

METABODY SUBPROJECT: *Biometrics, movement, gestures and emotions: 1870-2014. A comparative approach*

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Biometrics, with the help of photography and hand in hand with some theories on the evolution of species and societies, helped to conceive that its results unquestionably represent what they claim to measure and that the emotions read in certain gestures-movements are universal. Eva Botella-Ordinas and Beatriz Pichel conceived this subproject to analyze the origins and changes in this science, its practices, tools, performativity, the generation of scientists' identities, the understanding of their results and the gradual conversion thereof into disembodied "data", alongside with their social and cultural implications, while including here within the fixing and clearing of movements and gestures that escape these measurements and are categorized as irrelevant or abnormal.

Eva Botella-Ordinas is developing two specific case studies within this subproject, also connected to other subproject she created for METABODY (*Civilizing process and nature studies*):

*CIVILIZING BIOMETRICS*, analyses late nineteenth century human and animal comparative psychology and criminology, the fixation of species and genera, and their relation with the standard of civilization and social control, affecting the conception of international order and scientific research. The main focus of this study is the "social species" (insects and humans), through the materials used remarkable scientists of the time, such as Galton, Darwin, Forel, Evans, Lombroso. Nowadays research on so called "complex systems" ants and neural systems are compared, and the comparison remains essential for the concept of "emergence". We would like to open the question for discussion about the role of "data" in these processes and in research.

*REASON'S PERFORMANCES* deals with the concept of the subject of the measures, in relation to both the cultural background of its creation and to the performativity requirements. It is centered in the study of John Locke: considered either a founder or a crucial contributor to disciplines as diverse as psychology, economics, education, political science, language studies or philosophy. The Enlightened descriptions of the universal rational and conscious subject required kinetic performances and construction was deeply embodied. He was shaped by cultural emotions such as disgust or pleasure, cruelty or humanity, modelled by performativity, gestural and kinetic practices, fixing the standards of normality, capabilities and civilization status. His late reception and relevance makes this analysis crucial, and one of its aims is to open an inter-trans-metadisciplinary discussion on the kinetics of reason, including "reaction time".