

# **Foundational Issues in Linguistic Theory**

**Essays in Honor of Jean-Roger Vergnaud**

**edited by Robert Freidin, Carlos P. Otero, and Maria Luisa Zubizarreta**

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## Jean-Roger and Paul Gauguin Have a Chat

Samuel Jay Keyser

*D'où venons-nous?*

Why ask such questions, vieille peau?

What does it matter

where we came from?

*Où allons nous?*

What does it matter? If the next stop

and the last stop are the same stop,

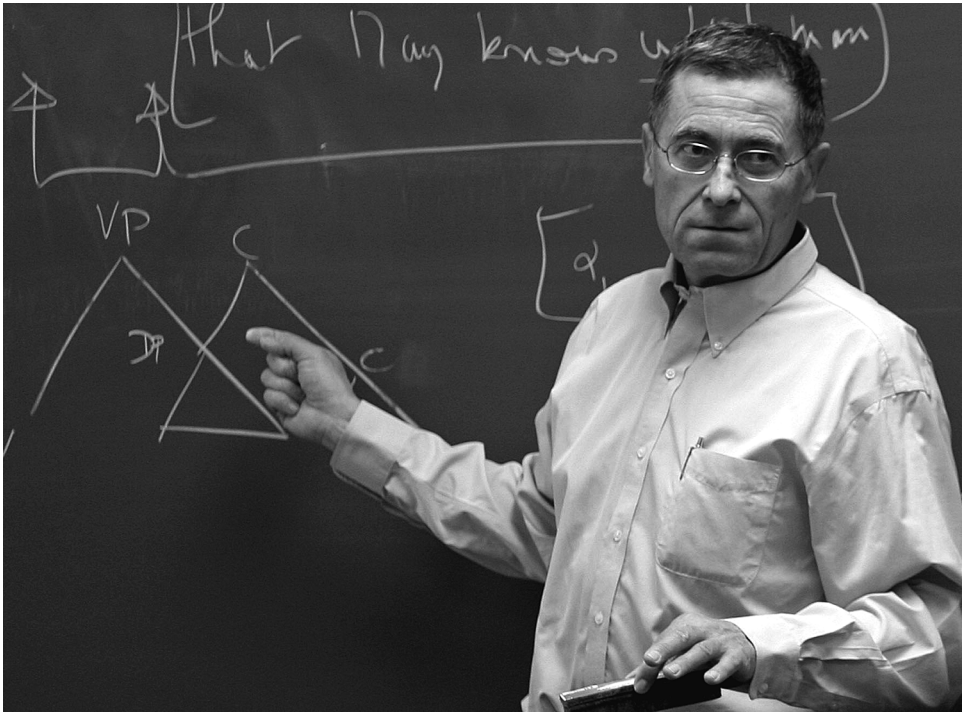
either way one has to get off.

*Qui sommes-nous?*

Now that's more like it, old skin.

Like your fine Maori cup,

we can get a handle on that.



Jean-Roger Vergnaud. Photograph by Antonio Nava.