

# Games and Sociabilities

In the present edition, Revista E-Compós addresses a crucially important topic in contemporary societies: the relation between games, sociability and communication. From ludic learning of social life in traditional games to the videogame industry, all societies, each one its own way, have taught and learned very much from their play. In his classic *Homo ludens*, Johan Huizinga pointed out that ‘all metaphor is a wordplay’: language and daily life are permeated with ludicity, which finds its expression in the Simmelian idea of sociability, ludic form of social interaction.

The article that opens this edition is “Images of the crowd: carnival and media”, by Beatriz Jaguaribe, which analyses the media representation of carnival crowd in different historical periods, highlighting the role of journalistic discourse in the production and reproduction of an imaginary on the host of King Momo.

The second one, by Manoel Silvestre Friques, ‘Exchange and relation in relational aesthetics’, undertakes an esthetic approach to the notion of sociability, a counterpoint between Marcel Mauss’ ideas on the gift as a relational form and Nicolas Bourrioud’s so-called ‘relational esthetic’.

The topic of sociability relations is further addressed in Alex Damasceno's article, "The interaction between strangers in Omegle.com: sociability, relationship, and identity", on interactions taking place on a chat website where participants are always unknown to one another.

The recent expansion of combat sports in the media universe is analyzed in the article 'from marginality to mainstream: reflections on MMA (Mixed Martial Arts) and contemporary capitalist societies', by Fábio de Lima Alvarez and José Carlos Marques. In this article, the researchers analyze the convergence between this sports modality and information flow in global capitalism.

The media representation of the soccer universe in Brazilian society is studied in the article 'the discursive polyphony on the 1994 World Cup: authorized discourses on the tetra championship', by Fausto Amaro and Ronaldo Helal. In this article, the journalistic and academic discourses on that Soccer World Cup are compared, highlighting tensions and differences between these sources of 'authorized discourses.'

This issue closes with an interview, exclusive to E-Compós, given by the Argentine researcher Pablo Alabarces, one of the most important names in contemporary Latin American social sciences. Alabarces talks about cultural impasses in peripheral societies, hooliganism, press and fan culture and sports mega events in Brazil.

We wish you all a good reading.

**Editorial Committee**