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MARCELO TRAMONTANO, VÍTOR LOCILENTO SANCHES, DIOGO COSTA PINTO,
ALEXANDER JAN ALBRECHT

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The Christ the Redeemer, whose photos make up the graphic design of the summary of this edition, is one of the best known symbols of Rio de Janeiro. This is a statue hundred feet high, located atop one of the highest hills in the city, and consists of an artistic representation of Jesus Christ. Although receiving many visitors daily, the vast majority of the millions of people who easily would identify it, across Brazil and in various parts of the world will never see it up close. They only know it through photos and movies, but they can recognize it in representations, as diverse as they are.

The images presented in the opening of this issue of V!RUS are representations of abstractions derived from that representation which the statue is. They portray objects and drawings designed from the knowledge that their creators believe they have of the monument in Rio. And these objects, in turn, illustrate what Flusser considered representations that operate less like windows to understand the object represented, and more like veils that conceal it, to become themselves representable objects.

This process of seeking to understand reality from its representation is the focal point of the articles that we are pleased to publish in this issue. Their authors have varied backgrounds and references, live in different countries, in different cultural contexts, and discourse in their writings about the way they represent ideas, processes, aspects of the physical world, among others. They employ in their research, graphic media, sound, either digital or not, as the cinematographic language, the theatrical, the musical, the artistic, the architectural at levels of coverage ranging from the scale of the body to the of the territory of a country. Their texts and their way of writing them are, ultimately, themselves representations of their ideas, which V!RUS 8 is pleased to offer for reading and thinking of its readers.

They are altogether eighteen articles, nine of them submitted and nine guests, including two articles by Nomads.usp researchers. The special guest of the issue is the multimedia artist and researcher Giselle Beiguelman who, in her article "Diagrammatic maps as critical devices for hyperlocalizability" discusses the ideas of location and relocation as from positions relative to representations of the world.

We also want to thank all the researchers who have kindly assisted us in the difficult task of selecting works for publication along these four years of the journal. Their contribution was crucial to ensure the quality of the interlocution proposed by the journal, and their names are below.

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