



COSPECS - DICAM

FORMS of EMBODIMENT

International Conference

University of Messina - Aula Cannizzaro - 18 - 20 May 2026

MONDAY

18

14:00 Registration
14:30 - 14:45 Welcome Remarks
Prof. Carmelo Porto
(Chair COSPECS)
Prof. Giuseppe Ucciardello
(Chair DiCAM)

14:45 - 15:00 Opening
Prof. Valentina Cuccio and Francesco Parisi
(University of Messina - Organizers)

Chair: Valentina Cuccio (University of Messina)
15:00-15:40 Marianna Bolognesi
(University of Bologna)
Abstraction, unpacked: A linguistic perspective

TUESDAY

19

Chair: Valentina Cuccio
09:00- 09:40 Shaun Gallagher
(University of Memphis
and University of Messina)
*Robodiment:
Building an artificial enactive body*

Chair: Francesco Parisi (University of Messina)
09:40 - 10:20 Erik Myin (University of Antwerp
and University of Messina)
Of a Different Mind

10:20 - 10:40 Coffee break

Chair: Guido Baggio
(Roma TRE University)
10:40 - 11:20 Claudio Paolucci
(University of Bologna)
*Machine endowed with Language.
Enacted Artificial Intelligence*

11:20 - 12:00 Pietro Conte and
Angelo Adriano (University of Milano)
*The pitfalls of embodiment:
Imagi(n)ing nonhuman perception across film,
video games, and VR*

WEDNESDAY

20

Chair: Marianna Bolognesi
09:00 - 09:40 Giovanni Monasta
(University of Messina)
*Mary, qualia, and information:
An embodied interpretation of the
knowledge argument*

09:40 - 10:20 Marco Facchin
(University of Antwerp)
Eliminating the embodied tool

15:40 - 16:20 Edoardo Datteri
(University of Milano Bicocca)
Symbols in animal-robot interaction

16:20 - 16:40 Coffee break

Chair: Pietro Conte (University of Milan)
16:40 - 17:20 Anna D'Andrea (Istituto di Arte Applicata e Design)
*Material Metaphors in Contemporary Art.
Cognition, communication and intimacy*

17:20 - 18:00 Stefania Garello (Roma TRE University)
*Learning Through the Body:
The Role of Embodied Cognition in Language Acquisition*

20:30 Dinner

12:00 - 12:40 Sandro Gorgone (University of Messina)
*The Age of Ergonomics:
From Technology as a Tool to Technology as a Living Environment*

13:00 - 14:00 Lunch

Chair: Claudio Paolucci
14:00 - 14:40 Mariateresa Sestito (Ad Astra Human Science)
*Horizons of the Body, Touched by the Stars:
Sensorimotor Skill, Awe, and Spiritual Experience in Aerospace*

14:40 - 16:20 Valentina Cardella
(University of Messina)
*Is this my body?
Self disorders and loss of common sense in schizophrenia*

16:20 - 16:40 Coffee break

Chair: Francesco Parisi (University of Messina)
16:40 - 17:20 Ruxandra Lupu (University of Cyprus)
*Rythmologies of durability in textile crafts
An arts-based approach linking metaphor, movement and meaning*

17:20 - 18:00 Paola Vernillo (University of Bologna)
*Embodiment Beyond Concreteness:
Specificity as a Missing Dimension of Metaphor Quality*

20:30 Dinner

10:20 - 11:00 Martina Montalti (University of Messina)
*Embodied Metaphor Beyond the Brain:
Autonomic Responses to Interoceptive Language*

11:00 - 11:30 Coffe break

11:30 - 13:00 Discussion and Closing Remarks