

Edited by Cristina Demaria and Patrizia Violi

Reading Memory Sites Through Signs

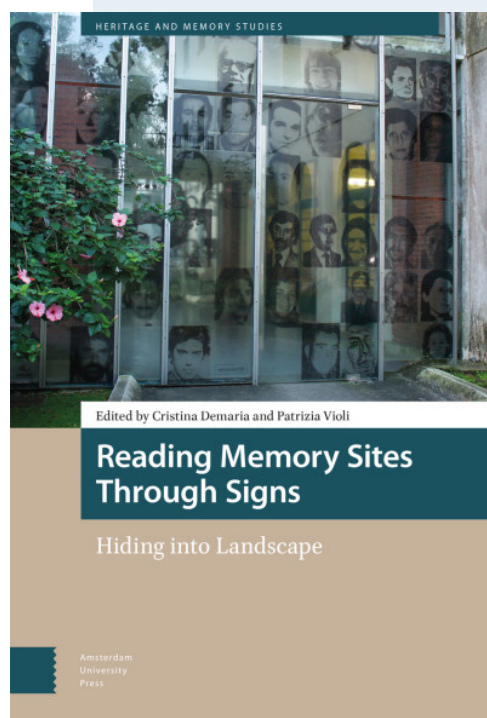
Hiding into Landscape

What can space tell us about our past? Which stories do memory sites narrate? Which memories do they transmit? And, more importantly, how can we read their meanings? Semiotics can provide us with a homogeneous, shareable and theoretically sound methodology to analyse space within a comparable and common frame of reference for scholars of memory studies and traumatic heritage, as well as for historians, architects and museum curators. The book describes in clear and understandable language the main semiotic concepts that can be used to analyse space, illustrating them with carefully chosen case studies of memory spaces – monuments, museums, post-war urban restoration, filmed and virtual space – in order to show the applicability and efficacy of a semiotic methodology.

BIOGRAPHY

Cristina Demaria is Associate Professor of Semiotics at the Department of the Arts (DAR) of the University of Bologna, where she teaches Semiotics of conflict, Gender Studies and Semiotics of Social Sciences. She has worked extensively on traumatic memories and their representation, on visual culture and documentary films, and on gender studies and post-feminism. Amongst her last publications *Post-conflict Cultures. A Reader* (PCCC Press, London, 2021).

Patrizia Violi is an Alma Mater Professor at the University of Bologna and the founder of 'TraMe - Centre for the Semiotic Study of Memory' at the same university. She was director of the 'Centro Internazionale di Studi Umberto Eco' and PI of various European funded projects on trauma and urban space. She has published internationally on the relationship between trauma and memory, with a specific focus on Chile, Argentina and Colombia. Her latest book is *Landscapes of Memory. Trauma, Space, History* (Peter Lang, 2017).



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