



Editorial

THE DEATH OF Jesús Martín-Barbero, in June of this year, mourned the field of Communication, especially, the Latin American academic community. Spanish by birth, Martín-Barbero became Latin American by choice and managed to build, in deep dialogue with individuals and the reality of this region, a work with seminal and remarkable contributions to communication studies, being the formulator and main author of the so-called *Latin American theory of mediations*.

With the relevance of Jesús Martín-Barbero, the Editorial Committee of **MATRIZes** did not hesitate in, already in this issue, dedicating our tribute to him in an intermediate section of the journal.

Martín-Barbero was also an extraordinary builder of reflective networks that stimulated Latin American theory and research – and a regional perspective on these activities – with a strong dialogue with Brazilian researchers. Therefore, in this tribute, we published a text written by him, unpublished in Portuguese and English, whose title is **What Latin American Communication Research Owes to Brazil: Personal Account of an Intercultural Experience**, originally a conference held by the author at the congress of the Brazilian Society for the Interdisciplinary Studies in Communication (INTERCOM), in 1997.

To serve as an introduction to this text, Maria Immacolata Vassallo de Lopes, director of **MATRIZes** and permanent representative of Martín-Barbero, makes considerations about the work and the author.

We continue our tribute with a series of testimonies about Jesús Martín-Barbero that highlight the burgeoning role of his ideas. Organized by Ana Carolina Escosteguy, Raúl Fuentes Navarro and Isabel Ferin Cunha, these accounts were

made by eminent researchers, from different generations, Brazilians – Muniz Sodré, Renato Ortiz, Nilda Jacks and Simone Maria Rocha – Latin Americans – Eduardo Gutiérrez, Carlos A. Scolari, Omar Rincón and Néstor García Canclini –, Europeans and United Statesian – Manuel Pinto, Margarita Ledo Andión and Joseph Straubhaar. We are grateful to all these colleagues who responded promptly to the request of **MATRIZes**.

We are even more grateful to the author here honored, with the certainty that the promise of the “*field with a great future*” (Fuentes Navarro, 1991) of communication research in Latin America was fulfilled and projects itself, today, in other futures. The role of Jesús Martín-Barbero was fundamental. Therefore, we wish a long life to the legacy of this essential author.

Somehow the **Dossier** of this issue reinforces the referred relevance of research in Latin American communication by bringing authors from this region or themes about it. Thus, the article **Metaevent: Media, Networks, and Citizens in the Pandemic**, by Raúl Trejo Delarbre, reflects on the current pandemic, seen as a *metaevent* that generates countless information that goes through the entire communication ecosystem. The author seeks to discuss the characteristics of the *metaevent* and its consequences for the journalistic coverage of the professional media, as well as the intense production, circulation, and appropriation of content made by ordinary people.

The following three articles of the **Dossier** bring contributions to audiovisual studies. **Lucrecia’s Step Back: Discursive Disputes Between Films, and TV Series**, by Marcel Silva, addresses a critical observation made by Argentine filmmaker Lucrecia Martel concerning recent television series in order to discuss the continuing tensions between film and television, problematizing arguments that affirm, aprioristically, the superiority of the film in relation to the series. On the other hand, **Towards a Transnational Approach to Latin American Television: Journeys, Borders, and Centers, and Peripheries**, by Nahuel Ribke, presents an innovative proposal of a *historical transnational approach* for the studies on television in Latin America. As the author exemplifies in the work, this perspective helps to understand patterns and challenges related to the production and consumption of television works in the region. Then, Sílvio Antonio Luiz Anaz, in **Archetype and Catharsis in Audiovisual Narratives**, conducts a study on the role of archetype in catharsis in audiovisual narratives when it operates as an emotional trigger, evidencing this characteristic in audiovisual productions.

The last article of the section, **Middle Range Theory in Communication: Constitutive, Elements for a Communication Approach as Culture**, by Gustavo Adolfo León-Duarte, continues the discussions about the role of medium-range theories in communication, discussing implications of the construction of such a theory in the field.

Contemporary themes characterize the first two articles of the section **Agenda**. Thus, misinformation is addressed in the work **Disinformation About Gender and, Sexuality and the Disputes Over the Limits of Morality**, by Thales Vilela Lelo and Lorena Caminhas, in which the authors analyze fake news and rumors, noting the importance of sexuality and gender issues in this type of production, and Leonardo De Marchi, in **Financial Capital Goes to Heaven: Bitcoin, Fintech 3.0 and the Massification of the Indebted Man**, analyzes the Bitcoin, the best-known cryptocurrency, thought of as a media whose creation involved libertarian values, but, related to fintech 3.0, promotes the logic of the indebted man.

In the article that continues the section, **Black Press and Citizenship: Contents of *Correio Nagô*, *Mundo Negro* and *Nação Z***, Valmir Teixeira de Araujo and Cicilia Maria Krohling Peruzzo discuss the production of the black press in Brazil today, reflecting on how the elaborated contents dialogue with concepts of citizenship and black citizenship.


Closing the section **Agenda** of this issue, the article **Conservatism and Toxic Masculinity in Gamer Culture: An Approach to *Magic: The Gathering***, by Thiago Falcão, Tarcízio Macedo and Gabriela Kurtz, analyzes, from ethnographic data, spaces of conviviality related to the game mentioned in the title, suggesting that the observed behaviors reinforce conservative values in the community of players.

The text of Leticia Cantarela Matheus and Maria Cristina Guimarães Rosa do Amaral, **Research Lore and Vanguard, in Communication Studies**, which closes this edition, is a review of the book *Comunicação e Método: Cenário e Práticas de Pesquisa*, by Marialva Barbosa, highlighting aspects of the work, such as methodological trends in communication research pointed out by the author.

Before concluding this **Editorial**, we inform you that the next issue of **MATRIZES** will be a special edition dedicated to Paulo Freire, in his centenary of birth, with contributions that discuss different aspects of the legacy of this also essential author. The issue is being organized by Ana Cristina Suzina and Thomas Tufte, both from Loughborough University, and Adilson Odair Citelli,

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from the University of São Paulo. The fact that Freire was one of the influences of Jesús Martín-Barbero, as can be observed in the author's text in the edition, proves the commitment of **MATRIZes** to Latin American communication thinking and its consequences.

We wish everyone enjoy this new edition of **MATRIZes**.

REFERENCES

Fuentes Navarro, R. (1991). *Un campo cargado de futuro. El estudio de la comunicación en América Latina*. Felafacs.

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