



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

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*

10:20 - 10:40 Coffe break

Chair: Ruxandra Lupu (University of Cyprus)  
10:40 -11:20 Martina Montalti (University of Messina)  
*Embodied Metaphor Beyond the Brain:  
Autonomic Responses to Interoceptive Language*

11:20 - 12:00 Giovanni Pennisi (University of Messina)  
*Forms of Re-Embodiment: Immersive Techniques Between First-  
and Second-Person Perspective*

12:00 - 13:00 Discussion and Closing Remarks