

Avy Runner: hi everyone :)

Gaya Ethaniel: Happy New Year those I haven't seen a while :)

Eliza Madrigal: wow, and Hi Tim! Ltns

Botty Absent: Hi Avy

Timbo Quan: yes has been a while :)

Eliza Madrigal: :)

Gaya Ethaniel: Hello o000o :) Just to let you know we record and post chatlogs online
<http://waysofknowing.kira.org/>

Avy Runner: next attempt..... :)

o000o Resident: ty

Calvino Rabeni: There's a space on the couch here, Avy :)

Eliza Madrigal: need tiny chairs....

Avy Runner: thanks, but just managed to get up here :)

Eliza Madrigal: :))

Eliza Madrigal: Nice to be back in Wok :)

Avy Runner: in ony two attempts

Gaya Ethaniel: Yes :)

Eliza Madrigal: And we've finished up our last emphasis I think... for the time being anyway....

Eliza Madrigal: so we're here anew :)

Bruce Mowbray: **Are we here to discuss "Beauty"?**

Eliza Madrigal: **that was my next question! Are we, Cal? :)**

Gaya Ethaniel: hehe

Eliza Madrigal smiles

Eliza Madrigal: Hi o000o, we're just beginning now... lots of travel issues

Calvino Rabeni: I'm not prepared in that direction with anything - but we could Ad Lib

Eliza Madrigal: yikes

Eliza Madrigal: hehe

Gaya Ethaniel: lol

o000o Resident: Hi, yes grey sludge

Calvino Rabeni: Maybe it would be good to look at the group in a broader sense

Calvino Rabeni: as we're returning from holiday and a break

Calvino Rabeni: what is different, how were things

Calvino Rabeni: does absence give perspective

Calvino Rabeni: any fresh ideas

Calvino Rabeni: etc

Calvino Rabeni: taking stock is something I like to do around transition times

Eliza Madrigal: my new year 'fresh' idea seems to be getting back to basics...

Calvino Rabeni: :)

Eliza Madrigal: direct exploration

Eliza Madrigal: and revisiting some topics

Calvino Rabeni: and since we're some of us part of PaB, there are influences from that source also

Eliza Madrigal: maybe in different ways... not sure, listening...

Gaya Ethaniel: Hello Zen :)

Eliza Madrigal: Hi Zen :)

Avy Runner: hi Zen :)

Zen Arado: Hi All :)

Calvino Rabeni: My new "influences" are so new, I don't know what to label them

o000o Resident: hey Zen

Calvino Rabeni: that is interesting in itself

Eliza Madrigal: :)

Eliza Madrigal: yesterday in the homework meeting we talked about daily practice itself... and ended on a 'you are the koan' note...

Calvino Rabeni: how one can "know" but not be able to label, and to "move" with something like that

Avy Runner looks at Cal in interest

Calvino Rabeni: when it's so new, it's not easy to put in a nice conceptual box

Avy Runner: i guess it will enroll itself in time

Calvino Rabeni: **it takes a light touch**

Calvino Rabeni: **or rather I think, a field awareness**

Calvino Rabeni: one can't grasp it tightly

Avy Runner nods

Calvino Rabeni: The poet Robert Graves wrote that a dream being born is like a bird, if you grasp, it will flee, but if you wait until it settles on your hand, you may then take it

Calvino Rabeni: so there's a period of knowing without grasping after it

Calvino Rabeni: no quick moves :)

Calvino Rabeni: thinking in the cloud, as it were

Calvino Rabeni: for me transitions have this flavor

Calvino Rabeni: compared to being on an established "groove"

Calvino Rabeni: the directions can be changed a little

Gaya Ethaniel: *You mean it provides opportunities for things to settle, intergrate etc?*

Calvino Rabeni: like the train comes into a station

Calvino Rabeni: when thing settle and integrate, they free up attention for the new to enter

Avy Runner nods again

Calvino Rabeni: and how do the new things appear, once that settling has happened ?

Zen Arado: don't know

Calvino Rabeni: **I think the sense of beauty may be a part of that ... an aesthetic sense of overall quality**

Zen Arado: might be unanalysable

Calvino Rabeni: or threat, obviously

Calvino Rabeni: yes

Calvino Rabeni: we function without and beyond analysis

Zen Arado: just is

Zen Arado: *like explaining the taste of something*

Calvino Rabeni: it may be more than just is, though, it may be active and protean, or wanting to do something ...I just don't know what

Gaya Ethaniel: *You're an artist Zen ... what does beauty mean to you?*

Eliza Madrigal: btw, Kore forgive me for not saying hello, wasn't sure if you were 'here' with us before :)

Zen Arado: suck it and see

Calvino Rabeni: forward attention is to focus on the thing itself, however amorphous

Avy Runner: to me it sounds like an activity yes

Avy Runner: like dropping is something you need to 'do'

Calvino Rabeni: In my experience it's necessary to open a space large enough to contain it

Zen Arado: as an artist I like some patterns and colours and things

Gaya Ethaniel: Sorry but I'm lost Cal ...

Zen Arado: but who could say why? though art critics try to

Zen Arado: we like symmetry of course

Gaya Ethaniel: true

Zen Arado: sorry double thread

Calvino Rabeni: I'm kind of talking about knowing in the large, outside of a fixed concept .. thinking at the edge or beyond ...which is how things "appear" during transition times, when new knowledge enters

Zen Arado: humans like certain proportions

Bruce Mowbray: *We seem to prefer balance - whether symmetrical or a-symmetrical.*

Zen Arado: yes

Gaya Ethaniel: yes

Zen Arado: but we also like excitement

Zen Arado: something novel

Calvino Rabeni: And the reason I brought that up is because during transitions it feels like that's part of the character of what's being offered

Bruce Mowbray: excitement?

Calvino Rabeni: excitement - threat or beauty?

Zen Arado: oh yes - art can be stirring don't you think?

Eliza Madrigal: re symmetry, came across something beautiful Stevenaia said in a session a month or so ago...

stevensaia Michinaga: *they say some geometries remind the mind of the safe african savannah, baldes of grass, fractals everywhere, no place for harm to hide*

Calvino Rabeni: excitement is a mixed experience

Zen Arado: yes nice Eliza

Calvino Rabeni: a beauty may have a vulnerability, even a hidden dagger

Zen Arado: we like pictures of lakes and fields

Eliza Madrigal: have gone back to read it several times for its quality...

Zen Arado: humans feel safe near water

Eliza Madrigal: even the way of his phrasing

Avy Runner: if you twith the known a bit, you start to feel excitement

Avy Runner: just beside the harmony

Gaya Ethaniel: Indeed art can be stirring :)

Zen Arado: maybe things in paintings remind us of our past in the ungle

Zen Arado: dappled light

Zen Arado: jungle *

Zen Arado: or was it savannah plains?

Eliza Madrigal: flowing out of a safe and pleasant space/field... one that is accomodating...

Eliza Madrigal: (guess still pondering the meditative pab session earlier too)

Bruce Mowbray: ;-)

Calvino Rabeni: to me the question is, when I approach that "new" experience, what is it in me, that leads

to it appearing with deeper or additional significance as beauty, threat, excitement, etc.

Zen Arado: popular taste is for scenes around where they live

Calvino Rabeni: What can an artist do, when approaching the art of others?

Zen Arado: why does red represent danger?

Calvino Rabeni: to open up to "getting" it?

Zen Arado: try to be open to new things I think Cal

Zen Arado: but that is the same for everyone

Calvino Rabeni: Yes, but what's the internal way one can organize oneself to foster that?

Zen Arado: artists might be more critical

Zen Arado: notice feelings as you look at the work

Zen Arado: maybe you could analyse those

Eliza Madrigal: there is no doubt that humans are sort of nourished by beauty... but perhaps what we think of as beauty ie the packaged sort.... and chasing after that... fails us... til we are exhausted then there's room

Eliza Madrigal: for surprise

Calvino Rabeni: The special status of the amateur is important ... to have beginners mind and not fall into the well-defined patterns of thinking of an expert

Avy Runner: even if it is hard

Avy Runner: I guess not getting out of the way of things that appear

Zen Arado: yes

Calvino Rabeni: Nice, Eliza

Zen Arado: some art critics can be pompous I think

Avy Runner: yes, very nice

Zen Arado: our taste is influenced by others

Zen Arado: what is 'in'

Gaya Ethaniel: Also by exposures as well ...

Zen Arado: like fashion

Calvino Rabeni: Beginner, expert, master, in a way the path of development cycles around to a new simplicity and innocence

Zen Arado: yes....cycles

Eliza Madrigal: Gaya, can you say more about exposures?

Zen Arado: technology is changing art

Zen Arado: yes Gaya

Gaya Ethaniel: Well ... something that may come across as jarring at the first encounter can grow on you ... also exposures to other things can expand our minds.

Zen Arado: yes good point

Zen Arado: our taste is educated

Eliza Madrigal: ah, yes... see that... acclimated and refined...

Gaya Ethaniel: I'm sure some thought Beethoven barbaric in his time :P

Zen Arado: by exposing ourselves to things we think we don't like

Eliza Madrigal: which in some cases has a lot to do with peeling away....

Gaya Ethaniel: I do think sometimes though he's a bit over the top ...

Eliza Madrigal: :)

Gaya Ethaniel: :)

Zen Arado: it takes time for assimilation too

Zen Arado: by the public

Gaya Ethaniel: olives ... :P

Zen Arado: time for familiarity to take away strangeness

Calvino Rabeni: To enjoy Beethoven for me is to handle the parts of me that are tight around the great suffering and associated beauty that he experienced in his life

Bruce Mowbray: does a sense of beauty require familiarity, then?

Zen Arado: think so Bruce

Eliza Madrigal: hm.... there can be flash beauty

Calvino Rabeni: I think beauty requires a nice balance of safety and the uncanny together

Bruce Mowbray: Is that 'beauty' of 'comfort'?

Zen Arado: the artists centuries ago were breaking new ground at the time

Bruce Mowbray: or comfort, sry.

Calvino Rabeni: Comfort alone doesn't persist as beauty

Avy Runner: I think comfort :)

Calvino Rabeni: as in the expression "familiarity breeds contempt"

Zen Arado: think of all the artists who weren't appreciated in their lifetimes

Avy Runner: when there is no comfort, we feel beauty as something fearfull I think....

Zen Arado: Van Gogh for instance

Calvino Rabeni: The ambiguity of the Mona Lisa is part of its beauty ... we're not quite sure or completely comfortable with what that smile means

Zen Arado: yes agree Cal

Calvino Rabeni: on the other hand I don't find Dali and the melting clocks beautiful

Zen Arado: but maybe not too much strangeness

Calvino Rabeni: surrealism is a challenge

Zen Arado: takes a society a while to accept

Calvino Rabeni: maybe I'm not sophisticated enough

Zen Arado: or you just don't like surrealism

Calvino Rabeni: But Cubism works :) although I heard the Avignon painting was very challenging to people

Zen Arado: lots don't

Eliza Madrigal: maybe the smile means many things and we can't handle the uncomfortableness of being with layers of complexity that we can't pin down

Avy Runner: but there isn't real discomfort either

Calvino Rabeni: I wouldn't say, Zen, that I have a "just don't like" type experience without a lot of deeper ramifications

Avy Runner: it is just beside the harmony

Bruce Mowbray: But beauty, for me, is always somehow comforting.

Eliza Madrigal: well the discomfort is part of what keeps one looking...

Avy Runner: making us excited

Calvino Rabeni: @Bruce, for me I'd use "reassuring" instead of "comforting", which is a slightly different experience

Eliza Madrigal: or curiosity... or hm...

Zen Arado: a lot of art appreciation is amnuufactured I thnk

Zen Arado: 'the Emperor's new clothes'

Eliza Madrigal: :)

Bruce Mowbray ponders "reassuring."

Gaya Ethaniel: Getting the audience curious is important in engaging them.

Calvino Rabeni: What's in "reassuring"?

Calvino Rabeni: Some might be reassured by Guernica

Zen Arado: maybe most of our artistic taste is manufactured

Calvino Rabeni: Horrific as it is

Gaya Ethaniel: Whether by discomfort or unpredictability ...

Botty Absent: Beauty is such a personal thing within a particular culture that we live

Avy Runner pondering about reassurance

Zen Arado: but Picasso had a certain purpose in painting Guernica

Zen Arado: it wasn't about beauty ?

Gaya Ethaniel pokes 'reassurance' ...

Eliza Madrigal: Earlier today I heard Pink Floyd's 'wish you were here' and heard it for the first time as a meditative contemplation... 'wish you were *here* instead of in a loop"... that's real art to me... comforting because it seemed to open up

Eliza Madrigal: not in a graspable way...

Zen Arado: you have good taste Eliza :)

Eliza Madrigal: so yes would agree Botty

Gaya Ethaniel: :)

Eliza Madrigal: :) yes that's why I hang out with you guys Zen

Gaya Ethaniel: :)

Eliza Madrigal: hahah

Zen Arado: of course :)

Zen Arado: and we have good taste too :)

Eliza Madrigal: :))

Gaya Ethaniel: :)

o000o Resident: :)

Avy Runner: nice Eliza :)

Eliza Madrigal: neat topic... we are approaching the end of the session though...

Calvino Rabeni: Reassurance is deeply contextual, touching unique personal needs and circumstances as well as shared human depths

Zen Arado: I don't like Damien Hurst stuff

o000o Resident: that's beautiful

Zen Arado: but maybe I will one day

pablito Steampunk is Online

Eliza Madrigal: :)

Gaya Ethaniel: No but I like his diamond skull, overpriced yes but a good piece of work.

Zen Arado: yes nice Cal

o000o Resident ducks out with warm heart

Zen Arado: bye Sam

Eliza Madrigal: Glad to have you here Ooo

Gaya Ethaniel: Bye :)

Eliza Madrigal: I wonder might we like to have some... drumroll... homework? :)

Calvino Rabeni waves

Avy Runner: bye :)

Gaya Ethaniel: On beauty?

Botty Absent: I need to leave too, thank you

Gaya Ethaniel: Bye :)

Botty Absent is Offline

Eliza Madrigal: Bye Botty thanks for coming!

Zen Arado: bye Botty

Eliza Madrigal: beauty... sure... and hm... odd angle what about beauty and a basic topic like co-dependent arising?

Eliza Madrigal: revisiting it....

Calvino Rabeni: **I want to suggest, about the "direct exploration" aspect of the homework ...**

Eliza Madrigal: they seem related

Calvino Rabeni: **to find the actual thing and catch it in the act**

Eliza Madrigal: beauty as an expression of emptiness

Eliza Madrigal: snapshots....

Eliza Madrigal: snapshot moments...not picture necessarily

Zen Arado: could you elaborate a bit more Cal?

Calvino Rabeni: How about "beauty as an expression of ... what is going on there exactly" ?

Eliza Madrigal: hehehe

Calvino Rabeni: I mean not predefining

Eliza Madrigal: same thing

Eliza Madrigal: =P~

Zen Arado: experiencing?

Calvino Rabeni: like maybe beauty doesn't appear in relation to emptiness

Calvino Rabeni: it appears as something real to you but different than that predefined ide3a

Avy Runner: oh I know the right snapshot.....

Zen Arado: our direct experience of beauty?

Calvino Rabeni: Yes

Calvino Rabeni: catching it in the act

Eliza Madrigal: sounds good

Bruce Mowbray: agrees.

Calvino Rabeni: as a happening thing in present time, with depths of experience

Zen Arado: ok

Calvino Rabeni: analysis to follow

Bruce Mowbray: "direct experience of beauty"

Calvino Rabeni: news at 10

Eliza Madrigal: Nice...

Gaya Ethaniel: Nice we have a homework topic :)

Eliza Madrigal: OK will post as such

Bruce Mowbray: thanks, Eliza.

Gaya Ethaniel: Thanks everyone, nice seeing you again :)

Gaya Ethaniel: Thanks Eliza :)

Bruce Mowbray: Yes!

Zen Arado: thanks everyone

Eliza Madrigal: Thanks Gaya, and nice to see everyone indeed :)

Avy Runner: eh..... where can I post it and do I need a password?

Eliza Madrigal: Thank you all, and thanks Cal

Zen Arado: nice to see you all back

Gaya Ethaniel: <http://waysofknowing.kira.org/>

Avy Runner: thanks Gaya

Gaya Ethaniel: IM me your email address Avy?

Zen Arado: and thanks Cal for presentation

Gaya Ethaniel: I will set up an account for you.