



HYBRIDITY

PHILODAY 2022'S THEME IS REALLY A RECOGNITION OF MULTIPLE STATES OF AFFAIRS.

IDENTITIES

First, that who we are is neither reducible to one of two binaries (like woman/man) nor is one's identity necessarily opposed to and excludes others. Each person can be the home of more than one language, culture, nation, belief-system, desire, etc. In this sense, the concept of hybridity invites us to think about inclusive approaches to questions of identity.

Second, our identities are never fixed. Resistance to restrictive binaries and other modes of thought, as well as fresh, mixed, and transforming identities are possible and actual. Here, hybridity opens up thinking and action to the idea of dynamic identities, beyond a fixed essence.

SOCIETIES

Third, our societies and communities do not have fixed natures. We are governed by power relations, yes—but change can and does happen through individual will and collective action. As our societies and communities become more hybrid in character, the task of ensuring justice becomes even more urgent. In this sense, hierarchical models fail to take into account real tensions and transformations inscribed in fluid systems and fields of coexistence between institutions, groups, and individuals.

THINKING

Fourth, we are never one or alone in thinking and speaking. Reflection itself involves an internal splitting, a dialogue with oneself. Conversation with others means interaction and signals the exchange—and even the possibility of merging—ideas. Reflection and conversation are always potentially the first step in transformative action: a move to a new, more aware, honest, and engaged identity—a self ready to create more just and humane societies.

POSSIBLE TOPICS

Hybrid identities; hybrid societies and communities; hybrid politics/political systems; hybrid ways of speaking and thinking; the intersection of different struggles for justice and rights; human mutations and naturalization of the artificial; complex intelligences and artificialization of intelligence; inclusive systems and the open society; cosmopolitanism and the fluidity of individual identities, etc.