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UITNODIGING

Bij deze wil ik je graag uitnodigen voor het bijwonen van de verdediging van mijn dissertatie, getiteld:

Darwinian Explanations of the Origin of Language

op 1 oktober 2009 om 15:45 in de aula van de Vrije Universiteit, De Boelelaan 1105 te Amsterdam.

Na afloop is er gelegenheid tot feliciteren.

Michel Heijdra

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Since the publication 150 years ago of the *Origin of Species*, Darwin's work has invaded many branches of science. However, those invasions remain a field of hefty debate. This is also the case for evolutionary accounts of the origin of language. The problem of the origin of language can and has to be viewed from at least two sides: the origin of language abilities (speech organs, neurological mechanisms behind language use) and the origin of (proto-)linguistic forms (sounds and sound patterns, words, syntactical structure). The former fall more in the realm of biology, the latter in the realm of culture, but any complete explanation of the origin of language will have to consider both and their entanglement. This dissertation tries to encompass both sides by applying the Darwinian dual inheritance theory to this problem.

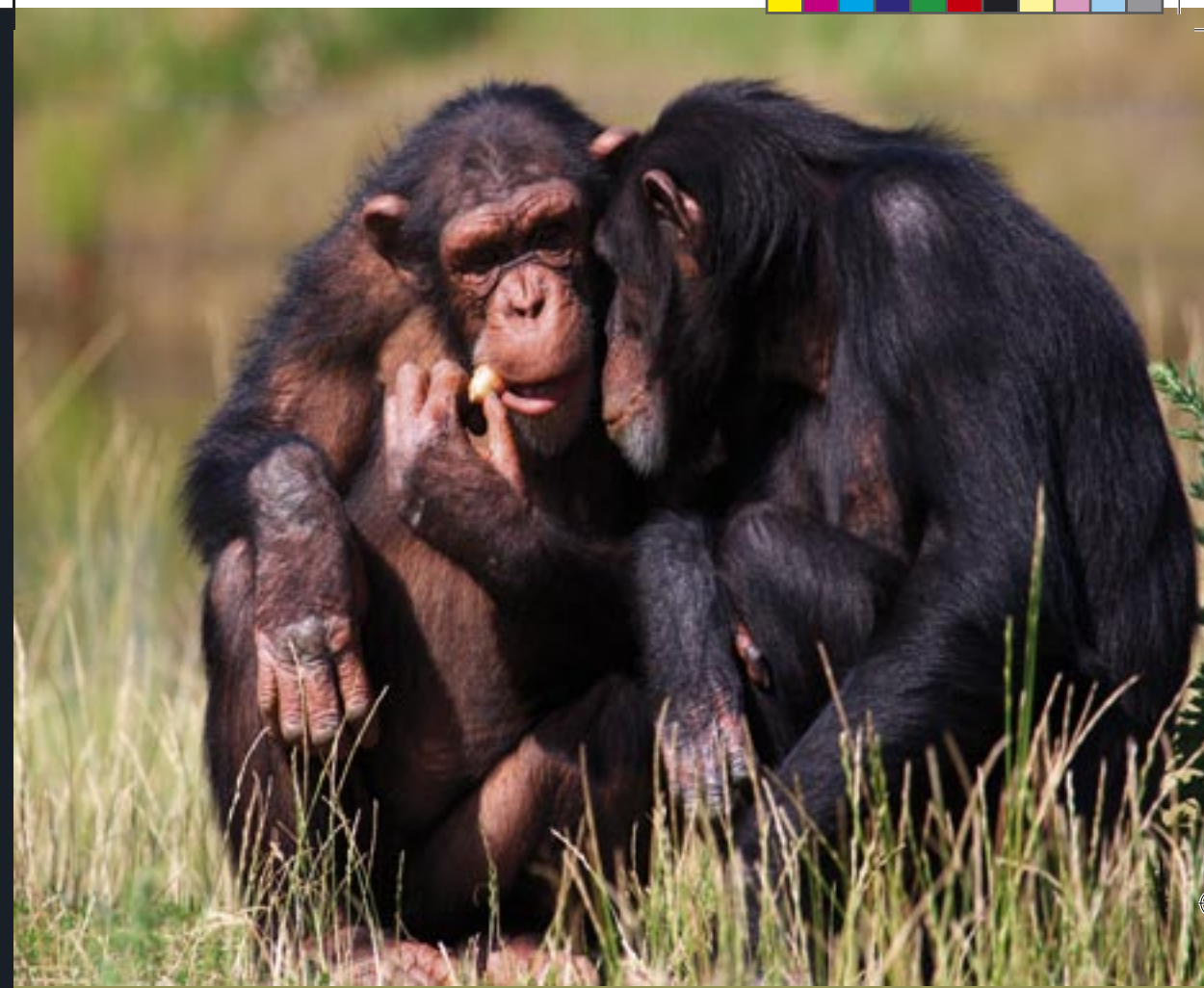
The author, Michel Heijdra, studied physics in Leiden, Utrecht and Twente and philosophy in Leiden and Berlin. He did his PhD at the VU in Amsterdam. He worked as a strategy consultant and is currently employed at the Dutch Ministry of Finance in The Hague.

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