

Record in the Commens Bibliography. Retrieved from
http://www.commens.org/bibliography/journal_article/gaultier-benoit-2017-iconicity-thought-and-its-moving-pictures, 24.01.2026.

Type: Article in Journal
Author: Gaultier, Benoit
Title: The Iconicity of Thought and its Moving Pictures: Following the Sinuosities of Peirce's Path
Year: 2017
Journal: Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society
Volume: 53
Issue: 3
Pages: 374-399
Keywords: Iconicity
Abstract: I endeavor to determine exactly what Peirce's thesis of the iconicity of thought means and implies and how far it can be maintained. In particular, I argue that while for Peirce necessary reasoning requires an iconic dimension in order to be carried out, it does not follow that this is true of reasoning in general. I then suggest a way in which the thesis that 'it is by icons only that we really reason' could be defended on the basis of Peirce's philosophical system. I consider difficulties of the conception of thought upon which this defense is based, namely, that thinking is processual in nature and that our thoughts are in continuity with each other. More specifically, I argue that this view generates a tension within Peirce's system, and I reject it on the basis of Geachian arguments that, at the same time, shed new light on Peirce's most insightful claims concerning the nature of thought.
ISSN: 00091774
DOI: 10.2979/trancharpeirsoc.53.3.02
Language: English