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Type: Article in Journal (Review)
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Title: Natural Propositions: The Actuality of Peirce's Doctrine of Dici-signs by Frederik Stjernfelt (review)
Year: 2015
Journal: Transactions of the Charles S. Peirce Society
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Abstract: In lieu of an abstract, here is a brief excerpt of the content: Frederik Stjernfelt's (FS) book *Natural Propositions* is much more than just a study arguing for the actuality of Peirce's notion of dicisign. Not unlike his 2007 treatise *Diagrammatology*, FS does many things at the same time, not all of them closely related to the project of a functional, naturalistic interpretation of Peirce's concept of dicisigns and the relation of human cognition and animal, even microbiological processes to one another. The result is an inter- and transdisciplinary study that discusses and criticizes theories and uses examples coming from psychology, biology, anthropology, neuroscience, biosemiotics etc. But the book starts with a chapter on Peirce's anti-psychologism comparing it to Husserl's and Frege's critiques of psychologism and taking L. Barsalou's perceptual symbol theory as an example of psychologism. The book contains carefully executed studies of Peirce's semiotic theory, and of his philosophy in general. The very core of the book is therefore Chapter 3 "Dicisigns", an extensive explanation of how iconical and indexical elements make up the structure of dicisigns. (...)
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