

# Editorial

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## An introduction

Issue No. 8 of *diségno* represents an 'exception,' or rather a 'variant' of the program of events of the Unione Italiana per il Disegno; a necessary variant, in adaptation to the pandemic wave that has changed the life of the entire world for over a year.

The 42nd International UID Conference entitled *Connettere. Un disegno per annodare e tessere / Connecting. Drawing for weaving relationships*, which should have been held in mid-September 2020 on the Calabrian shores of the Messina Strait area, was postponed to the following year, same period. In substitution it was decided to organize a Study Day on the discipline in reference to the current hardships that the pandemic has imposed on us.

The Covid-19 pandemic will, therefore, leave a trace even in the life calendar of the UID, and on the uninterrupted sequence of the forty-one annual conferences that to this day have characterized the association's scientific structure. The Study Day took up the themes that had been previously established for the Conference, the Proceedings of which were published by Franco Angeli in open-access

reflecting, and in fact launching, a further focus, which then became the call of the conference to be held next September in Reggio Calabria: *Languages, Distances, Technologies*.

In the current issue, continuing the rhythm of our journal's even-numbered issues, we have thus decided to give an account of the results of the book of the *Proceedings*, inviting the authors of the papers evaluated in double peer review with the highest score to produce a long paper on the proposed topics.

## An acknowledgement

Since March 2021, *diségno* has been indexed in Scopus. This is an important step forward for the growth of our still young publication, which aims to achieve full recognition as a Class A disciplinary scientific journal.

I would therefore like to thank both the Editorial Board and the Editorial Staff.

## Issue No. 8

This issue, which we have defined as 'atypical' in light of its previously described characteristics, is intended to define a moment of reflection on the Proceedings of the conference *Connettere. Un disegno per annodare e tessere/Connecting. Drawing for weaving relationships*, and features the contributions of the Study Day held on 18 September 2020.

The *Cover* has been entrusted to Agostino De Rosa, with an *overture* that deals with the theme of 'connections' in relation to languages, distances and technologies, following a path that starting from the 'segno-di-segno' unfolds towards deep, intimate and archetypal considerations.

This is followed by a comment on the design of Mario Ridolfi's famous *Nodo d'amore (Love knot)*, chosen precisely for the intertwinings and weavings evoked by the subtitle 'drawing for weaving relationships'. The comment has been entrusted to one of his former students, Massimo Mariani, currently Councilor of the C.N.I. - Consiglio Nazionale degli Ingegneri d'Italia (National Council of Italian Engineers), responsible for Culture, who gives us a brief but intense testimonial of the Master's work.

The four Topics are introduced by José María Gentil Baldrich, professor emeritus at the Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura de Sevilla, for the theme *Prometheus: theory and technique*; Franco Cervellini for the theme *Metis: the mutation of form*; Giuseppe Amoroso for the theme *Mnemosyne: the construction of memory*; and Alessandra Cirafici for the theme *Hermes: the story of places and things*. I am particularly pleased to present this sequence of keynotes that effectively 'connects' different generations of scholars, belonging to different contexts and backgrounds, yet all of

them decidedly linked to the various aspects of the discipline.

The columns that are a regular feature of all the issues of our journal present an overview of the vitality of Drawing and of its researchers.

Massimiliano Ciammaichella, in *Readings/Rereadings*, leads us to reflect on William Kentridge's *Six Drawing Lessons*.

This is followed by reviews of a selection of the monographs produced this past year, and of some of the events, seminars and congresses held in the last six months.

Starting with this issue, there is a new column which will be present in the even-numbered issues, concerning the prizes and awards that the UID presents, as is customary, during the activities of the annual conference: the UID Golden Awards, the "Gaspere De Fiore" Awards, and other prizes that may have been conferred.

## Issue No. 9 and the future

Our editorial team is already working on Issue No. 9: a thematic issue, as is now customary, which will deal with the theme of *Visionary Drawing*. We are moving towards the renewal of UID's governing direction and bodies and a new structure for the Scientific Committee, Editorial Board and Editorial Staff. It is important to consider how, in these four years of life, *diségno* has grown thanks to the work and dedication of our entire scientific community, whose members, in their different capacities as authors, editors, reviewers, have believed in it.

The experience of the journal founded by Vito Cardone continues and will always be renewed, we are sure, at its very best.