

Propositions

Related to the thesis

1. Mainstream economics treats the performing arts as it would broadly treat any other industry. The exploration of the workings of the field have been within the limits of neoclassical economics and those are rather restrictive.
2. The perspective that practitioners of performing arts have, express and use in their daily lives regarding their activity is of a different nature from that of any other person observing the field, it defines the social ontology of the performing arts and it is inquirer-independent.
3. Economics applied explanatory unification to the performing arts; the discipline makes of the economics of the performing arts a case of economics imperialism. The economics of the performing arts follows mainstream economics by also pursuing explanatory unification as a way of gaining knowledge of its field of study.
4. Theatre practitioners are not misusing economic concepts; it is rather economists who are misinterpreting the economy of theatre practice.
5. Economics' failure in representing the world may lead to policy failures to affect the world in a constructive way. Not only poorly informed politicians will forcibly apply poor political measures that will likely miss the point in terms of the needs of the field; but also, even if the political measures are good and would have a positive effect in the field, failure to connect with practitioners and informed people may hinder the possibilities of those measures to actually be implemented.
6. Involuntary racism may be conceptualized as an unintended consequence of people's preferences, but we know that preferences are often unstable and that, in many cases, the accumulated experience is essential in their formation. The dynamics of the construction of preferences, that will lead to actions that end up constituting some kind of racism, may be dependent not only on the amount of knowledge one has about the other, but more importantly on the quality of information the individual has access to. Take the case of preferences towards music, we can listen repeatedly to music of a very low degree of complexity and never leave that stage of tolerance to other sounds, but if we vary the kind of music that we subject ourselves to, we begin to appreciate the difference, the nuances, what lies behind the apparently annoying notes.
7. Due to the increasing complexity of society, institutions of Public Administration have become more relevant because they are expected to regulate and even manage a lot of the activity of that complex society; so these institutions are now required to have an adaptive capacity of an unprecedented nature. Consequently, the scientific disciplines that may contribute to a better understanding of the field must also take into account these dynamics, making of the study of Public Administration maybe not a discipline per se, but a cluster of disciplines that tackle the multitude of subjects that are puzzling in this area.
8. The issue of value and valuation can foster or hinder economic relationships at levels that go as far as the bilateral relations between countries. It is, thus, important to insert in the common discourse of economics that market and government values are not enough for ensuring good international trade and cooperation.

9. The challenge for someone embracing alternative ways of viewing economic science is to be open enough to hear voices and opinions that run counter to formulations that have been taken for granted since long and that are, in fact, part of the current conception of the economic life of people. But when one starts questioning things that are regularly taught in economics courses or things that are daily conveyed in news about the economy, one finds missing a cogent alternative economics, one that presents more solutions than problems, one that does not need the fight against mainstream economics to exist. The construction of good plural theories of economics is pressing.
10. There is an extreme polarization of theater groups' activities and public support in the area of Greater Lisbon and it is derived from the relation between a strong concentration of artists and artistic organizations in urban territory, and a similar phenomenon regarding audiences. The production of arts marks the territory, but the territory in turn marks the production of arts.
11. Just as people in the past used God and religion to justify everything that happened to them and in society, people now do the same with economics. Every aspect of human life can be conceptualized within the context of economics and the arguments based on it have become the most compelling ones.