

COSMIC ART AND THE UNDERSTANDING OF BEAUTY

Cosmic Art is my world!

These are but a few simple words that speak of the various processes of our cosmic evolution; an evolution which cannot be described by means of any logical knowledge. One such process is the creative and transformative power of images, wrapped in poetic form, born on the precarious assembly of memory, dreams and fantasies ...To put it simply, I try to understand the beauty of the universe, where reality is carved out of time and interwoven with my own inner world.



Today we are faced with the propaganda of violence in movies, games, Internet ...where billions of dollars are made simply by exploiting human vices; where beauty is called glamour, where love really, is a mere convenience. We have created a world where few profit from the dullness of millions, where art is only a decor, a commodity that is reproduced at will!

The only way out of this downward spiral is for humanity to understand and accept that life itself is the only true beauty and that only through it can we return to kindness and

love! Thus, the credo of cosmic art is to build awareness to beauty, our inner one.

A good representative of such philosophy in art is N.K. Roerich. Roerich once wrote: "The awareness of beauty will save the world. Culture is the worship of the Light, culture is the love of humanity, and culture is our own saving... If one collects all the

different definitions of culture, one can find an efficient synthesis of true peace and perhaps a new perception in the creativity of beauty".

Russian philosophers of the Silver Age (early 20th century), Florensky, Solovyov, Berdyaev, developed the same idea about the transforming power of beauty. N.A. Berdyaev wrote: "Every creative act is a partial transformation of life. Artistic perceptions offer us enlightenment and liberation, because a creative and artistic attitude toward the world simply opens up whole new worlds. The absolute necessity of the perception of beauty in this world is simply to break through its ugliness and open us to another world, hopefully a world of peace and benevolence".

This idea of the transformative power of beauty is not unique and was further developed in the books "Living Ethics", by E.I. Roerich; the writings were done in collaboration with Buddhist Mahatmas during the twenties and the thirties of the 20th. Century. These writings bring us a new vision on world energies; they speak of the relationships between man and the cosmos, depicting the interpenetrating nature of each other and their existence as one single reality. Such a unified view, embracing both, micro and macro levels and spiritualized matter, is called "cosmic". The teachings of "Living Ethics" also argue that the recognition of beauty is one of the main driving forces of evolution, that it defines human energy and raises its consciousness. As the creators of "Living Ethics" wrote, "Truly, the treasures of art bring exaltation to mankind, and openness of spiritual based creativity gives humanity a new understanding of beauty." In my mind, these teachings refer to the physical nature of all things, in particular, about the physical, material nature of thoughts. The Buddhist monks very well described these concepts of the materiality of the universe, including of our thoughts and soul, for well over a thousand years ago, before E.I. Roerich's writing.

The best paintings are those, which you are never tired to look at; one must have the urge to want to live in the reality, artist created on the canvas. Many times I heard people saying that they wanted to go inside my canvases, to experience that dream reality which I create... This is highest compliment for me as an artist. My paintings are very much influenced by history, legends and my own dreams, based on history knowledge. I was able to create my own style, which is not easy in our modern world when every possible style and media has been expressed! I did nothing on purpose to be different then other artists. It happened naturally because I simply splash my feelings on canvas.

Cosmic artists thus depict a subtle world in their imagined worlds of beauty. Their reality is of doubtless of a higher order, but it is no less as objective than our real living world. The concept is not new either; since long and ancient times, art always aimed at connecting the earthly world with higher ones, a process that would connect the soul to higher levels. Looking at European traditions, both in Antiquity and in the Middle Ages, the main subject of any art was not about the physical world, but about a spiritual world where, somehow, our bodies and soul could emerge intact. In ancient Greece, art was primarily religious; the perfection of the human

body thrived to show the power of the gods, and portraits of historical persons expressed spiritual qualities rather than physical resemblance.

Cosmic artists create a new space, showing spirit and humanity as one. They create a new space where inhabitants of the heavens can walk on earth, where matter can be transformed, and where humans can reach a Godlike state of love to one another.

This infinite space is so close to me and to my understanding of the world of beauty.

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