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FAUST IN MARIENBAD by The quest for Art : Kaoru Arima

Thinking back, I chose a way of living where importance is put on the artistic activity (a road movie). And I have ceaselessly questioned "what is art, what is a human, what is happiness." This time, there are five themes to five walls. Sculptures, paintings, and drawings are exhibited in accordance with the themes. "Inside and outside of me (a human)," "halfway and eternity," and "relations with society" are given shape. In other words, it is an exhibition of "me" perceivable through five walls (five exhibits). And it is an exhibition of ways of being and ways of living, of a human.

When I was 21 years old, I saw a documentation video of Beuys. There he said, "If you see this and think, 'I can do this myself!', it's because you are an artist. Then it's whether you will do it or not." I was a wannabe and this gave me where to jump into. You are able to remain an artist if you continue doing it. Next moment, I found myself a man over 50.

For this exhibition, Faust (novel): to continually make efforts, to persist in life.

Last Year in Marienbad (movie): eternity of what changes constantly, ceaselessly.

Mummy portraits: eternity through human deaths and art have been the sources of inspiration.

This exhibition, to you, has only just begun, but also it's already over or is beginning in the future.

The form of a thing constantly changes due to ways of being and ways of living, just like a line that expands, toward interconnections.

Ways of being:

1) Lines

- A line comes into being where sounds are made by the forming of an empty set, and becomes a promise; a promise then enters the realm of shadow, while embracing supreme polarity, or non-dual oneness, and waits for a wind to come.

- With a pair of hands overlapped, a line comes into being. As the hands dismiss, the line begins to expand, not disappearing, and finds itself as an interconnection of all elements.

2) A human has «sprouts of empty sets» or sets of emptiness of "originally there is not a single thing."

3) Due to 1) and 2), all outside are connected outside, and all inside are connected inside (mutually shared).

- How things look changes depending on viewpoints and mindsets, but their essences do not.

«Uchiwa uchi sotowa soto nonjyatta» (Inside is inside, outside is outside, swallowed up)

Ways of living:

- Always halfway and forefront.

- To continually make efforts (continually change), to persist in life.

- Moments are beautiful because of the limitation of a lifetime (frame).

- Beautifulness latent in the everyday (day-to-dayness).

- Beauty (love) latent in "there is nothing."

- Idea of supreme polarity

- To make works by using essentially formless things as elements (forms).

Conclusion:

Forms change through ways of being and ways of living.

A human (a form) is "what."

That a human lives a life is "what."

«Uno nato nano mani mani semo shimo shirazu inoma furu furu» (in-between names of this universe, we just follow the sequence of the present moments, unable to know the moment of our birth nor that of our death)

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