

Session 8 - Week 3:

Transition and Orientation

In the phone call for Week 2, we looked at the idea that ‘points’ are insubstantial; that the temporal movement they express is more fundamental than what is established, though it is ‘fundamental’ in a way that does not found anything. There is a possible parallel—or at least an analogy—in the notion in some versions of quantum physics that particles are best understood as probabilities; that they never cohere into something ‘real’ in the sense that ‘reality’ is understood in the prevailing logos.

The reading for this week investigates this idea from another direction, suggesting that when we approach points by looking for “the smallest possible point,” we are also approaching zero. The title for this section of KTS, “Zero Emerging Rhythm,” suggests the basic thrust of the reading: the temporal rhythm we are investigating and activating only becomes available with the zero-negation of the temporal order. As introduced here, the ‘zero point’ is a marker for appearance that appears without asserting its own appearance. This non-assertion or non-positioning ‘makes way’ for the time that moves without moving, and in doing so supports (or ‘carries’) appearance.

(By the way, in putting the matter in this way, I am drawing on the suggestions made by several of you in the phone call that the ‘floating’ temporality described at the beginning of last week’s chapter offers a kind of support or foundation for what appears, like an ocean, and that we can access this sense of support.)

The chapter from *When It Rains* is quite good on suggesting how to approach this week’s reading. As it suggests, it is not necessary to understand every idea or formulation in the chapter. Instead, we can be playful and receptive.. In fact, we almost have to be playful, or we will fall into the tension that comes from using language in unexpected (and almost unacceptable!) ways. See WIR 107: “You can almost feel the language straining to go where language cannot go.”

One of the key images in this chapter is that of ‘occupancy’. Of course, as we would expect by now, this occupancy does not in fact occupy. The potential availability of the zero point gives access to this ‘hidden’ occupancy. In doing so, it presents the appearance of form and events in a very different light. Time now becomes available a “luminous energy” (92). WIR points toward LOK Ex. 33, “Glowing Journey in Time,” as a way of evoking this possibility. Those of you in the training program, please work with this exercise and write something about your experience.

The walkabout for this week refers back to our discussion of friction as an indication that the spontaneous rhythm of time has been turned into positioning and conditioning. Look for friction in your daily interactions; for instance, in your emotional responses, your conflicts with others, or any sense of limitation. Can you release these into the supporting matrix of an invariable time?