

Brian Fisher / NEW DRAWINGS

Formerly, what I think I was trying to define in my paintings was the notion that life could be seen from every angle, or at least that I wanted to see life from every angle, and at the convergence of all those angles was a Something, an Awareness, which made the world understandable.

In trying to clarify that notion, I put together a geometry — a kind of psychic blueprint because I trusted geometry to get there, its practice being, so I thought, outside the reaches of Ego.

When I finally saw through that convolution, it became evident that Mystery was not to be uncovered in the predictable, a not very profound idea after all. I was crestfallen. There didn't seem to be any place left for my will as an artist, never mind my heart, which I had long since given to that discipline.

Out of the desperation of that position have come these drawings, which have to do more with layers than with angles, and I find myself now happily engaged in a different and most unpredictable geometry, a geometry of the non-rational.

They said that I should not be afraid and that I had long powerful fibres, which were not there to protect me, for there was nothing to protect, or to be protected from . . .

They told me that my fibres were all around me, that through them I could perceive everything at once, and that one single fibre was enough for a leap from the rock into the ravine, or up from the ravine to the rock.

He said, time and again that the sorcerer's secret . . . was in our perception, that leaping was simply an exercise in perception . . .

— Carlos Castaneda, from *Tales of Power*

The ancient Chinese mind contemplates the cosmos in a way comparable to that of the modern physicist, who cannot deny that his model of the world is a decidedly psychophysical structure. The microphysical event includes the observer . . . a point of view diametrically opposed to that of causality. This assumption . . . takes the coincidence of events in space and time as meaning something more than mere chance, namely, a peculiar interdependence of objective events among themselves as well as with the subjective (psychic) states of the observer.

— C. G. Jung, from his Foreword to the *I Ching*

Sorcerers say that we are inside a bubble. It is a bubble into which we are placed at the moment of our birth. At first the bubble is open, but then it begins to close until it has sealed us in. That bubble is our perception. The bubble is opened in order to allow the luminous being a view of his totality.

The mystery, or the secret of the sorcerer's explanation is that it deals with unfolding the wings of perception.

— Don Juan, as quoted by Carlos Castaneda, from *Tales of Power*

FIVE DRAWINGS

Woods (on a snowy evening)

Kwakiutl

Eclipse

Conversation with an Old Elf

The Rock and the Ravine

Photography: Takis Bluesinger









