

# STEVEN JOHN THOMPSON

---

619.829.6499 • Baltimore, MD • Iconicologist@gmail.com • Iconics.ws  
FractalGeneration.com • Iconicles.info • Iconicology.com • MediaInformatics.biz • terrorisMedia.com • w8r.com

## Keywords/Research Fields

chaos and fractals • cognition • communication • cybernetics • cybersemiotics • emergence • iconics • media informatics • new AI • new media arts • philosophy of science, technology & society • presence • rhetorics • semantic code • semiotics • spiritual violence • terrorism • virtual poesis • virtual warfare • word and image

## Education

### Clemson University

Ph.D., Rhetorics, Communication, and Information Design, 2010.

Dissertation: "Rhetorics of Iconics: New Media Informatics, Terrorism, and Cybersemiotics." Chair: Steven B. Katz.

### Indiana University

M.S., Media Arts and Science, *School of Informatics, New Media Program*, 2004.

### The Pennsylvania State University

B.A., Media Studies, with High Distinction and Honors in Media Studies, 1997. *International Focus*.

B.A., Integrative Arts, with High Distinction and Honors in Media Studies, 1997. *New Media Concentration*.

Certificate, Minor in Science, Technology and Society (STS), *College of Engineering*, 1997.

A.A., Letters, Arts and Sciences, 1988.

### The University of Manchester, United Kingdom

Certificate, The Mass Media in Britain, 1995.

## Academic Experience

### Visiting Assistant Professor

 Towson University *College of Liberal Arts*

Towson, MD 2010-11

ENGL 317: *Writing for Business and Industry*. Two sections per semester.

ENGL 318 [Online]: *Advanced Informational Writing*. One section per semester.

PRWR 623 [Online]: *Technical Writing and Information Design*. One graduate seminar per semester.

### Instructor of Record

 Clemson University *College of Architecture, Arts and Humanities*

Clemson, SC 2006-10

COMM 107 [Online]: *Media Representations of Science & Technology*, one semester. One section.

COMM 150L: *Introduction to Human Communication*, four semesters. Ten total lab sections.

COMM 250: *Public Speaking*, two semesters. Four total sections.

ENGL 314: *Technical Writing*, two semesters. Four total sections.

### Instructor

 Platt College *Design Department*

San Diego, CA 2005-06

DES 101: *Design Basics*, five terms. Non-electronic studio. Principles and iterative processes of graphic design.

Brainstorming, idea development in various media, perspectives, line art techniques, and color theory.

IW 104: *Introduction to Web Design*, three terms. Studio for Website creation using Macromedia MX Suite.

### Research Scholar

 Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) *School of Informatics, Department of New Media*

Indianapolis, IN 2003-04

Research methods, procedures, and analyses of usability and suggested redesign for health informatics Website.

### Adjunct Faculty

 Education America University *Associate Degree Program in Internet Information Systems*

San Diego, CA 2002

IIS 250: *Internet Information Systems*, one term. HTML, JavaScript, and CSS.

### Adjunct Faculty

 University of Phoenix *Bachelor of Science in Information Technology Program, Web Track*

Southern CA Campus: Diamond Bar, Fountain Valley, Pasadena, and Saddleback 1999-02

WEB 350: *Internet Applications*, one term. Origin, history, and structure of the Internet.

WEB 410: *Web Programming I*, three terms. Basic HTML and JavaScript.

WEB 420: *Web Programming II*, three terms. Advanced JavaScript.

WEB 430: *Web Programming III*, one term. JAVA programming language.

WEB 445: *Network Administration*, two terms. Basic network, Internet server setup.  
WEB 450: *Special Topics*, two terms. Internet e-commerce, privacy, and security.

**Instructor** Learning Tree University  
Thousand Oaks, CA 1998  
D1E74: *Creating Web Pages with HTML*, three terms.

## Professional New Media Experience

**Principal Media Informatics LLC (Formerly WBR.COM and Manic Media LLC)**  
San Diego, CA 1995-08  
Owner of freelance Web design and development firm producing custom graphic design, multimedia development, research and analysis. Technological fulfillment on all aspects of variety of Internet-based media arts projects.

**Webmaster 2 San Diego City Schools**  
San Diego, CA 2004-05  
Lead contractor on team for Web management and design responsibilities of metropolitan school district.

**Creative Projects Manager Web Associates**  
San Luis Obispo, CA 1998-99  
Integrator for creative and technical projects. Conceived, designed, and designated development of B2C HP printer Websites. Provided senior design support to junior designers on Apple, Lucent, other client projects.

**Director of Web Development Pepperdine University**  
Malibu, CA 1997-98  
Designed, developed, and directed multimedia CD-ROM eportfolio project. NT4 Server network co-administration.

**Sr. Programmer/Analyst Northrop Grumman**  
Pico Rivera, CA 1997  
Design administration, consulting, and Web graphics development as contractor through Chipton-Ross.

**Webmaster WPSX-TV3**  
University Park, PA 1996-98  
Designed, developed, and administrated PBS media client's WeatherWorld Website.

## Professional Media Experience

**Staff Reporter The News-Item**  
Shamokin, PA 1991-92  
Daily news coverage, feature articles, op-ed pieces, interviews of academic, state government, and civic leaders.

**Administrative Services Manager Hershey-Philbin Associates**  
Harrisburg, PA 1987-89  
Office manager for over two years and PR manager with major market advertising firm for Fortune 500 clients.

**Broadcast Producer WMSP, Market Square Broadcasting Company**  
Harrisburg, PA 1987-89  
On-air producer/talent for originally-conceived four-hour classical music program *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik* in Top 50 market.

**Broadcaster WGCB, Red Lion Broadcasting Company**  
Red Lion, PA 1986-87  
On-air talent for radio and TV commercials, promos, PSAs, broadcast studio ops, SONY VHS editing.

**Broadcaster WPGM, Montrose Broadcasting Company**  
Danville, PA 1982-85  
Afternoon, evening drive for AM/FM radio station. Studio ops, news writing, and AP/UPI wire rewrites.

## Professional Media Experience [Part-Time 1982-92]

**Broadcaster: WHGB (MOYL), Scott Broadcasting Company, Harrisburg, PA.**  
**Broadcaster: WISL (Oldies), MJR Media, Inc., Shamokin, PA.**  
**Broadcaster: WKBO (CNN Headline News), Dame Media Inc., Harrisburg, PA.**  
**Broadcaster: WYGL (Country), Sunair Communications, Inc., Selinsgrove, PA.**  
**Feature Writer/Stringer: The Patriot/Sunday Patriot-News, Harrisburg, PA.**

## Reviewerships

**Associate Editor:** *Design Principles & Practices: An International Journal*, Vol. 2, 2008. Common Ground Publishing.

**Peer Reviewer:** *New Media & Society*, 2008-09. Sage Publications.

**Peer Reviewer:** *Technical Communication: Virtual Worlds, SE*, 2008. *Journal of the Society for Technical Communication*.

## Publications

Thompson, S. J. (2006). "Fearful Symmetries." *Artciencia*, Portfolio, Ano II, Numero 4. Agosto-Outubro, 2006.

Thompson, S. J. (1996). "Internet Connectivity: Addiction and Dependency Study." *Penn State McNair Journal*.

## Publications (Under Review)

Thompson, S. J. (2010). "Iconics: Icon Evolution in Digitality." *TripleC - Cognition, Communication, Co-operation: Open Access Journal for a Global Sustainable Information Society*. [Revise and Resubmit]

Thompson, S. J. (2008). "Iconicology of Media Terrorism: Positing Iconology for Impact as Globally-Mediated Iconics." *Terrorism & Political Violence aka Terrorism Research*. [Revise and Resubmit]

## Book Reviews

Thompson, S. J. (2008). Review of *The Handbook of Visual Communication: Theory, Methods, and Media* by Ken Smith, Sandra Moriarty, Gretchen Barbatsis, and Keith Kenney. *Business Communication Quarterly*, 2008; 71: 518-520. DOI: 10.1177/1080569908321862.

## Conference Proceedings

Thompson, S. J. (2009). Broadband Instantaneity: The Globalization of Media Messaging as Digital Weaponry. In Proceedings of The good, the bad and the challenging : the user and the future of information and communication technologies : a transdisciplinary conference, Copenhagen, Denmark , 13<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> May 2009 : conference proceedings / organized by Cost Action 298 Participation in the Broadband Society : editors Bartolomeo Sapio ... [et al.]. - [Vol. II, p. 638]. Koper : ABS Center, Slovenia, 2009.

Thompson, S. J. (2008). New Media Quicritiques: Pedagogical Practices in Visual Thinking and Group Collaboration. In Proceedings of World Conference on Educational Multimedia, Hypermedia and Telecommunications 2008 (p. 2741) Chesapeake VA AACE.

## Conference Presentations

"Iconics: The Symbiotic Structure of Icon, Media, and Terror in Cyberspace," London, U.K., September, 2010. Global Media and the 'War on Terror' International Conference. Organized by Communication and Media Research Institute (CAMRI) of the University of Westminster, London, in collaboration with the Department of Media and Communications, Goldsmiths, University of London.

"Event Iconics: Terrorism Rhetorics, New Media Informatics, and Virtual Warfare," Dublin, Ireland, September, 2010. Terrorism and New Media: Building a Research Network International Conference. Convened by the International Communication Working Group of the British International Studies Association (BISA) in partnership with the Centre for International Studies, School of Law & Government, Dublin City University.

"The New Global War on Words and Images: Citizenship, Free Speech, Journalism, and Sharia Laws," Boulder, CO, 2010. The 2010 Center for Media, Religion and Culture (CMRC) Conference: Islam and the Media, School of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Colorado-Boulder. Co-sponsored by Intersections of the Collegiate Church of New York, the Estlow Center for Journalism and New Media at the University of Denver, and the Multicultural Mosaic Foundation.

"New Media in Convergence: Channeling Iconic Media Influence and Impact," Washington, D.C., 2009. The 2009 Annual Meeting of the Society for Social Studies of Science (4S), Fairfax, VA.

"Masking Visual Persistence in Media Warfare: Digitality, Icon Value, and Iconic Storage," Belfast, Northern Ireland, 2009. Coloquios Internacionales Sobre Conflicto Y Agresion (CICA) and Society for Terrorism Research (STR) International Conference on Political Violence and Collective Aggression: Considering the Past, Imagining the Future, co-organized by the Social and Policy Research Institute at University of Ulster.

"Evolution of McLuhan's Icon War: Symbolism and Symbiosis of Terrorism in Media Warfare," Basel, Switzerland, 2009. Eikones Summer School, NCCR Iconic Criticism, Seminar 3 on *Possessed Pictures and Images: From Magic Icons to Animation in Painting, Photography, and Cinema* at University of Basel.

"Recursive/Relaxative/Redemptive: Poiesis of Fractal Art in Techne of New Media," Tel Aviv, Israel, 2009. Expertise: Media Specificity and Interdisciplinarity International Conference, Yolanda and David Katz Faculty of the Arts at Tel Aviv University.

"Memorable Media Representation: Collusion and Terrorism in Iconic Media Messaging," New Orleans, LA, 2009. Joint Conference of National Popular Culture and American Culture Associations.

"Shut Up or Die: The *Jyllands-Posten* Cartoons, Media Behaviorism, and Systemic Defiance," Zakopane, Poland, 2008. Coloquios Internacionales Sobre Conflicto Y Agresion (CICA) and Society for Terrorism Research (STR) International Conference on Aggression, Terrorism, and Human Rights co-organized by the Polish Association of Social Psychology (PASP), Institute of Psychology at Jagiellonian University.

"New Media Quicritiques: Pedagogical Practices in Visual Thinking and Group Collaboration," Vienna, Austria, 2008. Best Practices Session at ED-MEDIA-World Conference on Educational Multimedia, Hypermedia & Telecommunications, Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE) at Vienna University of Technology.

"Recognizing Rhetoriconics: The Strategic Positioning of Rhetorics for Iconic Media," New Orleans, LA, 2008. Research Network Forum pre-conference of the 2008 Conference on College Composition and Communication.

"Romancing the Bone: Access, Intimacy, and the Grammatologies of Craigslist.org," San Francisco, CA, 2008. Internet Culture Area of Joint Conference of National Popular Culture and American Culture Associations.

"Caught in the Middle: Between Terrorist Media and Psychosis," Manhattan, KS, 2008. The 17th Annual Cultural Studies Conference: Extremism and the Excluded Middle at Kansas State University.

"Information Design Finally Defined: The Art, Science, and Technology of Rhetorical Diligence in Media Discourse for Schematic Evidence of Cognitive Structures in Representational Display," Miami, FL, 2008. The Second International Conference on Design Principles & Practices at The University of Miami Conference Center.

"Iraconics: Positioning Media Iconics and Semiotics as Weapons on Western Consciousness," Miraflores de la Sierra, Spain, 2007. Coloquios Internacionales Sobre Conflicto Y Agresion (CICA) and Society for Terrorism Research (STR) International Conference on Interdisciplinary Analyses of Aggression & Terrorism at University of Madrid.

"Bastard Media: New Media, Obscenity, and Public Access," Iowa City, IA, 2007. Obermann Center for Advanced Studies Humanities Symposium at The University of Iowa.

"Internet Connectivity: Addiction and Dependency Study," Buffalo, NY and University Park, PA, 1996. Ronald McNair Conferences at State University of New York (SUNY) and The Pennsylvania State University.

## Grant Applications (\$100,000)

Thompson, S. J., Fishman, T., & Moquin, B. (2007). "The GED Widgee." HASTAC MacArthur Innovation Award.

Thompson, S. J. (2007). "Wisdom as a Weapon: Waging War, Warding Off Destruction, and Global Media." University of Chicago Arête Initiative Award.

## Academic Honors

Phi Beta Kappa Society

McNair Scholars Program

Fulbright Scholar Program, 1997. *Designated Alternate to Canada.*

University Scholars Program, The Pennsylvania State University, 1994 to 1997.

Class Marshal, College of Arts and Architecture, The Pennsylvania State University, Summer, 1997.

Class Marshal, College of Communication, The Pennsylvania State University, 1996. *Honor declined.*

Winner, Honors Research Fair, The Pennsylvania State University, 1996. *Ethics of CU-SeeMe Technology* poster.

Attachment to the *BBC*, White City, London, United Kingdom, 1995. *Panorama* television show.

## Awards and Scholarships

College of Architecture, Arts & Humanities Graduate Teaching Assistantship, Clemson University, 2006-10.

Graduate Student Government Professional Enrichment Grants, Clemson University, Fall 2009 and 2006.

Graduate Student Government Professional Enrichment Grant, Clemson University, Summer 2009.

School of Informatics Department of New Media Research Scholarship, Indiana University, 2003-04.

Seaver College Communication Division Graduate Assistantship, Pepperdine University, 1997.

General Trustees Merit Scholarships, The Pennsylvania State University, 1996 and 1994.

Bayard Kunkle Scholarship, The Pennsylvania State University, 1996.

Ronald McNair Scholars Program Summer Research Stipend, The Pennsylvania State University, 1996.  
International Undergraduate Education Award, The Pennsylvania State University, 1995.  
Proctor Scholarships, The Pennsylvania State University, 1995 and 1994.  
Alumni School of Communications Award, The Pennsylvania State University, 1994.  
Class of 22 Scholarship Award, The Pennsylvania State University, 1994.  
Class of 34 Scholarship Award, The Pennsylvania State University, 1994.

## Memberships

Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI)  
Association for Computing Machinery Special Interest Group on Artificial Intelligence (ACM-SIGART)  
Association of Internet Researchers (AoIR)  
European Association for the Study of Science and Technology (EASST)  
European Communication Research and Education Association (ECREA)  
Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Advanced Collaboratory (HASTAC)  
International Association for Computing and Philosophy (IACAP)  
International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR)  
International Association for Science, Technology & Society (IASTS)  
International Society for Presence Research (ISPR)  
Rhetoric Society of America (RSA)  
Society for Social Studies of Science (4S)  
Society for Terrorism Research (STR)  
Schweizer Informatik Gesellschaft (Swiss Informatics Society) (SI)

## Service

### *International*

**Online Senior Editor:** *The Cutting Edge News*, 2008-09.

**Research Editor:** *Feature Group, Inc.*, 2008-09.

**Panel Moderator:** Moderated seven presentation panels at ED-MEDIA-World Conference on Educational Multimedia, Hypermedia & Telecommunications, Vienna University of Technology, Vienna, Austria, 2008.

**Pirelli International Open Panel of Experts Judge:** *12th Edition of the Pirelli International Award*, 2008.

### *Clemson University*

**Tournament Judge:** *Pride of the Palmetto*, (NFA/NPDA) forensics tournament, 2009.

**Preliminary Round Judge:** *Tiger Speakout*, speech competitions, 2008-09.

**Preliminary Round Judge:** *Comm 250 Public Speaking*, speech competitions, 2006-09.

**Preliminary Round Judge:** *Clemson Cup*, speech competitions, 2006-07.

**Committee Member:** *College of Architecture, Arts & Humanities Basic Courses Committee*, 2006-07.

**Committee Member:** *Department of Communication Studies Visual Support Subcommittee*, 2006-07.

**Community Member:** *Teaching With Technology Community*, 2006-07.

## Client/Project List

**321ecommerce.com (2000)** Complete Website Design and Development • Corporate Stationery • Internet Branding

**Abraczinskas Nurseries (1996)** Complete Website Redesign and Development

**BCSHouston (2000)** Complete Flash Website Design and Development

**Bain & Company (2000)** Subcontractor for Company's Client Branding Project

**Bannerserver.com (2000)** Complete Website Redesign and Development

**Bluefingers.com (2000)** Complete Website Prototype

**Caveo Technology (2000)** Software Application Icon Creation

**Chessfinder.com (2000)** Logo Creation • Web Portal Page

**Clairestyle.com (2003)** Complete Flash Website Redesign and Development • Website Hosting and Maintenance

**Clear View Vision Care (2000)** Banner Ads • Logo Creation

**Conservatories Online (2000)** Banner Ads

**DateAsianGirls.com (2002)** Website Design and Development Prototype

**Digital Abacus (2006)** Subcontractor for Client Website Prototypes, Redesigns, Content Management Systems (CMS)

**Dryja Patent Attorney (2000)** Flash Website Interface Prototype

**Elance.com (2000)** Banner Ads • Flash Corporate Screensaver

**Electronic Transfer Inc. (2000)** Logo Creation

**Enfashion (2000)** Demo Application Interface Prototype for Online Dressing Rooms

**FlowersOnline.com (2000)** Complete E-commerce Website Redesign • Internet Branding • Logo Creation

**GlobalSynergies.net (2001)** Complete Website Design and Development • Internet Promotion

**Gloshop.com (2000)** Complete Website Design and Development Prototype

**Amy Holbrook (2007)** Web Blog Setup for Model (CMS)

**I-wonder Studios (2000)** Flash Animation Prototype for Web and Demo CD-ROM

**JZAinc.com (2001)** Complete Website Redesign and Development • Flash Website Intro

**Leviticus (2002)** CD Graphic Design for Musician • Complete Website Design • Website Hosting and Maintenance

**LifeSource (2001)** Banner Ads

**Light & Logic (2000)** Banner Ads

**Michael Mendez Photography (2003)** Flash Website Redesign • Website Hosting and Maintenance

**Metacom (2000)** Complete Flash Website Redesign and Development

**Metzger Animal Hospital (1996)** Complete Website Design and Development

**Mistral Images (2002)** Search Engine Analysis and Optimization

**Morro Bay Collaborative (1998)** Complete Website Design and Development

**MutualFriends.org (2003)** Complete Website Redesign and Development

**The Mythos Gallery (1998)** Complete Website Redesign and Development

**Networq (2000)** Complete Client Interactive Screensaver Prototype Project

**Penn State Department of Meteorology (1997)** Complete Website Redesign and Development

**Pepperdine University (1998)** Summer School Website Redesign and Development

**Planet Hair (2001)** Complete Website Redesign and Development • Website Hosting and Maintenance

**Pointroll.com (2000)** Interactive Flash Banner Ads

**PromoPages.com (2000)** Complete Flash Website Capabilities Demo

**Real Marketing (2000)** Banner Ads

**ScreenPerks (2000)** Interactive Flash Screensaver Demo

**Michael Taylor Art (2005)** Complete Flash Website Redesign and Development • Website Hosting and Maintenance

**TravelNow (2000)** Banner Ads

**Pamela Underwood Studios (2006)** Complete Website Redesign, Development, Hosting and Maintenance

**VEDO (2000)** Subcontractor for Company's Client Corporate Branding Project

**Voice/bannerz.co.uk (2000)** Banner Ads • Online Tutorial

## Exhibitions

### Fractal Art

Four Indianapolis sales venues in 2003: Corner Coffee, Modpod, Out Word Bound Books, and Sirens.

### Mixed Media

Digital Art, Pattee Library, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, 1996.

### Photography

One-Man Show, Claire de Lune, North Park, San Diego, CA, 2005.

"*Triptychs*," Pattee Library, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, 1994.

"*Triptychs*," One-Man Show, Public Library, Mount Carmel Area and Shamokin Area, PA, 1991.

"*On Bended Knee*," First Place, Bloomsburg State Fair, Bloomsburg, PA, 1991.

"*Victoria*," Second Place, Bloomsburg State Fair, Bloomsburg, PA, 1991.

"*On Bended Knee*," Best of Show, *25<sup>th</sup> Annual Juried Art Exhibition*, Trinity Lutheran Church, Camp Hill, PA, 1990.

## Performance

### AGENTS

The Bowman Agency, Lancaster, PA | The Cosden Agency, Los Angeles, CA | Helen Wells Agency, Carmel, IN

### FILM/TELEVISION

**On-camera Actor** • *Commercial* • Adelpia Media, Los Angeles, CA • 2006

**Extra** • *Commercial* • Thomas Productions, Carmel, IN • 2004

**On-camera Actor** • *Commercial* • Jerome's Furniture Stores, San Diego, CA • 2002

**On-camera Extra** • *Cable Network TV Series: Air America*, Ojai, CA • 1998

**On-camera Actor** • *Commercial* • Boscov's Department Stores, Harrisburg, PA • 1988

**On-camera Extra** • *Commercial* • Weis Markets, Harrisburg, PA • 1988

### PRINT

**Model** • *Magazine Ad* • Dick Spahr Photography, Carmel, IN • 2003

**Hand Model** • *Magazine Ad* • C-Lab/Electronic Musician, Lancaster, PA • 1989

**Hand Model** • *Magazine Ad* • JR Donnelley, Harrisburg, PA • 1989

**Hand and Portrait Model** • *Stock Photography* • Seitz & Seitz Studios, Harrisburg, PA • 1988-1989

**Corporate Model** • *Company Ads* • Kemp Company, Lancaster, PA • 1987-1989

### STAGE

**Role: Charles** • *Play: Paris Allen* • Frontline Theater, San Diego, CA • 2005

**Role: Carloni** • *Play: L.A. Brood* • Frontline Theater, San Diego, CA • 2005

**Role: Photographer** • *Play: The Balcony* • Playhouse Theater, State College, PA • 1976

**Role: Ensemble** • *Play: Unruly Children* • Pavilion Theater, State College, PA • 1976

### VIDEO

**On-camera Speaking Role** • *Corporate Video* • Giant Foods, Harrisburg, PA • 1989

**On-camera Role and Voiceover** • *Corporate Video* • JP Lilley Video, Harrisburg, PA • 1988

**Voiceover/Narrator** • *Non-profit Video* • Susquehanna Legal Services, Sunbury, PA • 1986

### TRAINING

**TV Commercial/Casting Director Workshops** • Actor's Institute of America (AIA) Studio, Burbank, CA

**Undergraduate Theater Major** (Freshman/Sophomore) • The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA