

Pearl Lam Galleries

Eins und Eins

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We live in a time where everything is possible or is already happening, within a very noisy environment of human culture accompanied by a billion directions of thoughts. Languages are used to express the mind and emotion in various manners. It is of course a blessing to have been raised as people who can use language as a tool to communicate our thoughts. Through effective communication, people can grow together within dialogues and transaction habits. But we also consider and make complex decisions in the split second before speech, a mechanism that is governed by the social environment that we grew up in. For some people, this experiential mode of thinking is what they call 'gut'. But what underlies people's thought before the action of speaking must be complex individual processes. It depends on how they learn and their circumstances or current conditions.

Infants who cannot speak yet might be able to naturally catch on to the feeling or emotion of a circumstance. They don't react in the same way as those who can already speak and express themselves with words. The domination of instinct or capability to sense is made meaningful to the world later on in life when they learn to use language.

People are becoming more and more sophisticated in dealing with the use of language. In our sociopolitical environment, even more complex systems of communication are developing. The increasing sophistication of the communication system is kind of addictive it is also toxic, because it fulfills human desire to be connected as well as disconnected. We are drowning in information technology, which is influencing our psychological and physical behaviour. Connections between people can be rapidly and easily made. I guess, as normative modes of communication has become more of an intellectual process over the last twenty years, people's behaviour has responded to the reduced connection to their bodies and become less expressive.

Nevertheless, we live our individual lives and certainly carry our own personal histories. We cannot always classify ourselves as one with others. As individuals, we are unique beings with specific molecular constellations within our bodies.

Living in a society which is bound to a culture or nation, we find ourselves defined by the habitus. We keep dealing with and living with norms, believing in a spirit of togetherness to reach a collective ideal. But a nation that lives its life at its ideal best has never existed throughout the history of mankind.

There have been devastating acts invented by ruling powers in the form of government as well as beliefs. Nations living under repressive conditions will organically struggle to overcome them. Depending on how a nation has brought up its people to evolve, some countries can survive, some remain, or some will experience worse if they keep on with the devastating conditions.

To have the space and the right for everyone as a member of their nation to speak their opinions is not the case for every country. In many cases, a member of a nation has a very limited right to express their freedom of speech; a nation can tell their people to keep silent in many ways.

I like to imagine a country as a human body with functioning organs. From my personal experience, repressive conditions can actually condemn my body to hold on to many aggressions in a silent manner. Eventually, it reacts physically in the form of nausea, which produces vomitus.

If this body is a nation that consists of hundreds of millions of oppressed people who have their rights restricted and their human rights violated, it would not be surprising if an explosive reaction such as a rebellion or revolution were to occur.