

The Idea of Writing 2016 – “Writing as a System: Emergence, Variation, Performance”

July 22–23, 2016
NCCR Iconic Criticism, University of Basel,
eikones Forum: Rheinsprung 11, 4051 Basel

Friday, 22.VII.2016

14.15–14.30 WOLFGANG BEHR
Words of welcome

Theme I: Inception, spread, transmission

14.30–15.00 SILVIA FERRARA (Rome)
“The inception of writing on Crete: towards a synoptic view?”

15.00–15.15 *Coffee*

15.15–15.45 THEO VENNEMANN (Ried & Munich)
“From Punic to Runic – The role of constraints in adopting a writing system”

15.45–16.15 ROBERT KERR (Haarlem)
“Infectious epigraphomania: From an epidemic to an endemic contagion. Writing in Roman North Africa: Punic, Latin and Berber”

16.15–16.45 PIERS KELLY (Jena)
“Preconditions for the invention and successful transmission of writing: evidence from recent West African scripts”

16.45–17.00 *Coffee*

17.00–17.30 ALEX DE VOOGT (New York), ANNA STRYJEWSKA (Zurich & Basel) & ERIK HARDEN (New York)
“Reading Dongba shop signs: from phonetic to fantastic”

Theme II: Cognition, psychology, complexity

17.30–18.00 OLIVIER MORIN (Jena)
“The spontaneous emergence of functional complexity in writing systems: The case of cardinal lines”

18.00–18.30 KARENLEIGH OVERMANN (Oxford)
“Literacy as cognitive change emerging from material engagement”

18.30–19.00 DAVID SHARE (Haifa)
“Foundations of a universal theory of learning to read”

19.00–19.45 *Drinks at eikones*

20.00–? *Dinner*

Saturday, 23.VII.2016

Theme III: Inventories, signs and materiality

- 09.00–09.30 THOMAS BALKE (Heidelberg)
“The materiality of writing in the ED-I – stone *kedurrus* of Mesopotamia”
- 09.30–10.00 ORLY GOLDWASSER (Jerusalem)
“Iconicity *vs.* linearity – the advantage of a system without systematicity”
- 10.00–10.15 *Coffee*
- 10.15–10.45 ANNICK PAYNE (Basel)
“Paths to *pa* and other signs”
- 10.45–11.15 ERIK BOOT (Rijswijk)
“Myth and Maya writing: How Moon, Sun God, and Maize God myths extended the Classic Maya sign inventory”
- 11.15–11.45 HAEREE PARK (Hamburg)
“Chinese logography or Chinese syllabary”
- 11.45–13.30 *Lunch*

Theme IV: Logography, phonography, orthography

- 13.30–14.00 ANNA STRYJEWSKA (Zurich & Basel)
“Sign derivation in Yi writing”
- 14.00–14.30 SVEN OSTERKAMP (Bochum)
“Japanese *kana*: moraic or syllabic? – Considerations from a synchronic and diachronic perspective”
- 14.30–14.45 *Coffee*
- 14.45–15.15 KEISUKE HONDA (London)
“Rethinking morphography in Japanese *kanji* writing: Synchronic and diachronic perspectives
- 15.15–15.45 GORDIAN SCHREIBER (Bochum)
“A mixed bag – phonography and morphography in Japanese”
- 15.45–16.15 THORSTEN TRAUlsen (Bochum)
“Systematicity in the development of Korean orthography”
- 16.15–16.45 *Publication plans, next conference, etc.*

Trouble shooting mobile phone number: +41-70-2522960 (WB)