

Dal *significare* al *concupere*: alcune riflessioni sugli esiti della semantica di Buridano

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Abstract: This essay aims to deepen the semantic doctrine of John Buridan, in the light of the first three conclusions that he formulates in the first chapter of his *Sophismata*. In particular, it is shown how in the thought of the Parisian master the notion of signification is conceived as a transitive attitude, which spreads between the different levels of language and determines their relations of subordination. Particular attention is paid to the *evidentiae* proposed by the author in support of his theses. These arguments, in fact, turn out to be relevant not only for their theoretical pertinence, but also for their feature of fixing unequivocally the characteristics, as well as the speculative scope of some fundamental notions of scholastic logical doctrine. Eventually, one tries to show how at the basis of Buridan's theories lies the attention he devotes to the cognitive function performed by language, which justifies the passage from signifying (*significare*) to conceiving (*concupere*), as soon as the discursive dynamic reaches the mental level.