



## Gestural metaphorical scenarios in acts of self-disclosure

Tomasz Dyrmo

(Faculty of English, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań)

PhD Supervisor(s): prof. UAM dr. hab. Małgorzata Fabiszak, dr Anna Jelec

Metaphors are pervasive: they have long been known to help us comprehend abstract phenomena in terms of more tangible entities (Lakoff and Johnson 1980, Kövecses 2010, 2015). Their presence is best evidenced by lexical expressions, such as “this film always *lifts* my spirit” or “I *see* what you mean”. Another source of metaphoricity that has come to the fore is gesture (cf. Cienki 2008, 2016). Metaphorical gestures, so those that are underpinned by conceptual metaphors, may form cognitively, communicatively, and discursively coherent units called **gestural metaphorical scenarios (GMS)** (Dyrmo, submitted). GMS is an extension of the notion of *metaphorical scenario* proposed by Musolff (2006, 2016) with a gestural element included.

In my presentation, I show that coming out, as an act of self-disclosure, is underpinned by several generic conceptual metaphors, such as KNOWING IS SEEING and SECRETS ARE OBJECTS, operating together with conduit metaphor (Reddy 1979), creating a gestural metaphorical scenario. The analysis of coming out narratives is based on the sample of 8 videos published on YouTube. After the relevant fragments and gestures were identified, I analysed them and found 3 stages of coming out shown in gesture: *the hidden object stage*, *the visible object stage*, and *the transfer stage*. The preliminary analysis shows that all of the stages are built upon KNOWING IS SEEING and objectification metaphors (Szwedek 2000a).

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