This issue of ESTUDOS AVANÇADOS addresses both the reiterated interest of the Institute of Advanced Studies of the University of São Paulo in discussing our public policies and its vocation to disseminate works of a strictly theoretical nature.

Public transportation, understood as one’s right to one’s own city, is the subject matter of the opening dossier. Not by chance, the so-called “June Days” demanded first and foremost urban transportation of better quality, as well as democratized fares. The question of space, implicit in the struggle for one’s right to the city, rises to the category of a sociological issue in the dossier “Space in Social Life,” insightfully organized by professor Fraya Frehse. The high conceptual density of the essays by Simmel, Foucault, Lefebvre and Bourdieu allow no summarization, but is certainly an invitation to reading and reflection.

Texts on Kierkegaard (as read by Adorno) and on the controversial Cartesian dualism constitute fitting reinterpretations of these classics of Philosophy.

The oft-overlooked wealth of popular culture, revived in music and in folklore, is the object of a specific dossier that pays posthumous tribute to the unique work of Oswaldo Elias Xidieh.

Finally, it is an honor and a joy to print an unpublished text by Graciliano Ramos, namely, the second chapter of an unfinished roman à cle. Our thanks to professor Erwin Torralbo Gimenez, who forwarded and presented these heretofore unknown pages of one of the greatest Brazilian writers of all time.