



# Dalla nave di Teseo al serpente di Kekulé Come l'immaginazione può condurci a nuove conoscenze

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## Mostra bibliografica

"I am enough of the artist to draw freely upon my imagination. Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world."

Albert Einstein, *The Saturday Evening Post*, October 26, 1929

## **Thomae Hobbes malmesburiensis Opera philosophica. Vol. 1**

Hobbes, Thomas

Aalen : Scientia, 1966

Biblioteca di Filosofia B.1203.L5.1

## **Elementi di filosofia : il corpo, l'uomo**

Hobbes, Thomas

Torino : UTET, 1972

Biblioteca di Filosofia B.1239.21.1972

## **Le vite di Teseo e di Romolo**

Plutarchus

Milano : Fondazione Lorenzo Valla : A. Mondadori, 1998

Biblioteca di Filosofia M.F.2667.12/4

## **Thought experiments in philosophy, science, and the arts**

Frappier, Mélanie ; Meynell Letitia ; Brown, James Robert

Biblioteca di Filosofia M.H.11958

From Lucretius throwing a spear beyond the boundary of the universe to Einstein racing against a beam of light, thought experiments stand as a fascinating challenge to the necessity of data in the empirical sciences. Are these experiments, conducted uniquely in our imagination, simply rhetorical devices or communication tools or are they an essential part of scientific practice? This volume surveys the current state of the debate and explores new avenues of research into the epistemology of thought experiments.

## **Imagination : a very short introduction**

Gosetti-Ferencei, Jennifer Anna

New York [etc.] : Oxford University Press, 2023

Biblioteca di Filosofia CONS.FIL.GUI.1.25.126

Imagination: A Very Short Introduction explores imagination as a cognitive power and an essential dimension of human flourishing, demonstrating how imagination plays multiple roles in human

cognition and shapes humanity in profound ways. Examining philosophical, evolutionary, and literary perspectives on imagination, the author shows how this facility, while potentially distorting, both frees us from immediate reality and enriches our sense of it, making possible our experience of a meaningful world. Long regarded by philosophers as an elusive and mysterious capacity of the human mind, imagination has been the subject of extraordinary ambivalence, described as both dangerous and divine, as merely peripheral to rationality and as essential to all thinking. Drawing on philosophy, aesthetics, literary and cognitive theory as well as the human sciences, this book engages the dramatic conceptual history of imagination together with contemporary explanations of its role in cognition to explain its importance in everyday life as well as the exquisite creativity of the arts, scientific discovery, and invention. Engaging examples from cave paintings to modern painting, performance art to pop art, physics to phenomenology, technological inventions to literary worlds, the Nazca geoglyphs to dramatic theatre, poetry, and jazz improvisation, the author illuminates with clarity and vision the philosophy of imagination and the stakes of its involvement in human thinking. (Fonte: editore).

## **The Routledge handbook of philosophy of imagination**

Kind, Amy

London ; New York : Routledge, 2016

Biblioteca di Filosofia M.I.1882

Imagination occupies a central place in philosophy, going back to Aristotle. However, following a period of relative neglect there has been an explosion of interest in imagination in the past two decades as philosophers examine the role of imagination in debates about the mind and cognition, aesthetics and ethics, as well as epistemology, science and mathematics. This outstanding Handbook contains over thirty specially commissioned chapters by leading philosophers organised into six clear sections examining the most important aspects of the philosophy of imagination, including: Imagination in historical context: Aristotle, Descartes, Hume, Kant, Husserl, and Sartre. What is imagination? The relation between imagination and mental imagery; imagination contrasted with perception, memory, and dreaming. Imagination in aesthetics: imagination and our engagement with music, art, and fiction; the problems of fictional emotions and 'imaginative resistance'. Imagination in philosophy of mind and cognitive science: imagination and creativity, the self, action, child development, and animal cognition. Imagination in ethics and political philosophy, including the concept of 'moral imagination' and empathy. Imagination in epistemology and philosophy of science, including learning, thought experiments, scientific modelling, and mathematics.

## **Imagination in science**

Hoff, J. H. : van't

Berlin [etc.] : Springer, 1967

Biblioteca di Filosofia M.H.7242

## **Against the Additive View of Imagination**

Wiltsher, Nick

*Australasian journal of philosophy*, 2016-04, Vol.94 (2), p.266-282

Biblioteca di Filosofia DEP.RIV.A.19

## **The scientific imagination: case studies**

Holton, Gerald

Cambridge [etc.] :Cambridge University press, 1978

Biblioteca di Filosofia M.G.13678

New scientific ideas are subjected to an extensive process of evaluation and validation by the scientific community. Until the early 1980s, this process of validation was thought to be governed by objective criteria, whereas the process by which individual scientists gave birth to new scientific ideas was regarded as inaccessible to rational study. In this book Gerald Holton takes an opposing view, illuminating the ways in which the imagination of the scientist functions early in the formation of a new insight or theory. In certain crucial instances, a scientist adopts an explicit or implicit presupposition, or *thema*, that guides his work to success or failure and helps determine whether the new idea will draw acclaim or controversy. Using firsthand accounts gleaned from notebooks, interviews, and correspondence of such twentieth-century scientists as Einstein, Fermi, and Millikan, Holton shows how the idea of the scientific imagination has practical implications for the history and philosophy of science and the larger understanding of the place of science in our culture. The new introduction, "How a Scientific Discovery Is Made: The Case of High-Temperature Superconductivity," reveals the scientific imagination at work in current science, by disclosing the role of personal motivations that are usually hidden from scientific publications, and the lessons of the case for science policy today.

## **L'immaginazione scientifica: i temi del pensiero scientifico**

Holton, Gerald

Torino : G. Einaudi, 1983

Biblioteca di Filosofia M.G.12753

## **How to do science with models: a philosophical primer**

Gelfert, Axel

Springer, 2016

Ebook

Taking scientific practice as its starting point, this book charts the complex territory of models used in science. It examines what scientific models are and what their function is. Reliance on

models is pervasive in science, and scientists often need to construct models in order to explain or predict anything of interest at all. The diversity of kinds of models one finds in science - ranging from toy models and scale models to theoretical and mathematical models - has attracted attention not only from scientists, but also from philosophers, sociologists, and historians of science. This has given rise to a wide variety of case studies that look at the different uses to which models have been put in specific scientific contexts. By exploring current debates on the use and building of models via cutting-edge examples drawn from physics and biology, the book provides broad insight into the methodology of modelling in the natural sciences. It pairs specific arguments with introductory material relating to the ontology and the function of models, and provides some historical context to the debates as well as a sketch of general positions in the philosophy of scientific models in the process.

## **Knowledge through imagination**

Kind, Amy; Kung, Peter

New York : Oxford University Press, 2016

Biblioteca di Filosofia M.I.1073

Imagination is celebrated as our vehicle for escape from the mundane here and now. It transports us to distant lands of magic and make-believe. It provides us with diversions during boring meetings or long bus rides. It enables creation of new things that the world has never seen. Yet the focus on imagination as a means of escape from the real world minimizes the fact that imagination seems also to furnish us with knowledge about it. Imagination seems an essential component in our endeavor to learn about the world in which we live—whether we're planning for the future, aiming to understand other people, or figuring out whether two puzzle pieces fit together. But how can the same mental power that allows us to escape the world as it currently is also inform us about the world as it currently is? The ten original essays in *Knowledge Through Imagination*, along with a substantial introduction by the editors, grapple with this neglected question; in doing so, they present a diverse array of positions ranging from cautious optimism to deep-seated pessimism. Many of the essays proceed by considering specific domains of inquiry where imagination is often employed—from the navigation of our immediate environment, to the prediction of our own and other peoples' behavior, to the investigation of ethical truth. Other essays assess the prospects for knowledge through imagination from a more general perspective, looking at issues of cognitive architecture and basic rationality. Blending perspectives from philosophy of mind, cognitive science, epistemology, aesthetics, and ethics, *Knowledge Through Imagination* sheds new light on the epistemic role of imagination.

## **Imagination and sciences**

Maissa, Abdessalam Ben <editor>

Rabat : Faculty of Letters and Human Sciences, 2000

Biblioteca di Filosofia M.H.12870

## **Models as make-believe: imagination, fiction and scientific representation**

Toon, Adam

Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012

Biblioteca di Filosofia M.G.16989

## **Mental imagery and fiction**

Stokes, Dustin in

*Canadian Journal of Philosophy*, 2019, Vol. 49 (6), pp. 731-754

Biblioteca di Filosofia DEP.RIV.A.38

## **Knowledge, fiction & imagination**

Novitz, David

Philadelphia : Temple University press, 1987

Biblioteca di Filosofia M.H.15208

David Novitz makes a convincing and highly original case that fiction is a reliable source of knowledge about the world. Challenging contemporary literary theory as well as traditional epistemology, Novitz constructs a "romantic epistemology" according to which the fanciful imagination plays a crucial role in the acquisition and growth of empirical knowledge. While undeniably romantic, this epistemology does not lead to the romantic excesses of idealism and Derridean textualism, but is shown to be compatible both with realism and with the determinacy of textual meaning. [...] By exploring the use of metaphor in imaginative literature, David Novitz defends his theory and adds importantly to our understanding of metaphor and the way it works. In so doing, he attempts to "restore literature to its former status as a functional object—allowing that a thing of beauty may indeed instruct, and that it may do so in ways which are richer and more varied than the empirical sciences."

## **A theory of imagining, knowing and understanding**

Tateo, Luca

Springer, 2020

Ebook

This is a book about imaginative work and its relationship with the construction of knowledge. It is fully acknowledged by epistemologists that imagination is not something opposed to rationality; it is not mere fantasy opposed to intellect. In philosophy and cognitive sciences, imagination is generally "delimiting not much more than the mental ability to interact cognitively with things that

are not now present via the senses." For centuries, scholars and poets have wondered where this capability could come from, whether it is inspired by divinity or it is a peculiar feature of human mind . The omnipresence of imaginative work in both every day and highly specialized human activities requires a profoundly radical understanding of this phenomenon. We need to work imaginatively in order to achieve knowledge, thus imagination must be something more than a mere flight of fantasy. Considering different stories in the field of scientific endeavor, I will try to propose the idea that the imaginative process is fundamental higher mental function that concurs in our experiencing, knowing and understanding the world we are part of. This book is thus about a theoretical idea of imagining as constant part of the complex whole we call the human psyche. It is a story of human beings striving not only for knowledge and exploration but also striving for imagining possibilities.

### **Mindsight : image, dream, meaning**

McGinn, Colin

Cambridge (MA): Harvard university press, 2004

Biblioteca di Filosofia B.1646.M1483 M56

### **L'immaginario : psicologia fenomenologica dell'immaginazione**

Sartre, Jean-Paul

Torino : Einaudi, 2007

Biblioteca di Filosofia. CORSO.2022/23.186

Concepito assieme a "L'immaginazione", l'altro saggio dedicato all'immagine, costituisce una pietra miliare nel panorama della fenomenologia del XX secolo e, più estesamente, delle teorie contemporanee dell'immaginario. Sulla scorta delle indagini degli anni universitari e degli approfondimenti della fenomenologia compiuti durante un soggiorno a Berlino, Sartre riprende autonomamente i cardini del pensiero di Husserl e imbocca un cammino che lo porta a una nuova definizione della coscienza nei suoi rapporti con l'immagine. La tesi radicale di questo saggio denso e meditato è quella dell'incommensurabilità di percezione e immaginazione, nodo teorico che permette a Sartre di ridefinire la natura della coscienza immaginativa e dell'immagine quale oggetto irreali. Andando oltre Husserl, Sartre conferisce così alla coscienza immaginativa uno statuto nuovo e più originario rispetto alla percezione. Questo gesto filosofico è gravido di conseguenze: da una parte viene aperta la strada a una considerazione della vita immaginaria fin nelle sue molteplici manifestazioni (dal sogno all'opera d'arte), attraverso il territorio oscuro dei rapporti tra l'immagine e il pensiero; dall'altra vengono poste le basi di una teoria della libertà dell'immaginario e di un'estetica sui generis che si realizzeranno compiutamente negli scritti filosofici e letterari caratterizzanti, nel secondo dopoguerra, la grande stagione dell'esistenzialismo francese.

## **Hume's theory of imagination**

Wilbanks, Jan

The Hague : Martinus Nijhof, 1968

Biblioteca di Filosofia M.H.17671

## **Conceivability and possibility**

Hawthorne, John; Gendler, Tamar Szabo

Oxford : Oxford University Press, 2002

Biblioteca di Filosofia. M.H.9742

The capacity to represent things to ourselves as possible plays a crucial role both in everyday thinking and in philosophical reasoning; this volume offers much-needed philosophical illumination of conceivability, possibility, and the relations between them.

## **Picture, image and experience: a philosophical inquiry**

Hopkins, Robert

Cambridge : Cambridge University Press, 1998

Biblioteca di Filosofia BH.301.R47 H67

## **The cognitive basis of science**

Carruthers, Peter; Stich, Stephen P.; Siegal, Michael (eds.)

Cambridge : Cambridge University Press, 2002

Biblioteca di Filosofia. M.H.12564

## **Imagination in science, in *A Theory of Imagining, Knowing, and Understanding***

Tadeo, Luca

Cham : Springer, 2020

Ebook

The chapter explores the role of imaginative processes in the history of natural and social sciences. It expands the imaginative activities to the different phases of scientific method and links



it to the idea that imagining is a driving force for scientific research, but it also creates the sociopolitical goals that orient science as a social force.