

# We cordially invite you to the third year of the interdisciplinary colloquium **Visuality Science Perception** which will take place on **1. 11. 2021** in **Olomouc, Czech Republic.**

**This time we will focus on the „mystery of birth“ - depicting the embryonic development of both humans and animals in past, present and future times. We are interested in contributions both within the framework of achieving and presenting scientific knowledge, as well as within the broadly conceived artistic reflection of this both mysterious and attractive phenomenon.**

Thinking about the formation of the embryo has gone through various phases in history, which have intertwined with each other. From mostly descriptive and speculative doctrine, through a comparative and experimental perspective to the establishment of embryology as an empirical science dealing mainly with the interaction of cells and inner biochemical mechanisms.

Likewise, over the centuries, the depiction of the formation of a living organism has shifted from the „mere“ imagination based on written information to the possibility of depicting the whole process of conception and growth of the embryo through various techniques and media (drawing, film, 3D technology, ultrasound, animation). Despite the change in methods, ways of questioning and depicting, some questions posed by philosophers and naturalists of past centuries still resonate today. As a part of our friendly meeting, we would like to reflect on issues related to the visualization and „haptization“ of embryonic development, both by scientific and artistic means.

## **What we are interested in:**

- How have various theories of development been projected and how are they still projected into depictions? What did the thinkers and scientists imagine under the development process, how did they visually capture it and how do they do it today?
- Is it possible to observe (r)evolution in thinking about the living on the basis of the analysis of different approaches to depicting the formation of the embryo? Is the difference in the approach to the formation of a living organism reflected in the ways in which we present it?

• How have new techniques, technologies and options of depicting (e.g. ultrasound) affected the understanding of a living organism? How did the laic public react to the new possibilities, when the embryonic development became more „tangible“? And how did drawings, models and preparations affect schooling?

• What forms of visual representation do we encounter and how do they change our relationship to the living? How is fetal development and birth (as a moment of transition from the invisibility to the obviousness) reflected in contemporary art and visual culture?

To these and other related topics we would like to dedicate short contributions (20-30 min.) with an emphasis on the following discussion, the aim of which will be to connect the artistic and scientific approach. However, we also welcome short (not only) debate entries focused on specific problems, or practically oriented workshops (30-45 min.). The event will also include short film entries and a guided tour through one of the exhibitions of the SEFO 2021 triennial Human Records.

**To apply, send the title and a brief annotation of your paper / seminar by 30. 9. 2021 to [info@vizualita-veda-vnmani.cz](mailto:info@vizualita-veda-vnmani.cz).**

The colloquium will take place in the Mozarteum (Olomouc Museum of Art), both personal participation on the spot and online form of involvement are welcome. Information on previous years: [www.vizualita-veda-vnmani.cz](http://www.vizualita-veda-vnmani.cz)

The event is being organized by Visuality–Science–Perception interdisciplinary team in cooperation with Academia Film Olomouc and the Olomouc Museum of Art within the Triennial of Contemporary Central European Art SEFO 2021 UNIVERSUM.

We look forward to meeting you!

