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The Life of Forms & the Forms of Life

Autumn symposium 13-14 October 2011



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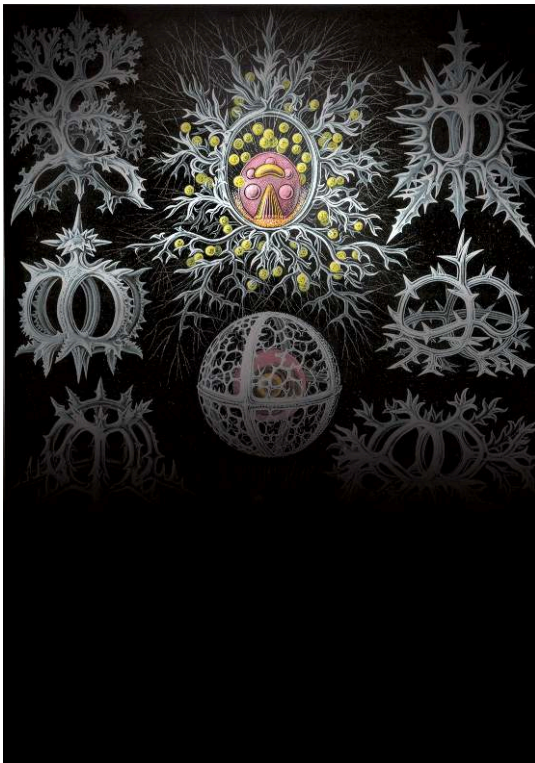
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The Life of Forms & the Forms of Life

Autumn symposium 13-14 October 2011

- 1 Excerpts from the talks of Jean-Pierre Changeux, Philippe Descola, Antoine Compagnon, John Scheid, and François-Bernard Mâche.



- 2 This symposium was devoted to the notion of “form” in a multidisciplinary context ranging from its definition in the philosophies of Plato and Aristotle, its mathematical applications, its origins with the structure of the atom and the genesis of life, and its application in molecular and supra-molecular chemistry, to the morphogenesis of living organisms and its consequences in psychology and linguistics, anthropology and

the arts. These debates have afforded an opportunity to re-examine the question of *intelligent design*, of Turing's laws, of Claude Lévi-Strauss' structuralism and of Henri Focillon's observations – from which the title “The Life of Forms” was taken – as well as those made by André Chastel in *Fables, Forms and Figures*.