## Narratives

Marta Zabik





Lies are what the world lives on, and those who can face the schallenge of a truth and build their lives to accord are finally not many, but the very few.

is what multiverse proposals are. But

scientifically based philosophical

with

is wrong

case

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exist;

not

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universes

what it is. When presented with less than the full picture, we attempt to fill in missing information and form a complete image or idea based on common or easily recognizable patterns from our past experience and understanding. And since we almost never have the full picture anyway, the [Gestalt] principle of closure is at the core of our every effort to grasp the complexity of the world around us.

cosmological

principle

amounts to

the strongly philosophical

the part of

the universe which we

can see is a

fair sample,

and that the same physical

laws apply

throughout.

In essence, this in a sense says that the universe is

knowable and is playing fair

with scientists.

The mind

establishes

place

the

receives images

that it compares statement that

of the world

with existing

stored images

to produce a

image that is

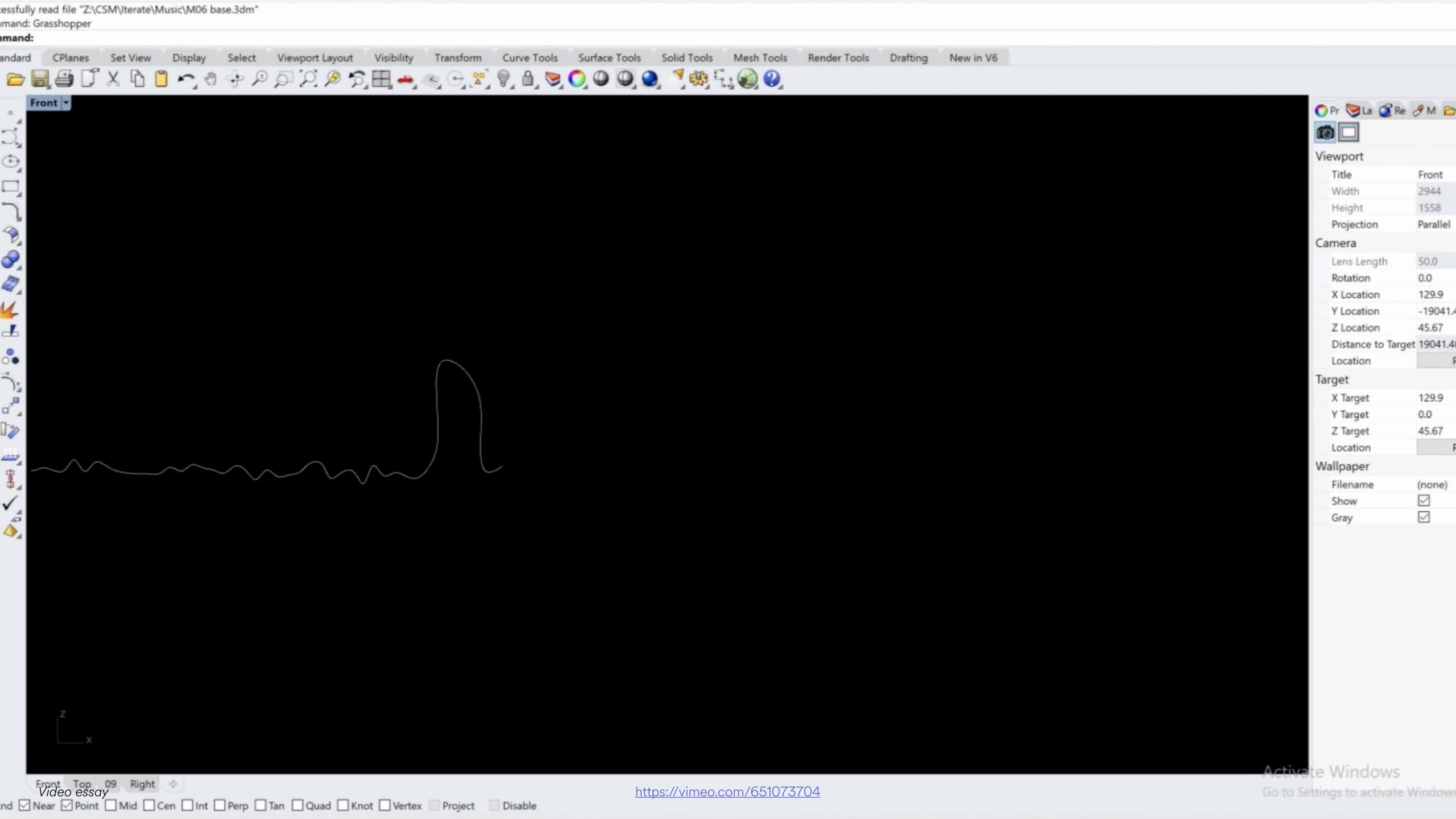
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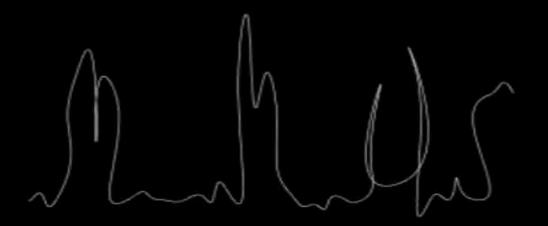
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unproved. We are going to have to live with that uncertainty. speculation, which Nothing Parallel surrounding that world v can never u we <u>see</u> the the earth is Seeing know is never settled. are never quite fits between what we see and what we Yet the knowledge, surrounded by it. earth is with words, but undo the fact the sun set. We world; the the explanation, sight. fact that we
The relati Each evening <u>know</u> that ay from it. The explain

things is affected by what

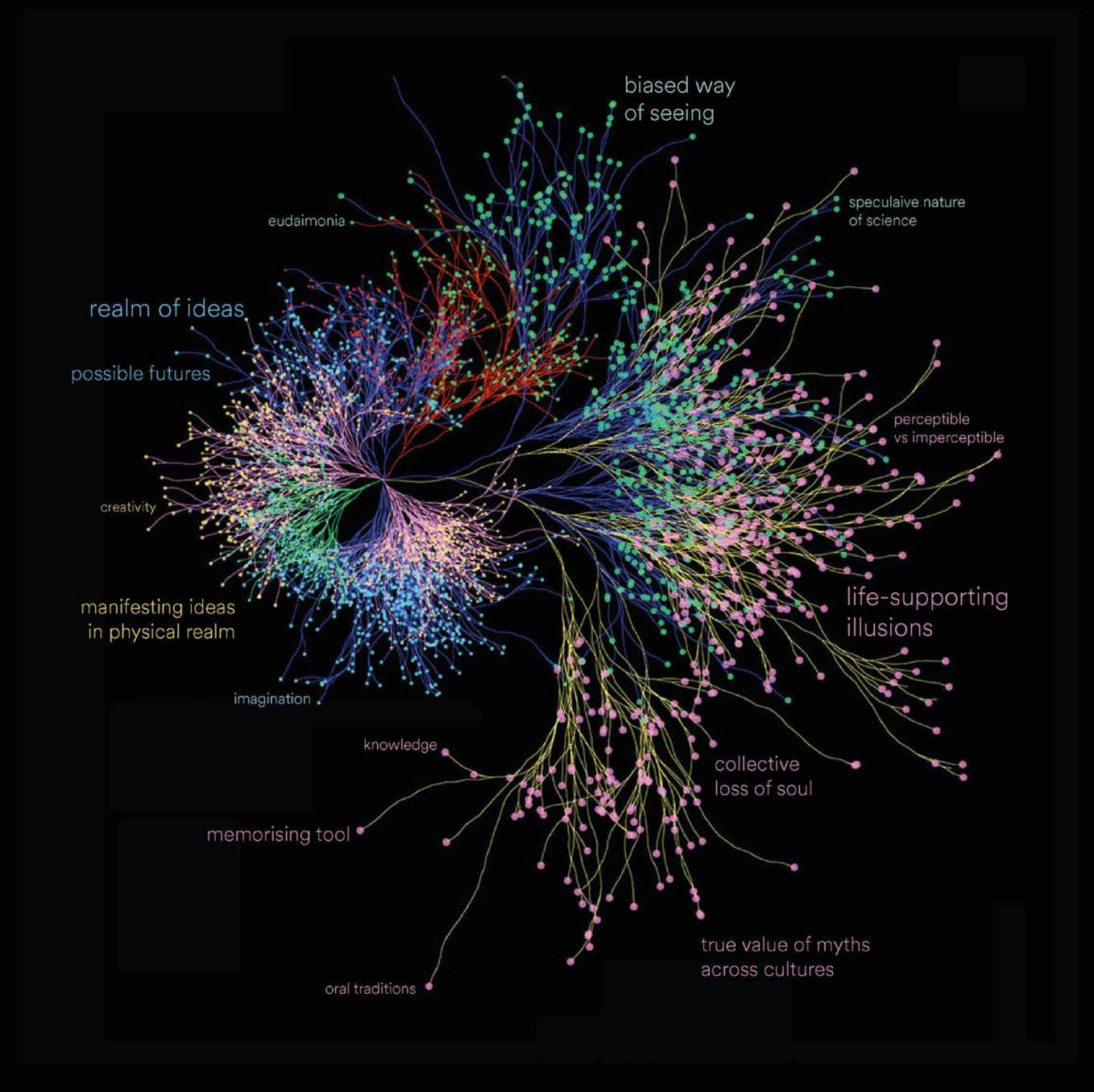




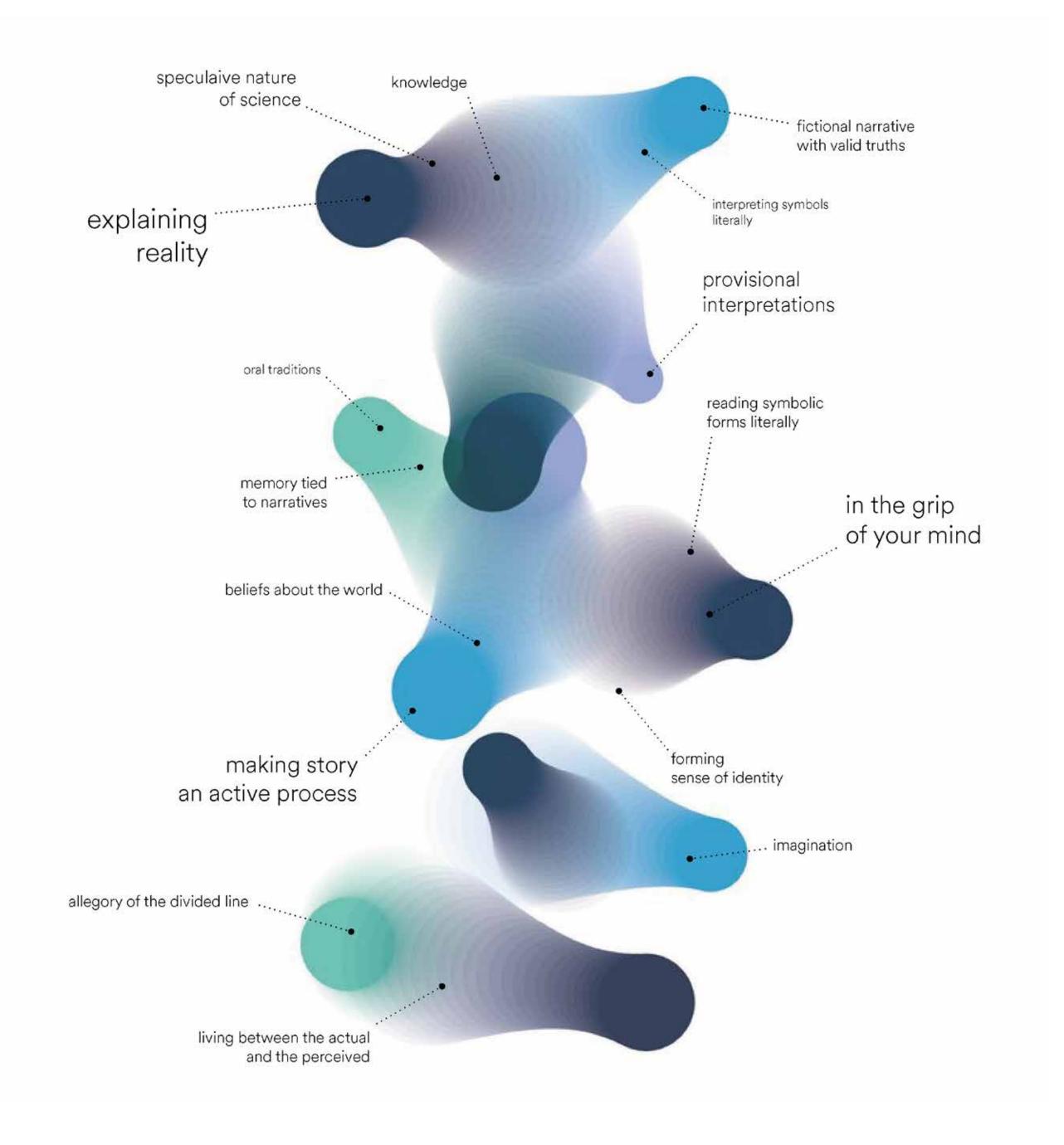












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complexity of the world around us. Seeing establishes our place in

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who can face the

Stories. We are surrounded by them. Or rather, we surround ourselves with them. • There is something fascinating about how human mind lives on stories. How every scenario becomes in a way valid the moment you understand the concept, even if none of that happened. • We are born storytellers, surprisingly good at swiftly making sense of what is put in front of us. In fact, we are so apt to build narratives that we even grasp the reality through storytelling. We string beads of information, facts, ideas, values, and clues together on a thread of a story, so that it *sticks* better. • When saying a story I don't mean a fairytale, a legend or an epic poem, but something much wider than that. It might take a form of a narrative, but also a concept, a statement, or a belief. Creating stories is closely tied with our perception of the world around us, as well as how we see ourselves in it. They lay the foundation for a mechanism of our understanding of reality. • We have always been very curious about the world we live in, but since we never had the full picture and the knowledge needed to understand it, and we still don't, we would implement the snippets of information available to us at the moment into ideas, theories, beliefs. • And so, both concepts of the Earth being flat and round existed in parallel for millennia, as none of them could be proven true. Astrology, theories, faith and philosophy progressed slowly hand in hand, feeding into one another - the Ptolemaic system of the universe coexisted with beliefs and thoughts of the ancient Greece just as well as with those of Christian church in the Middle Ages. • It happened only recently, during the Copernican Revolution, that scientific speculations drew away from faith, and the only way for Galileo to

B our past experience and understanding. And since we almost never have

nformation and form the surrounding world; we explain that world with words, but words can never undo the a complete image or idea based o n common ᄋ easily recognizable shw neetween what the world lives on,  $\frac{7}{8}$  we believe. Lies are what the world lives on,  $\frac{7}{8}$  by  $\frac{7}{8}$ fa ₩e are surrounded by it. The relation between what we see and

never quite fits the sight. The way we

see things is

affected by

what we know

Research paper

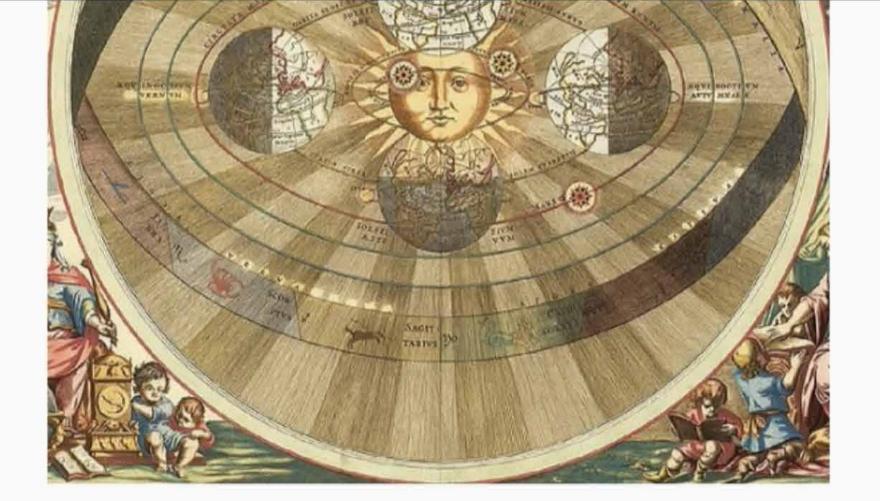




that the part of the universe which we can see is a fair sample, and that the same physical laws apply throughout.

> In essence, this says that the universe is *knowable* and is playing fair with scientists.

> > William C. Keel



To keep the giants at bay, gods Odin, Vili and Ve made a wall from Ymir's eyelashes and set it around the middle of the world.

The ash tree Yggdrasil, the largest of all trees, grows between the nine worlds and joins them. It is so large that its roots are in three worlds, and it is fed by three wells.

Norse Mythology



The Big Bang Theory is the leading explanation about how the universe began.

The universe as we know it started with an infinitely hot, infinitely dense singularity, then inflated — first at unimaginable speed, and then at a more measurable rate — over the next 13.8 billion years to the cosmos that we know today.

Astronomers can, see the echo of the expansion through a phenomenon known as the cosmic microwave background.

The Big Bang Theory

Life requires life-supporting illusions; and where these have been dispelled, there is nothing secure to hold on to, no moral law, nothing firm.

Lies are what the world lives on, and those who can face the challenge of a truth and build their lives to accord are finally not many, but the very few.

Joseph Campbell



## What?

Ways of Seeing, J. Berger

Gestalt Principles of Perception - 5: Closure, A. Rutledge

How to Identify Cognitive Bias: 12 Examples, MasterClass

A Life of Meaning, J. Hollis

Myths to Live By, J. Campbell

'Memory' The Mind, Explained, Netflix

Constructing the Grand Narrative, foggs.org

J.-F. Lyotard: Grand Narrative, AMU Study Materials

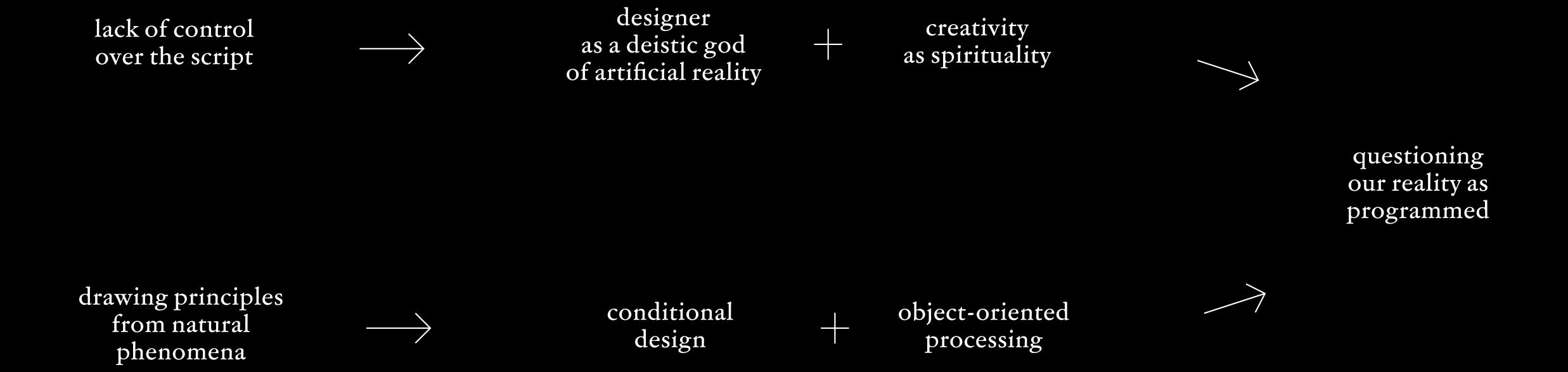
The Postmodern Condition: A Report on Knowledge, J. F. Lyotard

The Anti-Encyclopaedia. From Poetic Disorder to Political Anti-Order, Ch. Vesters, Metropolis M

Why?

perform my method of working

demonstrate tendencies of your mind



storytelling nature of perception (Gestalt, cognitive bias) narrative as memorising myths and method speculations sense of identity about our world built on a narrative (concept of ego) speculative narrative as imagined speculative medium for worlds nature of science knowledge intangible realm of ideas human mind falling for stories grand narratives supporting function of myths in society

How?

story as an active process

creating fiction as a way to comprehend reality

inevitably making connections

## Research paper

Stories. We are surrounded by them. Or maybe, we surround Hollis, J. (2020) I think the path to development is not found ourselves with them? There is something fascinating about A Life of Meaning. so much in finding the answers, because the how human mind lives on stories. How every scenario  $\rightarrow$  25, 43 answers we do find at best serve only a little becomes in a way valid the moment you understand the concept, even if none of that has happened. while. Life is forever evolving, and yesterday's truth is tomorrow's prison. Rather I believe, we When saying a story I don't mean a fairytale, a legend or an get a larger life by asking larger questions. And epic poem, but something much wider than that. It might keeping those questions before us. Not answers, take a form of a narrative, but also a concept, a statement, or a belief. We spend our whole lives explaining to ourselves  $\rightarrow$  6, 10, 11, 13, 31, 47, 48, 51, which ultimately proof limiting. Answers tell us what the world is, who we are, who others are, and how 52, 59, 63 where we've been, questions get us our journey. do we relate to things going on both inside us, and on the outside.  $\mathbf{II}$ But there is that tension between human mind and reality. There's something about it that we never quite get the exact  $\rightarrow$  6, 7, 12, 14, 20, 26, 30, 51, Berger J., (1990) Ways of Seeing, Seeing (...) establishes our place in the picture. Is it distorted? Fragmentary? Or simply fictional? 52, 53, 54 surrounding world; we explain that world Penguin Classics Let's shed some light on those stories. What are they, in with words, but words can never undo the first place? A medium or a message? A mechanism or the fact that we are surrounded by it. The a tendency? Illusion? Simplification? What role do they play relation between what we see and what exactly in our lives? What values do they bring? What needs we know is never settled. Each evening we stand behind them? Do they open our eyes to reality, or do they blind us to it? How come they are completely intangible see the sun set. We know that the earth is but commonly relatable? Just how real or unreal are they? turning away from it. Yet the knowledge, the explanation, never quite fits the sight. Are they one thing? Or many things that could be called the same name? Is there something that could tie them together? (...) The way we see things is affected by How does the mechanism of building a picture of the world what we know or what we believe. relate to building one's sense of identity? Do religious myths and scientific speculations have something in common? Where is the line between imagination and perception? Why Rutledge A., (2009) We humans are very adept at drawing Gestalt Principles of Perception the form of a narrative was widespread in cultures around conclusions from less-than-all the the globe, throughout millennia? Why is it so memorable and information. When presented with less than catchy? Why is it so compelling and believable? And does the full picture, we attempt to (...) fill in one relate to the other? missing information and form a complete image or idea based on common or easily recognisable patterns from our past experience We have always been very curious about the world we live in, but since we never had the full picture and the knowledge and understanding. needed to understand it (and we still don't) we would implement the snippets of information available to us at the Science has always been in conflict with Lyotard J. F. (1984) moment into ideas, theories, beliefs. And so, both concepts of A Report on Knowledge, narratives. Judged by the yardstick of the Earth being flat and round existed in parallel for millennia, University of Minnesota Press as none of them could be proven right or wrong. science, the majority of them prove to be fables. But to the extent that science

my text quotes

Presentation

simultaneity of information

left for the reader to piece the content together

