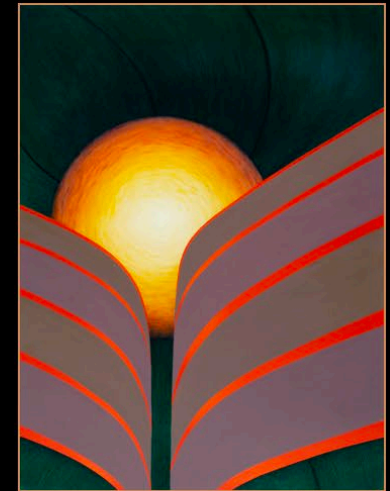
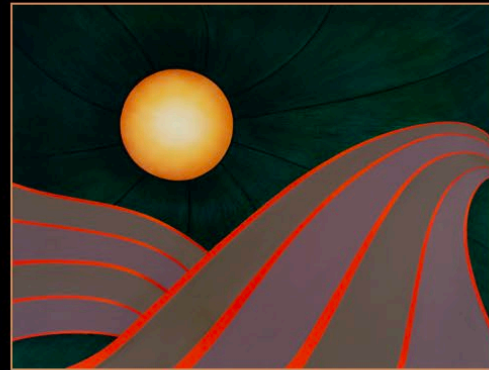
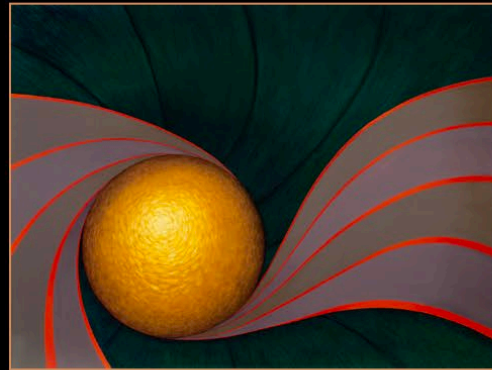
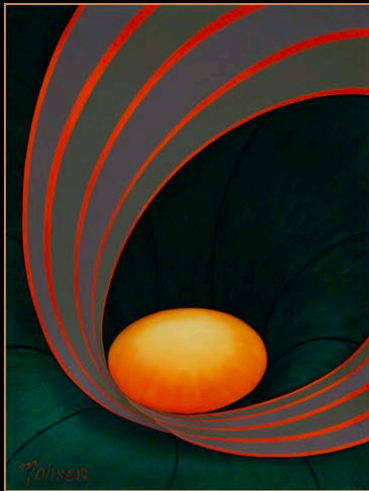


# 34th Presentation of Art and Science

## How to See with Artistic and Scientific Eyes



Symvisio II, Nothing and Everything, Oil on Canvas, 48" x 210", 2001

Mohsen Janatpour, April 7, 2023, College of San Mateo

# Mental Imagery In Art and Science

College of San Mateo  
Friday, April 02, 2004 7:30pm



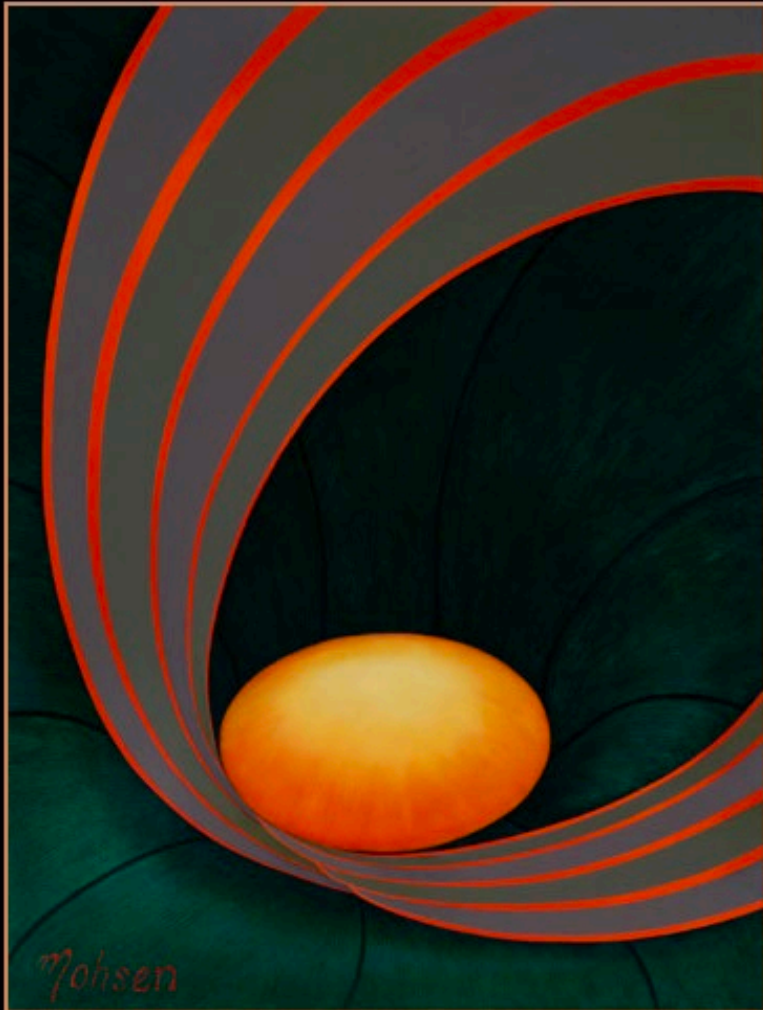
Music of Spheres • Oil on Canvas • 36" x 48" • ©1998



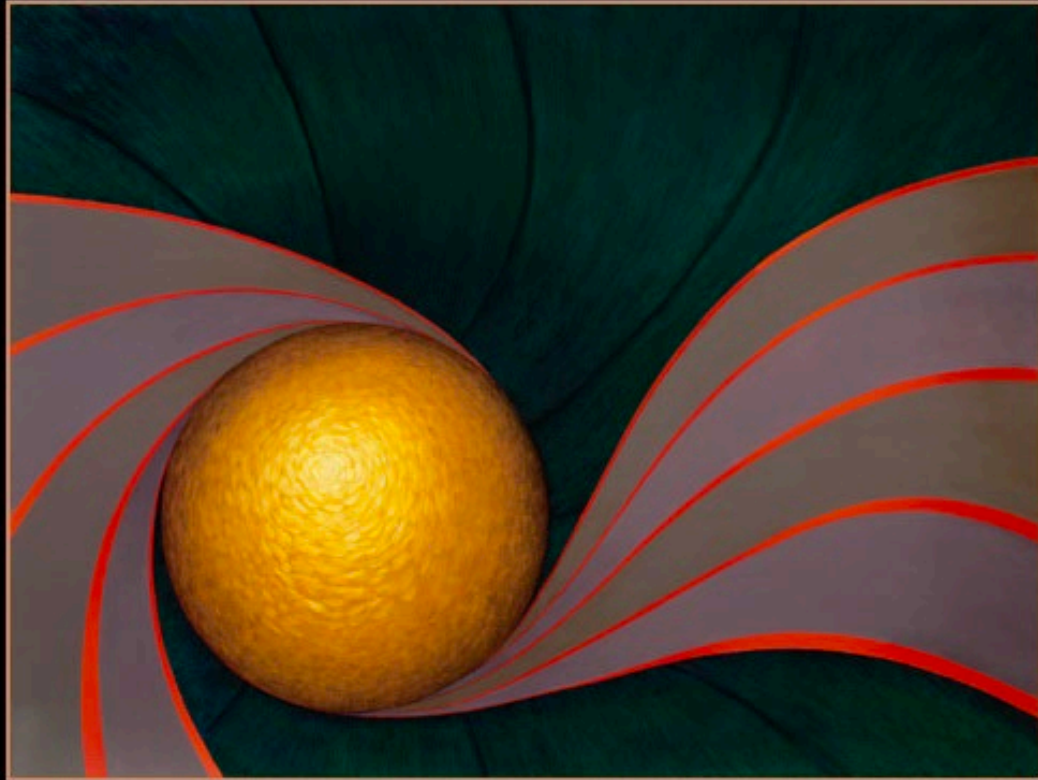
Indian Bride • Oil on Canvas • 48" x 36" • ©2003

# EXPERIMENTS

- ❖ According to Ivan Pavlov, there are “two categories of people — artists and thinkers. Between them, there is a marked difference. The artists ... comprehend reality as a whole, as continuity, a complete living reality, without divisions, without any separations. The other group, the thinkers, pull it apart, kill it. ...”
- ❖ Do you agree or disagree?
- ❖ Visualize yourself as you are today
- ❖ Visualize your residence
- ❖ Imagine yourself five years younger and recall how you felt about ...
- ❖ Keep these results in mind, and let’s get started!



Let us start by noticing that we have two universes, an inner one and an outer one, separated by our bodies.



And we instinctively  
Yearn to explain the  
outer universe and  
express the inner one.

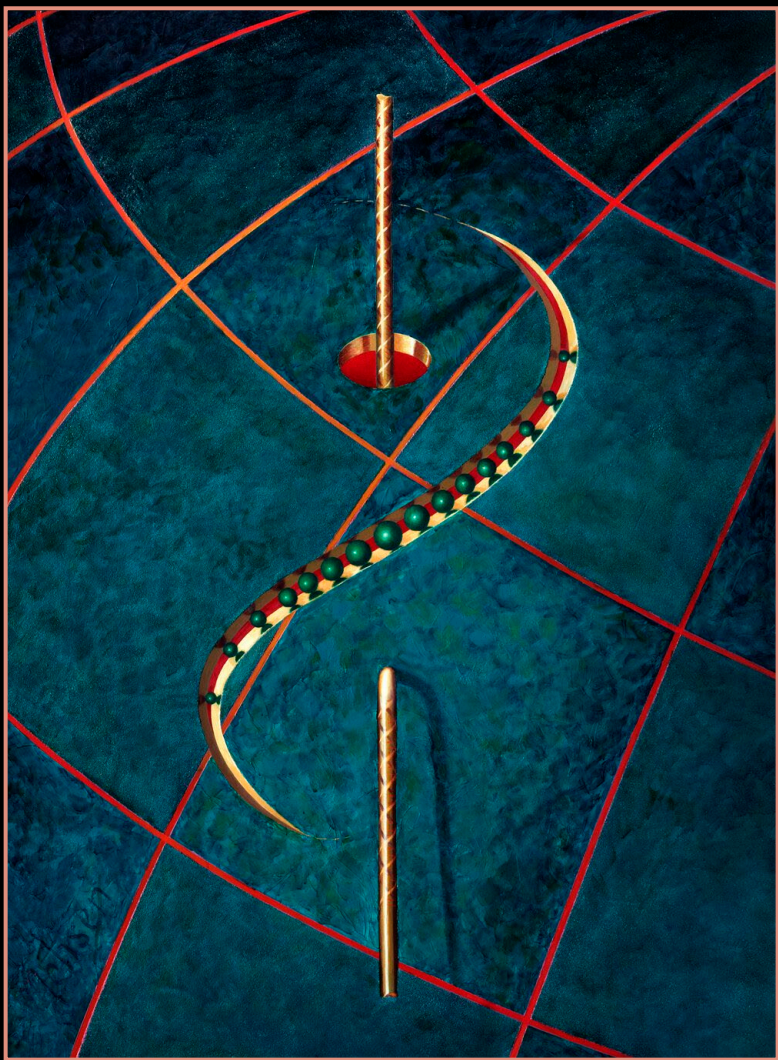


And harmony in life  
requires a consistent  
integration of these  
worlds

How are the two universes integrated?



To that end, we should notice that mental imagery is the primary connection between the two universes.



Indeed,  
mental imagery of our outer  
universe's experiences and  
observations is the primary  
building block of the  
subconscious and conscious  
parts of our inner universe.

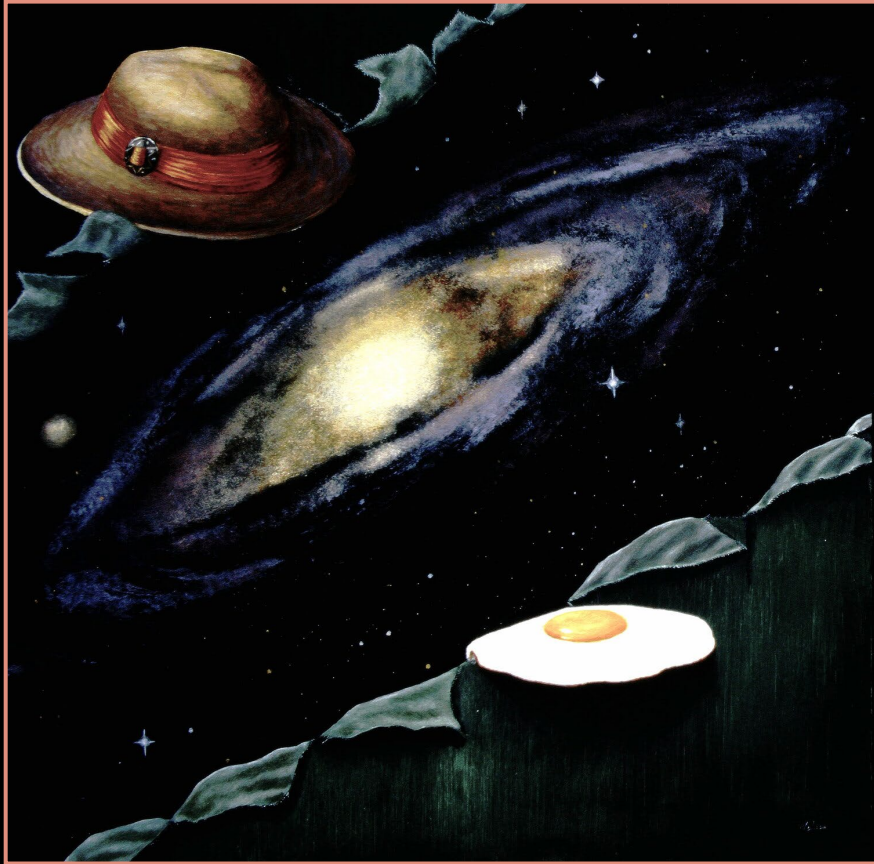




Respectively, the arts and sciences, as human behavior, are two tools that help us to express and explain our worlds.



Thus,  
as I see it, the arts and  
sciences are vehicles  
for transporting the  
elements between the  
two universes.



Traditionally, one uses  
one of these tools to the  
exclusion of the other.

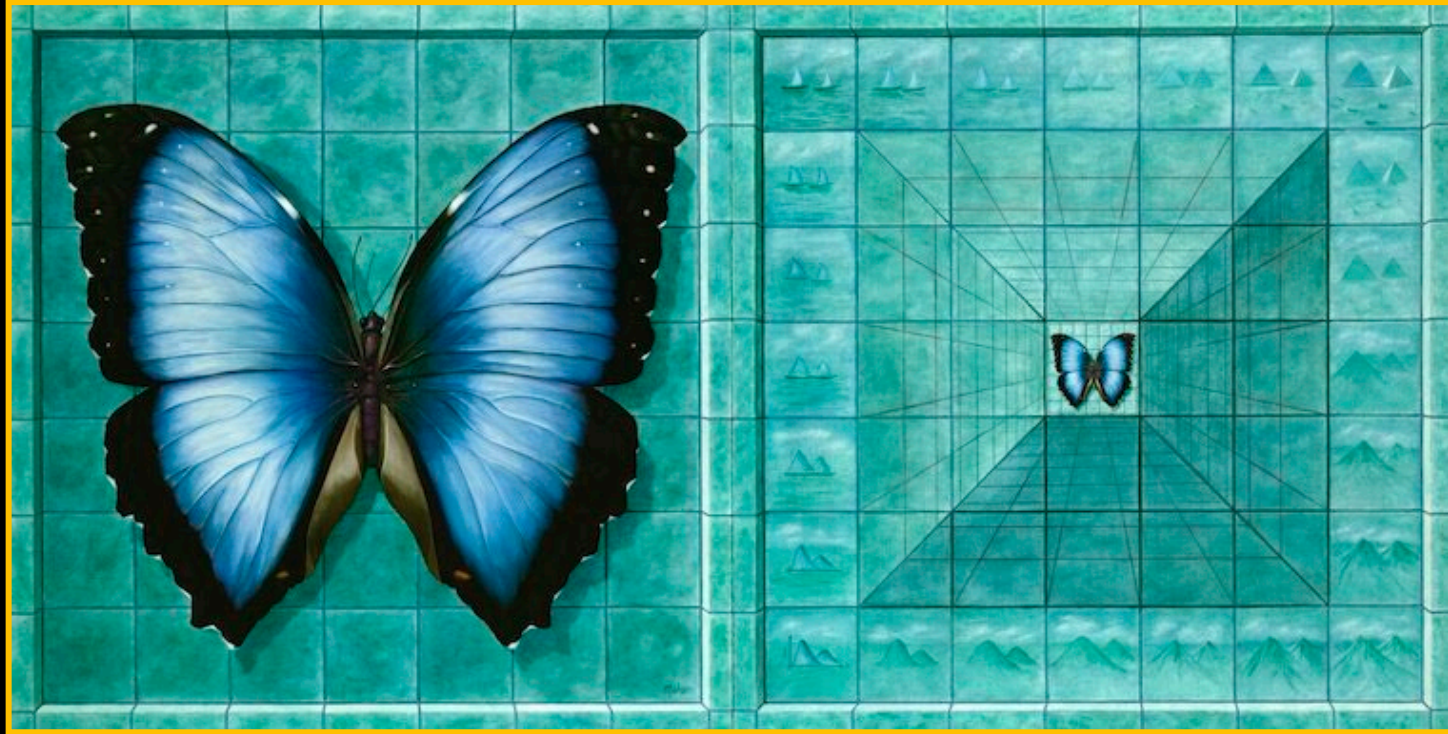
But I think otherwise!



The clarification of thoughts and emotions

The feeling of thoughts and emotions

## Explanation vs. Expression



# “Conjunctive Theory: Mental Imagery in the Arts and Sciences”

By Mohsen Janatpour, Cognella Academic Publishing

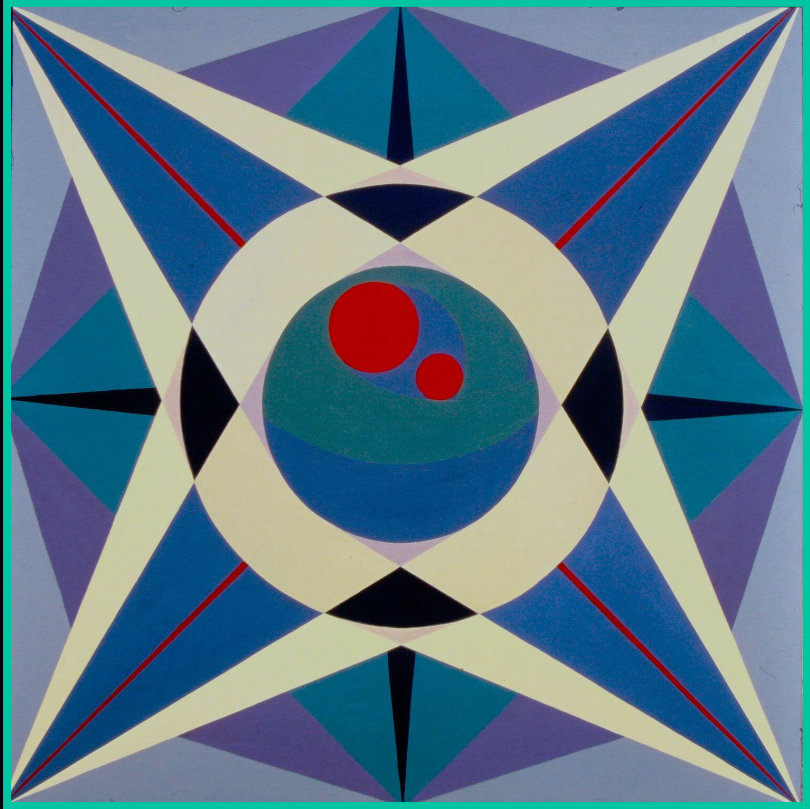
# CONJUNCTIVE THEORY

- Distinguishes between mental states and brain states; one is psychological, and the other is physical.
- Brain states come in two varieties: One category is brain states that are activated primarily by signals from the sense organs. I refer to these brain states as Object-Triggered Brain States (OTBS). The other category is the brain states activated by signals from a combination of other brain states. I refer to these brain states as Emergence-Triggered Brain States (ETBS).
- Mental images are mental states supervening over the conjunction of both types of brain states.

# CONJUNCTIVE THEORY (CONTINUED)

- Mental image of any quality has an OTBS and an ETBS component.
- The kind of quality a mental image represents is determined by the ratio of its OTBS and ETBS components.



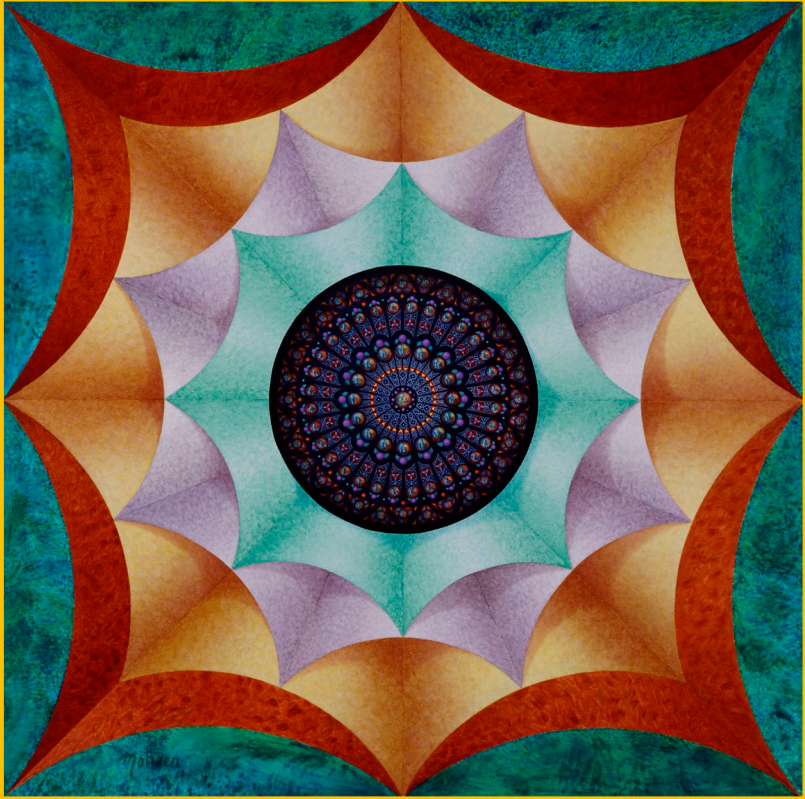


It follows that any mental imagery involved in creating artwork or developing scientific theory relies on the human's inner and outer universe.



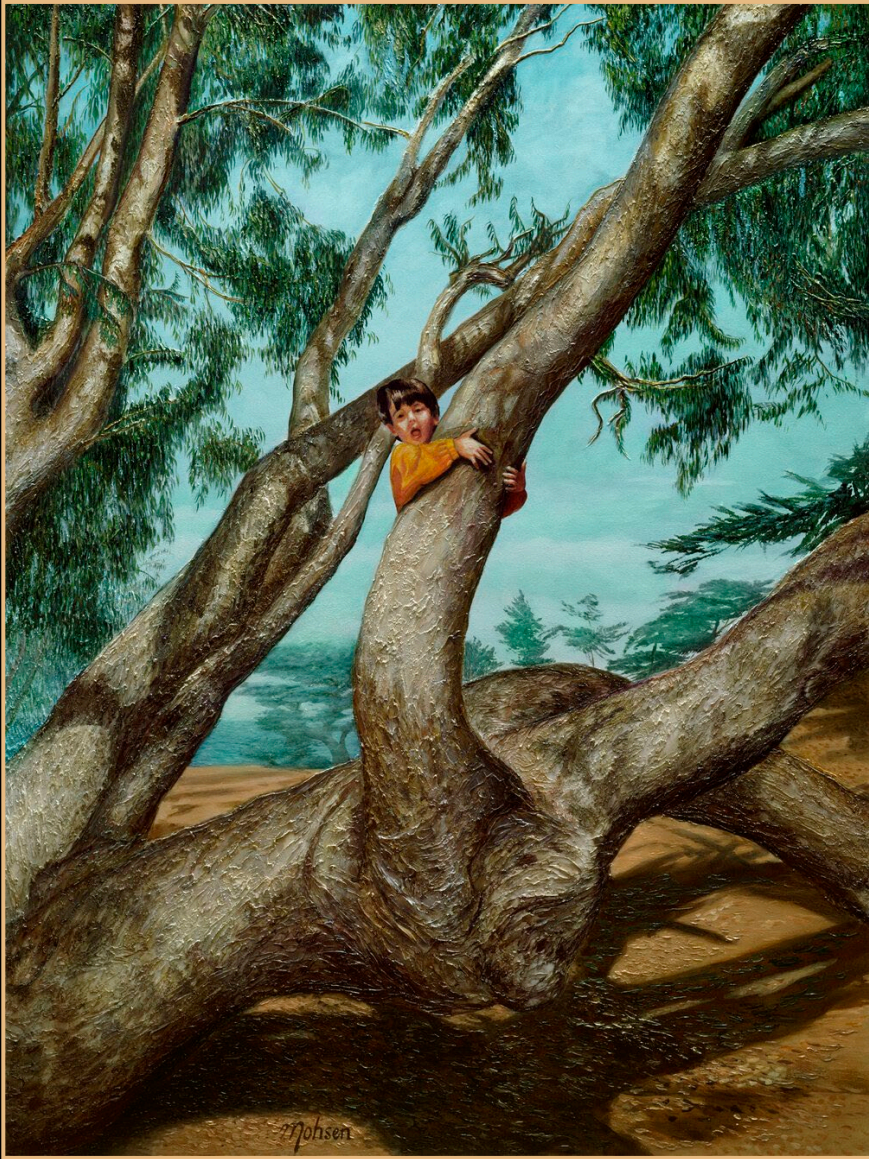


Thus, both artworks and scientific theories explain something and express something.



If one accepts the previous assertion, it follows that our reality is enriched by looking at it with artistic **and** scientific eyes.

The question is: **How?**



“Arts and sciences are branches of the same tree” and “we do art when we communicate through forms whose connections are not accessible to the conscious mind yet we intuitively recognize them as something meaningful”.

Albert Einstein



According to the conjunctive theory, the essence of art is the creation of beauty, provided the notion of beauty is appropriately understood.



The conjunctive theory considers two kinds of beauty, ontic and modal. **Ontic beauty** is the beauty of being. **Modal beauty** is the beauty of doing.



Thus, when we endeavor to incorporate into or search for beauty in anything we create, observe, or do, we are artists.



Painting is a science, and should be pursued  
as an inquiry into the laws of nature.

John Constable



# Looking at Science Artistically

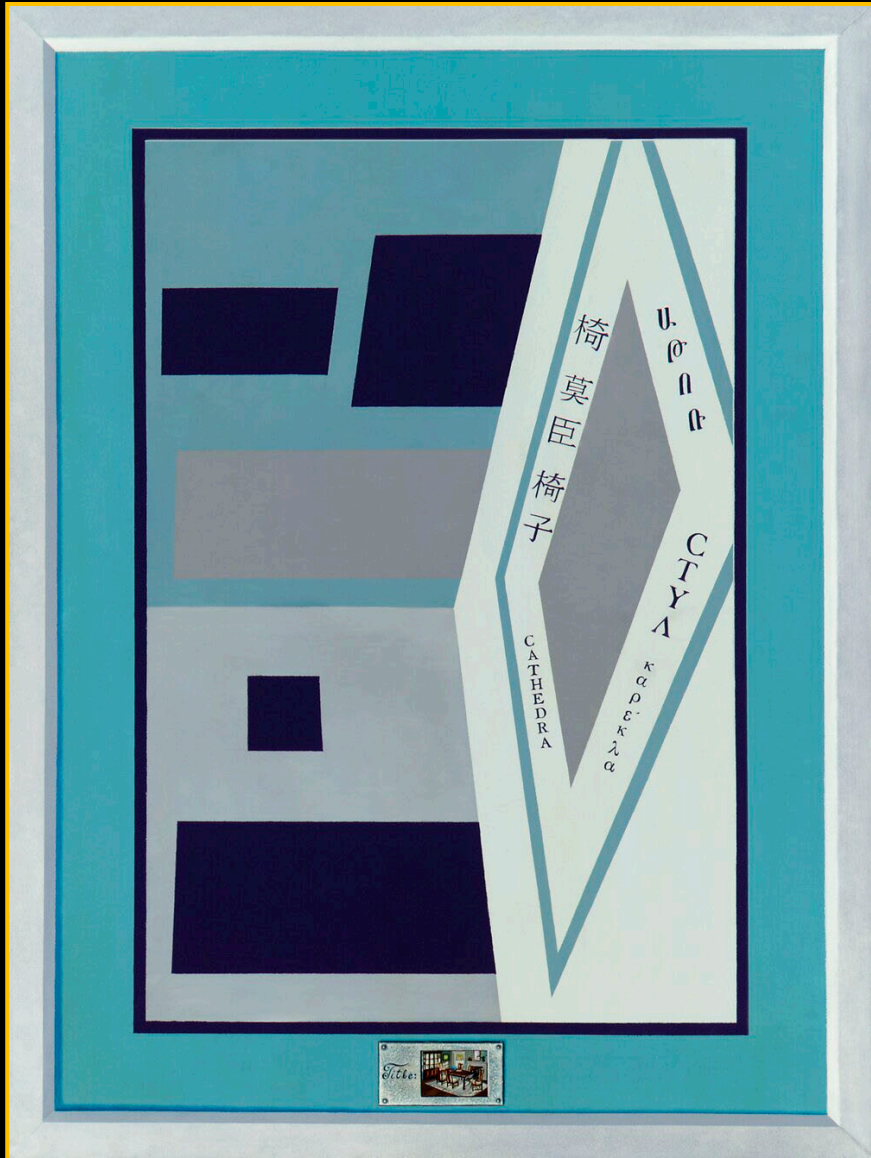
“[I]t is more important to have beauty in one's equations than to have them fit experiment. ... It seems that if one is working from the point of view of getting beauty in one's equations, and if one has really a sound insight, one is on a sure line of progress.”

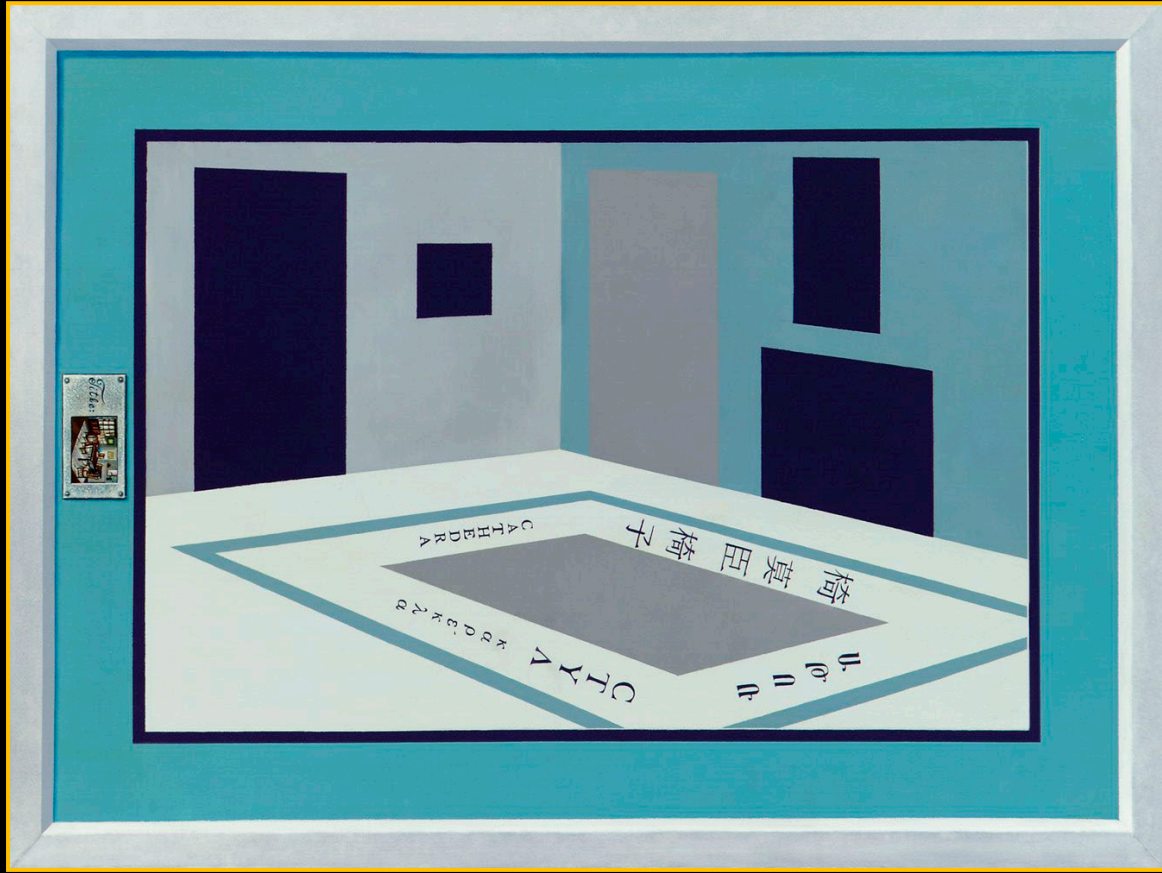
P. A. M. Dirac



# Looking at Art Scientifically

Rene Magritte said: “Art evokes the mystery without which the world would not exist.” Scientifically looking at art means searching for those mysteries.





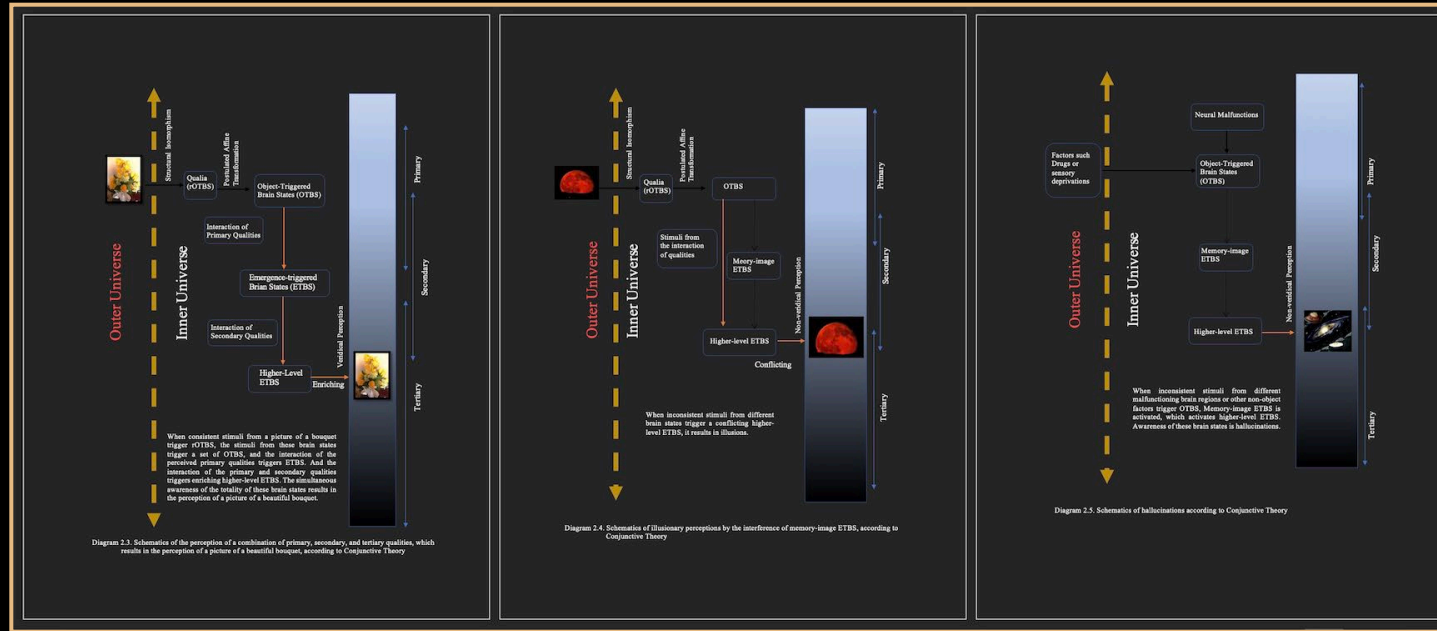
So, how to see with both artistic  
and scientific Eyes?

Here are some suggestions:



When encountering an artwork, approach it with an aesthetic attitude and scientific eyes.

Reflect on the feeling the artwork expresses, and focus on the meaning it explains.



When approaching a scientific theory, examine it with a scientific mind and artistic eyes.

Analyze the concepts the theory explains, and look for the beauty it expresses.

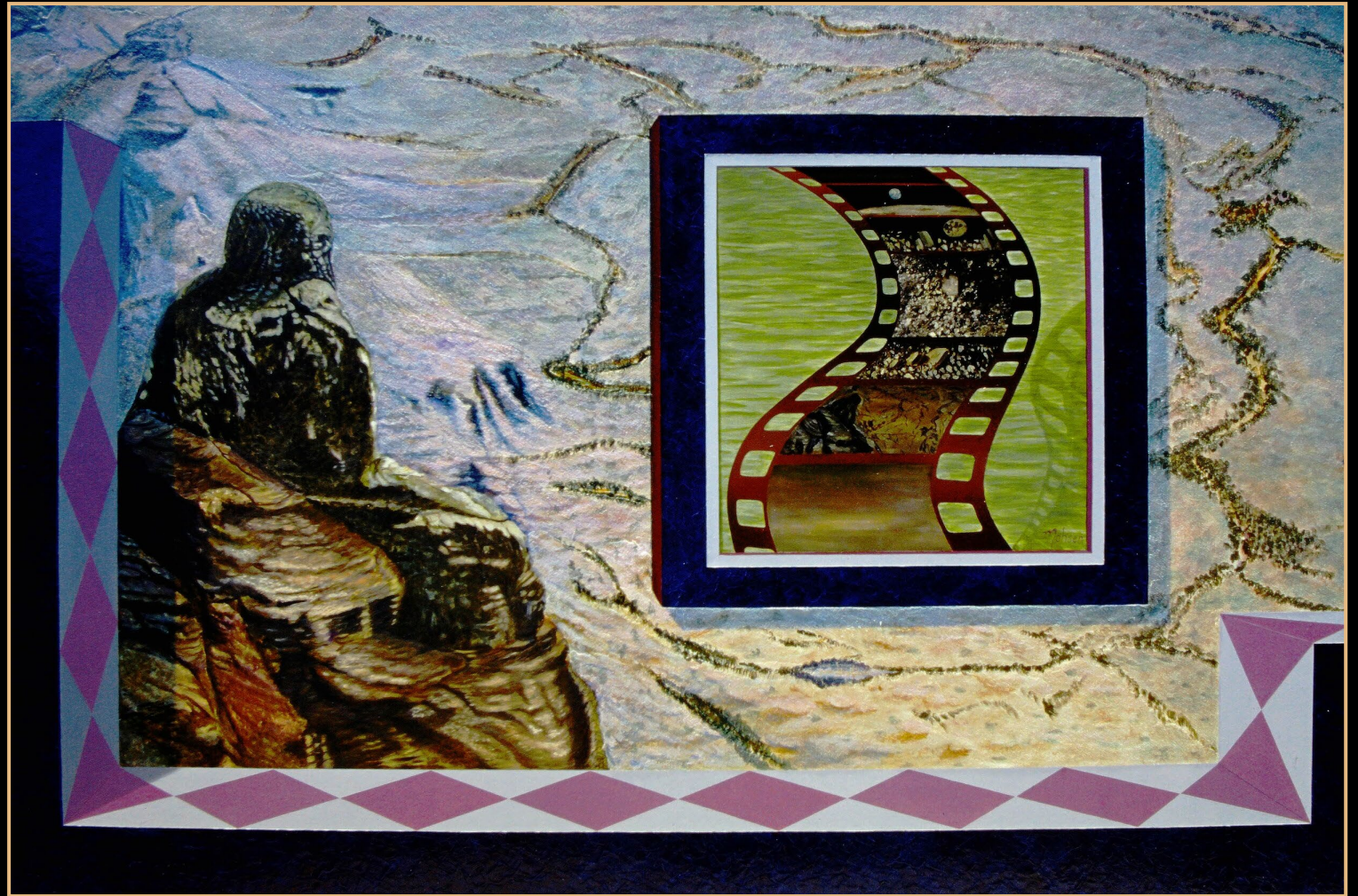
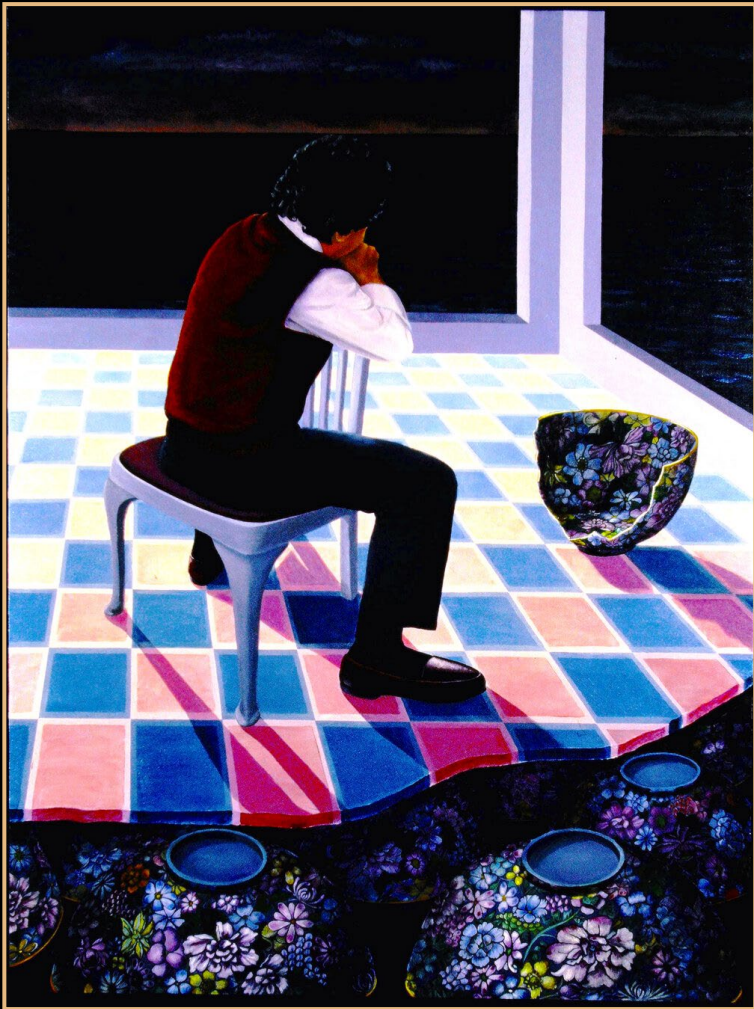
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Symvisio II, Nothing and Everything, Oil on Canvas, 48" x 210", 2001

Mohsen Janatpour, April 7, 2023, College of San Mateo



Now, look at them with philosophic eyes

# How to See with Artistic & Scientific Eyes



34<sup>th</sup>

PRESENTATION OF  
ART & SCIENCE

# And Now

College of San Mateo



Friday, April 7, 2023 | 7:30 pm | Free Admission