

March 4, 2010

Roger Scruton
Institute for the Psychological Sciences
Arlington

Dear Prof. Scruton,

I watched your movie-document *Why Beauty Matters*. It resonates deeply with topics and results of my own research.

I would like to send you my own book as a gift: *Seven Archangels. Rhythms of Inspiration in the History of Culture and Nature*.

In a nutshell, I deal with the following:

1. I study the curves and patterns of creativity - in science, arts, religion, politics – across the world history.

2. I identify non-random periodic and synchronous patterns and co-occurrences of various principles, by means of mathematical statistics.

3. Empirically I can discern seven types of „aesthetic moods“ or „zeitgeist“. These aesthetic moods represent the core axis of values in each society, around which all other compartments of society revolve and are being determined: from certain aesthetics, certain type of world-view, philosophical ideas, religious cults, artistic styles, political thought and societal institutions follow, and a certain destiny.

4. These aesthetic types, as well as precise time patterns of their alternation in history, have been known and formulated in antique cultures, and explained as inspiration of gods/archangels.

I believe, beauty addresses us individually, just because it conceals the purpose of our lives, which is individual for each one of us (besides that there is a common denominator of beauty for all people). I trace the roots of beauty in the evolution of nature (and oppose those, who say that the purpose of beauty is sexual reproduction only). I exemplify, how the experience of beauty is intertwined with the creative psychological processes of inspiration – not of artists, but scientists, inventors, prophets, statesmen as well – and effectively impacts the future of their society. To say, that contemplation of beauty is „useful“, is too little: it is the wellspring of central values, according to which the „usefulness“ of everything else is being measured. What kind of beauty is being worshipped, is absolutely crucial for the destiny of every individual and every society.

Cordially,

Dr. Emil Páleš, Bratislava, Slovakia
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