portata etica della tragedia tra Bernard Williams e Martha Nussbaum" presents an analysis of the arguments of the two authors regarding the ethical value of the tragedy in contemporary society, focusing on how the debate contributes to a more complete comprehension of tragedy as the representation of the conflict between the ethical subject and the world. Carlotta Caldiroli, finally, presents "I conflitti multiculturali e il diritto: un paradigma teorico", where she proposes a theoretical paradigm for the occurrences of "culturally-driven" felonies and the "cultural-rights" and she argues for the possibility of rejecting the so-called "cultural argument" in a liberal state.

Finally, we are glad to announce that three new members have joined RIFAJ. Along with Mariaflavia, whose work has already been present in the past issues, we also warmly welcome Maria and Ilaria in the Editorial Board, hoping it is just the beginning of a new, fruitful collaboration.