UNIVERSITÀ DI PARMA

Seminario di Dipartimento SMFI



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terrà un seminario dal titolo

Reading Art with a Fractal Lens

Abstract art inevitably presents the viewers with the problem of interpretation. The pioneers of non-figurative art developed purely geometrical modes of expression, which a century later remain enigmatic. And abstract expressionist works continue to challenge museum goers and art historians alike. When a narrative content is absent, a new computational tool for visualizing the inner structure of art (and other images), fractal contour, a scale-dependent function, may supplant insights. Unlike discrete spectra in a traditional scaling analysis, fractal contours avoid any fitting routines and can be used as measuring devices. Key properties and classes of equivalence are presented and illustrated on a set of ordered and random synthetic patterns, black and white and in grayscale. The utility and sensitivity of this approach is demonstrated on nine contrasting paintings by acknowledged masters of abstract art, from color field to abstract expressionism. A few other applications will also be mentioned.

26/11/2026, ore 16:30, Aula Newton (plesso fisica)