



Institutskolloquium

Psychologisches Institut

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„From synesthesia to ideasthesia”

Mittwoch, 01.07.2015, 16.15 – 17.45 Uhr,
Raum 01-231 (Binger Str. 14-16)



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Abstract:

“From synesthesia to ideasthesia”

Evidence suggests that synesthesia is not a phenomenon of crossed senses, as it has been popularly advertised. Rather, synesthesia seems to be triggered by the meaning of the stimulus--the meaning has to be extracted before a synesthete can obtain a concurrent experience (e.g., a color associated to a grapheme). This led me to propose the concept of "ideasthesia" meaning sensing concepts. Subsequent research on ideasthesia produced a number of interesting and sometimes surprising results regarding the experiences during our everyday perception. I think that these results provide us with important insights into the nature of human experience in general. I will review the empirical evidence and several interesting arguments that can be derived from that evidence.