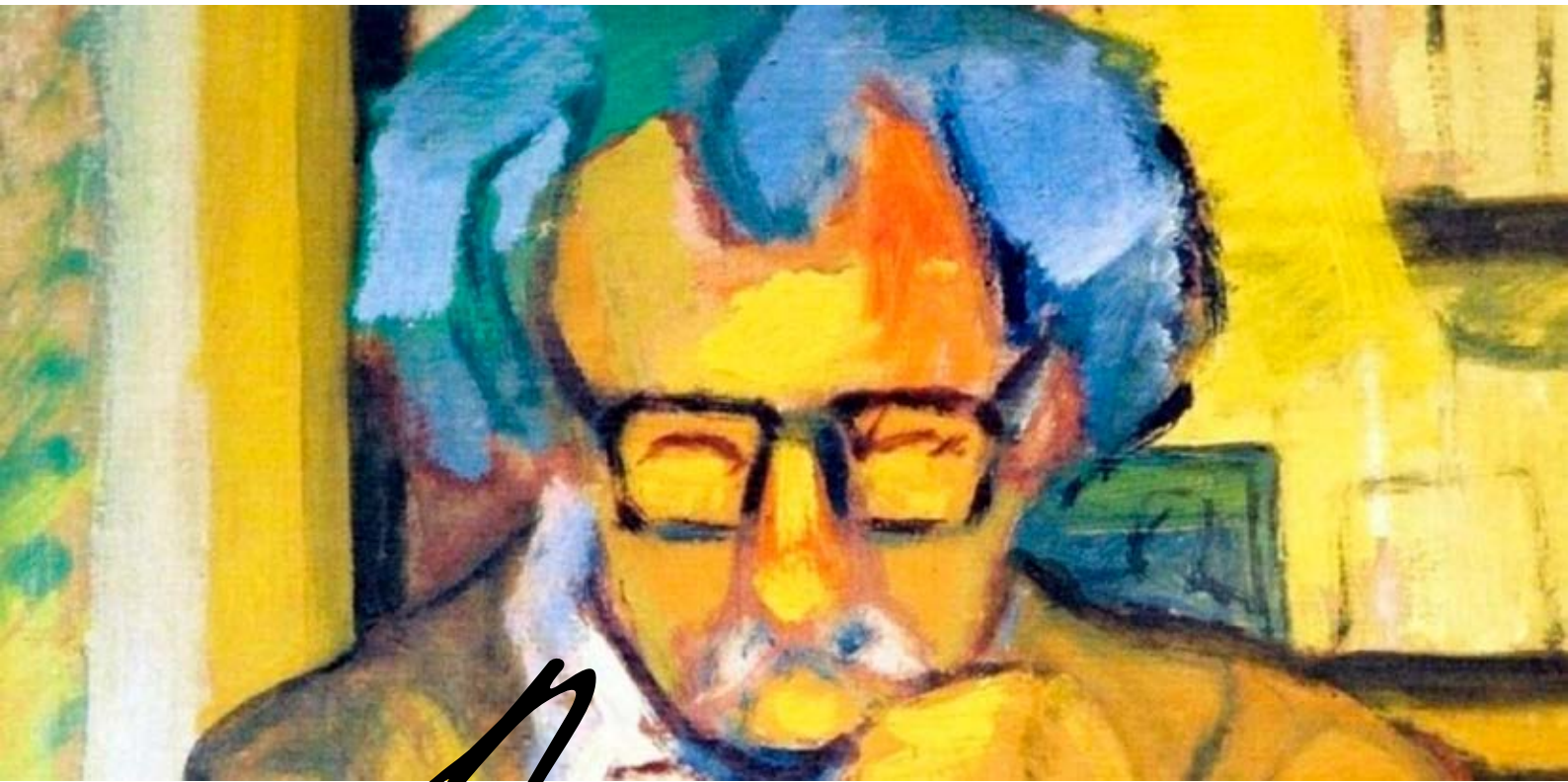


Congress – Конгресс

**JURI LOTMAN'S SEMIOSPHERE**  
**Семиосфера Лотмана**

A B S T R A C T S – Т Е З И С Ы

February 25–28, 2022 Tallinn-Tartu, Estonia  
25–28 февраля 2022 Таллинн–Тарту, Эстония



*Juri Lotman*  
**JURI LOTMAN 100**

CONGRESS – КОНГРЕСС

**JURI LOTMAN'S SEMIOSPHERE**  
**Семиосфера Лотмана**

ABSTRACTS – ТЕЗИСЫ

FEBRUARY 25–28 2022, TALLINN-TARTU, ESTONIA

25–28 ФЕВРАЛЯ 2022, ТАЛЛИНН-ТАРТУ, ЭСТОНИЯ

  
JURI LOTMAN 100

## Organisers

Estonian Semiotics Association

University of Tartu, The Faculty of Arts and Humanities

Tallinn University, The School of Humanities and the Juri Lotman Semiotics Repository



## Supporters

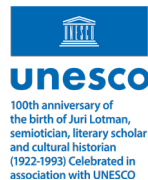
The event is supported by the European Union, European Regional Development Fund (through Enterprise Estonia conference support grant, project name: Congress Juri Lotman's Semiosphere 2022).

Tallinn University Centre of Excellence in Intercultural Studies (European Union European Regional Development Fund, Tallinn University's ASTRA project, TU TEE activity A7).

University of Tartu, the Faculty of Arts and Humanities and the Rector



visit estonia



## Organising committee:

Darja Dorving, Juri Lotman Semiotics Repository, Tallinn University

Ljubov Kisseljova, University of Tartu

Tatjana Kuzovkina, Juri Lotman Semiotics Repository, Tallinn University

Daniele Monticelli, Tallinn University

Katre Pärn, Estonian Association of Semiotics, University of Tartu

Merit Rickberg, Estonian Association of Semiotics, Tallinn University

Silvi Salupere, University of Tartu

Marek Tamm, Tallinn University

Peeter Torop, University of Tartu

Ülo Valk, University of Tartu

University of Tartu Press, 2022

ISBN: 978-9949-03-838-1

Linnart Mäll has suggested a possible explanation of and a way out from this problem. According to him, the lack of a corresponding concept and an appropriate word for *dharma* in our cultural context may be the reason that hinders us from grasping the true meaning of *dharma*. He explains further that the reason for non-understanding may also be that there is a word but no such cultural context that would enable it to be transformed into a term. He concludes that, as a result of the work of the Tartu-Moscow school of semiotics, this context has been established, and that there is a term which functions within this context in a manner similar to the term *dharma* in Buddhist texts. This term is *text*.

In this paper, Mäll's ideas will be developed and a possible use of the very term *dharma* in creative parity with *text* in modern semiotic analysis of the human mind is discussed.

## **Word and Deed According to Lotman's Studies on the Unpredictable Mechanisms of Culture**

Irene Machado  
University of Sao Paulo, Brazil

Shifting away from the sovereign notion of causality in the definition of history, Lotman devoted to the studies of the typology of culture the possibility of examining occurrences in which chance manifests itself as a movement of realignment of historical processes. Decisive actions are subject to the imperative of operating choices whose route is unknown and where the unpredictable is part of the predictable historical march. On the one hand, situations of this nature focus on the action of human behavior in the historical event and, on the other, they destabilize relationships between word and action in which the word takes the position of the act. We are faced with a problem of the typology of culture, one that was not only given great importance by Lotman but also examined by him in different historical events of the political and legal world, reaching even the arts and freedom of expression. In all the occurrences examined, what is at stake is the emerging movement as new information. From the typological point of view, the manifested behaviors correspond to actions of individuals translated into acts whose meanings reverberate along the culture system. These are, therefore, deeply complex semiotic mechanisms of culture that are also susceptible to the instabilities and fluctuation of unbalanced situations and structures. Such is the outline of the semiotic problem studied by Lotman, whether in the 1980s with the essay *The Decembrist in Everyday Life, Universe of the Mind*, or in the book *The Unpredictable Mechanisms of Culture*, published posthumously.