

# Preface of the Series Editor

## Jerome Bruner: The Psychology in Its Making

It was a sunny early afternoon of June in 2011. Jerry Bruner and I were sitting in a nice restaurant in front of the sea in Salerno (Italy). During our endless conversation after lunch we started entertain a project: to write something in the same vein of the *Six Memos for the Next Millennium* written by Italo Calvino (1988) (original Italian title: *Lezioni americane. Sei proposte per il prossimo millennio*): a kind of book based on the series of Bruner's lectures in Italy. That idea keep stayed at the periphery of our minds for a long time and sometimes resurfaced in our later meetings.

But life is nothing then a constant effort in cultivating new possibilities and that idea, which has flown over our heads for years, has been elaborated and now become a tangible book placed in the Springer Books Series *Cultural Psychology of Education* that I'm editing.

After the inaugural book (Marsico et al. 2015) that was devoted to rethink the relationship between actors, practices, and borders within the educational contexts, this second book gives a substantial contribution to the recent advances in cultural psychology by looking at the extraordinary scientific production of Jerome Bruner in the special occasion of his centennial.

This book, in fact, is meant to celebrate the 100th birthday of Jerome Bruner, one of the most relevant scholars in contemporary psychology. Though his contribution to psychology, education, and law has been massive, Bruner oeuvre has still a lot to say in terms of unexplored possibilities. The book "Jerome S. Bruner beyond 100: Cultivating Possibilities" is collecting contribution from Bruner's students and colleagues worldwide that will try to use his legacy to look forward to the future of psychology, exactly in the spirit that Bruner himself is still interpreting. Thus, no celebration but a "genuine interest for the emergence of the novelty" and the potentialities that Bruner's work in cultural psychology can still develop, with concepts such as ambivalence, intersubjectivity, purpose, possibilities, wonderment. The book shares the interdisciplinary perspectives of scholars coming

from the different world areas—USA, Italy, Brazil, France, Denmark, UK—and different fields—psychology, education, law, philosophy, computing sciences—who provide the tale of Bruner's academic and personal life and what is still to be done on the basis of his scientific production. The volume contains also an interview to Jerry Bruner and an almost inedited work of him.

This book is unique in its nature and is the only one published in this special occasion. As it would be clear in the next pages, the aim of the book is not only to celebrate Jerry's extraordinary career, but mostly his natural tendency to think about lives developmentally. This idea permeates the whole volume and it is announced already in the book's title: *Jerome S. Bruner's beyond 100: Cultivating Possibilities*.

Salerno, Italy  
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Giuseppina Marsico

## References

- Calvino, I. (1988). *Six Memos for the next millennium*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.
- Marsico, G., Dazzani, V., Ristum, M., & Bastos A. C. (Eds.). (2015). *Educational contexts and borders through a cultural lens—looking inside. Viewing outside. Cultural Psychology of Education* (Vol. 1). Cham, Switzerland: Springer.

Jerome S. Bruner beyond 100

Cultivating Possibilities

Marsico, G. (Ed.)

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