

La linguistique du signifiant : définition et problématiques

On the linguistics of the signifier: definition and issues

Samuel Bidaud

Abstract: We present and analyze here a field of linguistics which has been barely theorized until now, that is to say the linguistics of the signifier. By “linguistics of the signifier” we mean those studies which express the hypothesis that there is, at various levels, a motivated link between the signifier and the signified. We will study from this point of view the Guillaumean theory of the “*signifié de puissance*”, which assumes that a grammatical signifier has just one signified, the *cognematics* of Didier Bottineau, which assumes that some submorphemes correspond, in certain precise cases, to semantic invariants, and *phonosymbolism*, which assumes, again in certain specific cases, that the signifier reflects the signified.

Key words: linguistics of the signifier, psychomechanics of language, *signifié de puissance*, cogneme, phonosymbolism.