

RE

ryuichi sakamoto

expectation

an unfinished notebook,
an appreciation.

john warwicker

REF

several weeks ago i received a request to write something about the new album by ryuichi sakamoto, without hearing the music.

this is my response; this is my expectation.

drawn from

almost 40 years of listening to his music and his collaborative work and knowing him for almost 20.

and putting all of this into a forensic context within my understanding and imagination;

and examining the elements and crucible of his alchemic process, as i understand it

not to predict the outcome

but to prepare myself for it.

REF

my starting point was 'expectation', the title of the email
i received

and in the question - 'what is ryuichi?'
followed by

- 'why is ryuichi?'

i won't attempt to pretend to answer

- 'who is ryuichi?'

if 'language is the code of identity' simon taylor, tomato

then - 'what is this code a cipher for?',

everything exists in the past, the present and the future
if it is remembered.

RE

my interest lies in the form and effect of language and expression within the narrative of the human condition.

this vast matrix of interconnection means that even the base elements of language, each letterform and each sound, has a contextual and cultural value or resonance; and in combination they attain a level of meaning and resonance that increases exponentially as this energy unfolds in time.

RE

it is a game of consequences,
it is a game of similarity and difference,
of translation and transliteration,
of de-construction
and re-building,
re-forming,
re-presentation
and ultimately –
response.

exp
ectation

What are you doing?
My God, I'm dying!

EE
E
E

1.

Expression.

There are artists who craft a singular form of expression throughout their life and there are others, such as Ryuichi, who are more promiscuous; who deliberately test their craft, process and language in different situations.

This is not purely an intellectual exercise but also an emotive one. We invest in artists and their artistic journey to show and explain to us as a provocation of our individual and collective human condition; so that we reconfigure our internal reading of ourselves through the continuous process of experience; never static, never fully formed, always emerging and egalitarian in principle.

2.

Elegant.

The word Elegant is most commonly defined as ‘having grace and style in appearance or manner’. It’s synonyms include: discerning, refined, dignified, cultivated, distinguished, classic, fashionable, artistic and aesthetic’.

Elegance is also used in mathematics, to describe a solution that is beautiful, one that shows unusual effectiveness and simplicity.

The combination of these two descriptions reveal a common thread; a desire to articulate, with a resonant clarity, irrespective of what form or language of the outcome.

Economic. Efficient. Effective.

3.

Exploration.

To explore is at the centre of the human condition. This restless compulsion to invent, this narcotic of possibility within one’s own set of interests. It is emotive desire as much as intellectual curiosity.

In the philosophy of the Inca the past, present and future are all run parallel to one another; meaning that the past and the future can both affect what is happening now in the present moment.

This, by chance, is echoed by in modern day E.



10.

Ecology.

The relationship and interaction of one thing to another within their specific environment.

It is the earth that we all walk upon. We map our individual journeys; Exploring and expressing, seeking stimulation from new events or environments.

Existence.

Existential.

A large, stylized graphic of the letters 'E' and 'e' in a serif font. The 'E' is tall and the 'e' is lowercase and smaller. They are rendered in a light blue-grey color against a dark blue background.

The letter 'e' (or 'E') is probably the most variable letter in the whole latin alphabet. It can be tall or short, simple or complex, open or closed. It is also used contemporaneously as the symbol for 'estimate'.

RE

RE-building

RE-forming

RE-presentation

RE-sponse

RE-turn

or what lies behind

or as intensive force... as in 'RE-fine'.

Why? Why? Why?

exp
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ion

exams
journal
tion.