



MOSHEN JANATPOUR

My belief that compartmentalization of human endeavors is arbitrary and artificial can be traced to my youth and growing up in a Middle Eastern culture. I was born in Teheran, Iran in 1944 and completed my elementary and secondary education there. Although my family valued education very highly, emphasis was always on the development of one's character and soul. Indeed, an old saying still rings in my ears: "How easy it is to be a man of knowledge, how hard to be a true human being."

I moved to the United States in 1963 to complete my higher education. Initially, I majored in pre-medicine at San Jose City College. While there, I read a book by Bertrand Russell on the Theory of Relativity which raised my curiosity and interest about science in general and physics in particular. That curiosity determined the course of my professional development in science and mathematics.



More and more I was drawn toward the study of the cosmos and was fascinated by the unifying principles that linked all natural phenomena. If only I could express that intellectual and mystical experience!!! The opportunity to express an integrated approach to science came when I was offered a position as a science professor at the College of San Mateo. During the past 20 years I have had the dual pleasure of teaching and continuing to learn about Aeronautics, Astronomy, Chemistry, Engineering, Mathematics, Physics, and the Nature of Physical Reality.

From a very early age I have questioned the role of humans in the greater scheme of things. From my scientific training I learned that science alone provided only partial insight into the mysteries of life. It became clear that my views and feelings about science needed non-scientific augmentation. The extension I was searching for led to my artistic development and expression.

Although my training by local artists has been instrumental for mastering traditional as well as modern techniques of two dimensional art, I have been influenced most by the philosophies of my favorite poets such as Rumi and Khayyam, and authors such as Rudolf Arnheim, A. C. Danto, Mark Johnson and George Lakoff. Furthermore, my admiration of the works of classical artists such as Leonardo da Vinci, Rembrandt, Goya, and El Greco, and modernists such as Matisse, Mondrian, Redon, Gauguin, Picasso, Marc, Klee, deChirico, and Magritte has been influential on my work.

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