

Zeitschrift: Revue de Théologie et de Philosophie
Herausgeber: Revue de Théologie et de Philosophie
Band: 53 (2003)
Heft: 2: Enjeux philosophiques et théologiques de la fiction

Bibliographie: English summaries

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ENGLISH SUMMARIES

- L. BONOLI, Reading an ethnographic text : between fiction and knowledge, RThPh 2003/II, p. 99-114.

This article reflects upon the epistemological problems of reading texts in humanities. Concentrating on the case of ethnographical texts, we must think of reading this type of text as a lesson that its epistemological pretensions must be respected. By way of a detour through the theories of the reception of literary texts, we find a definition of a "pact of ethnographic reading", that is a particular type of reading susceptible to the best use of the cognitive potentialities of these texts.

- G. HESS, Metaphor, Science, Philosophy, RThPh 2003/II, p. 115-135.

Taking the metaphor as a vital lead, this article explores the various links between scientific and philosophical discourse. But rather than be empirical, this analysis is situated on a meta-conceptual level. As such, it offers two essential theoretical perspectives of the metaphor : the extensional and the intensional. While the usual and referential convention of the metaphor agrees with the first perspective, innovative use agrees rather with the second. As non-objective knowledge, philosophy perfectly accommodates the intensional model of metaphor, which, in effect, takes into account not only proven metaphors but also philosophical concepts themselves. On the other hand, the extensional model is better suited to scientific discourse, which, in principle, is objective. The article nevertheless points out important difficulties that call for a revision of a too rational approach to science.

- L. MENOUD, What is a fictional character ?, RThPh 2003/II, p. 137-159.

In this article, I mainly examine the semantic status of fictional characters, in particular the singular function of names, whether these be invented or not, as Marco Polo in Italo Calvino, for example. I will also analyse the inherent incompleteness of literary characters, the fact that they miss countless properties. We would be incapable to say, for instance, if Emma Bovary has or has not a mole on her left shoulder, unless the author gives this detail. I will then try to determine which valid inferences we can extract from the text.

- P. BÜHLER, Invitations to reader identification in fiction. Characters of the Passion narratives in literary transcriptions, RThPh 2003/II, p. 161-177.

Using literary renditions of the Passion narratives, this article tries to show how literary rereadings allow us to discover the way biblical texts interpellate the reader. In particular, it seeks to bring out the way certain characters, in the literary transposition of these stories, become fictive overtures of narrative identity. The author is inspired by Paul Ricœur's theory of narrativity and Wolfgang Iser's idea of the act of reading.