

Is it is or is it ain't?

BINARY ANALOGY

How could it be that the invention of a fully automated system for weaving patterns on fabrics by Joseph Marie Jacquard (1752 – 1834) has to do with the digital interface widely used today in contemporary music-making known as Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI)? Was the ancient system of i-ching merely an art of divination or did it influence, shape and transform our modern day psychology to map and access the human mind (Carl Jung) and also serve as a philosophical instrument on the studies of relational harmony / modal metaphysical properties (Gottfried Leibniz)? Can the handicraft technique of embroidery be employed to illustrate love and challenge the definition of obscenity, and can we knit an undisputable 'work of art'? What do the origins of the theory of gambling, lottery, musical compositions, social media and chaos theory's genetic algorithm have in common?

Arithmetic formulas, mathematical patterns of ancient Kalachakra Tantra, the Pythagoreans and the i-Ching yield numeric expressions and temporal laws that would one day pave and transform the way we perceive reality, beginning in the last century: the binary process has so far managed to function as a closed computational system which employs temporal returns and repetitions that render 'reality' virtually and to reproduce 'originality' to astonishingly high fidelity. Analogue representation, on the other hand, has been once again revived and seen returning to the foreground in recent times, testifying to the fact that some things cannot be captured digitally, escaping even the omnipotent decoding / encoding might of the binary system. Like in Plato's cave, perhaps we the people are slowly coming to realisation that what we regard as 'reality' is but a dance of shadows on the cave wall, only dimly reflecting the beauty and glory of truth itself – just as what Velimir Khlebnikov's concept on the profound connections and interdependence between macro and microcosm, of the mind and body, where past is in fact conditioned by the future and vice versa, in nonlinear time-cycles.

The Catalyst is fervent to present you Binary Analogy, the continuation of an ongoing undertaking of excursions and explorations into the deep time structures where these seemingly opposing concepts and systems intertwine or even overlap technically, visually and musically, while some in part run parallel. Binary Analogy seeks to present works whose very nature are deeply engaged in an experimental aesthetic praxis in symbiosis with sciences and technology, though they manifested and materialised in great diversity; of optical, acoustic, (electro)magnetic, and other visual combinatorial results.

BINARY ANALOGY 25TH DECEMBER 2020- 14TH FEBRUARY 2021
OPENING HOURS: WEDNESDAY – SUNDAY, 1230-1830
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