

The case: Arthur Bispo do Rosário or the impossible *ekphrasis*. A semiotic approach of the *Brute Brazilian* work of art

Abstract

The article proposes to inquire the rhetorical figure of the ekphrasis. The interest is to locate the procedure of the speech inside “another” culture and to understand the way this reappropriation was built and included in itself. This procedure goes through the different definitions of this concept to understand how it is structured inside the speech of the perceptible. We will present the example of a schizophrenic Brazilian artist, Arthur Bispo do Rosário, who turned out to be a non-example of ekphrasis or a truthful and anti-ekphrasis itself regarding a “classic” conception of this rhetorical figure. The case of this well-known artist all around Brazil who dedicated his whole life in the creation of many different works of art (objects, shop windows, specters and a mantle of presentation) what has caused problems of interpretation and demands a pluridisciplinar approach (artistic, anthropological and semiotic) to be completely understood.

Keywords: ekphrasis; Arthur Bispo do Rosário; schizophrenia; artist.