

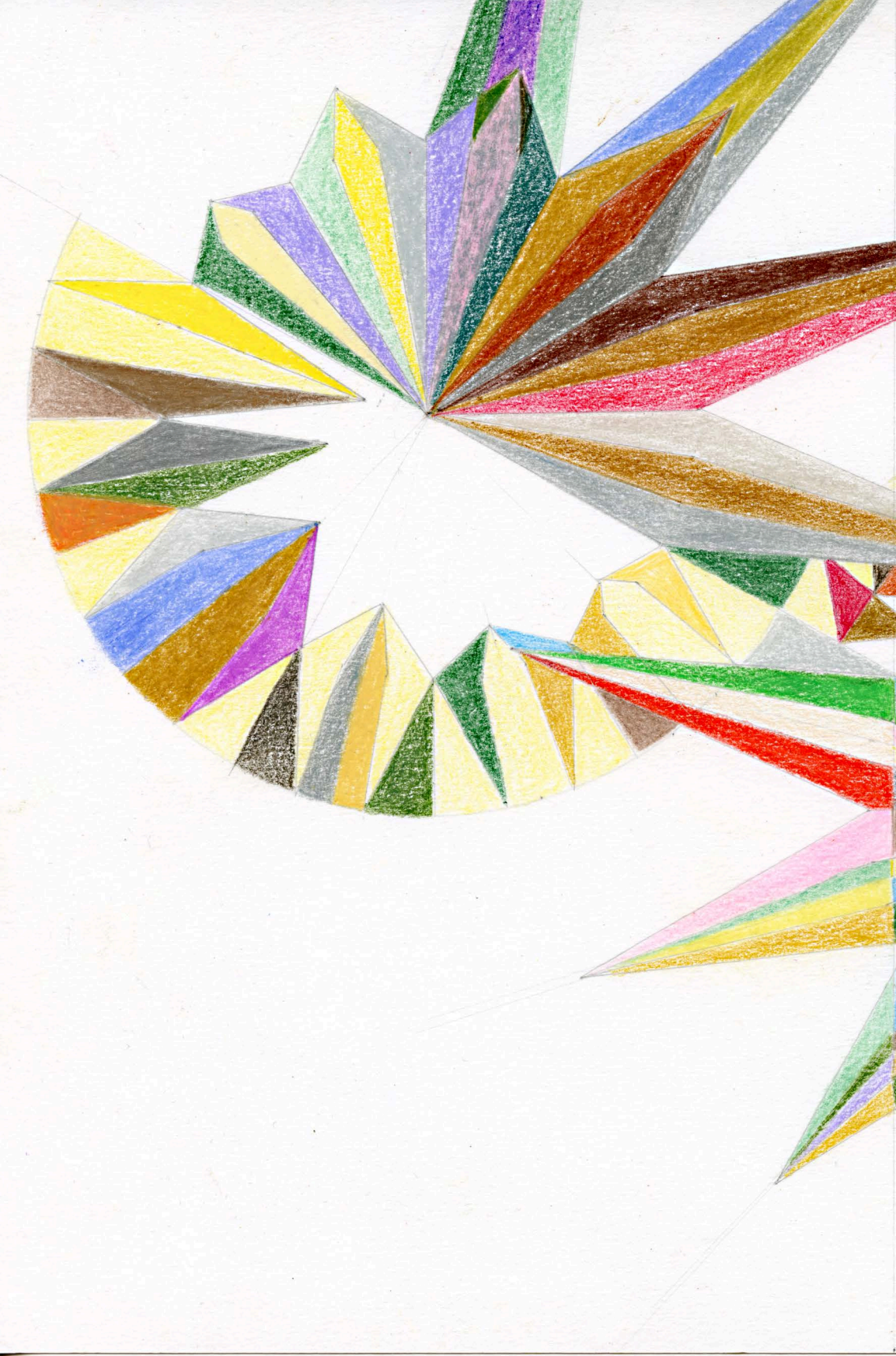
The  
Society  
of the  
Friends  
of the  
Virus

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Volume 2





(To the)

Dear Readers, Friends to Come,

We thank you for your letters and questions, and for your interests to translate, interpret, and develop further in different modes what the Society has so far touched on. Clearly, in such a short and intense period of upheaval our analyses and words will not suffice to encompass what many of the 'communities'-however terrible, terrified, unjust, unequal, racist, mysoginistic, classist, closed-which we have been brought up in-experience collectively. Clearly, the vulnerabilities and exposures are not the same nor the immediate effects of state imposed 'lockdowns', a word which we will have to return to at a later time. But from the Society's perspective, we should not be fooled into thinking the States have had much choice in the matter. We give them too much agency here, if we go too far in this line of thought. They and the Capital which they serve have been caught with their pants down, but the pair of them have never seen a crisis or emergency which they did not use as a lifeline, as enhancement of their means of discipline (fiscal or penal) surveillance, control, their legitimacy (even in this time when their power?over is apparent in its illegitimacies, negligence, depravity, in-difference). We have been numbers to them for a long time.

**Care has meant Security, Fear our Submission to them.**

Our Society formed out of an exigency to struggle at the level of thought and imaginary, as this is the site of colonization and precisely where the early incisions and lacerations took place separating most of us from our bodies and from earth itself.

*AND THEIR CAPACITIES FOR THINKING, KNOWING*

Call it friend, enemy, by-product of Capitalist Colonial Plantationist Extractivist Patriarchal Operations, call it living or dead, call it a protein, the virus is indifferent. Whatever you do, however, do not rob it of its agency to communicate to us, do not deny its communic-abilities. Try to listen hear it, whatever it is, it is not what the noise around it tries to drown out by those who continue to work or make a work of it. We can sometimes know a thing by its effects, affections. This stoppage, this stand-still is real, are we immune to it, or can we be affected by it, can we create an new/old politics with it, with one another, us and the virus.



Dear Virus, (re: your silence our deafness)

It would seem a queer gesture to address or consider writing to you as the structures and infrastructures of support and health crumble and reveal their ... reveal what? Inadequacy, years, decades, centuries? of neglect, disinvestment, monopolization, determination, economization, by states and by capital. And they, who still have faith in these monopolies of power/over, would like to have us believe that you are the cause. They ascribe to you names, the silent enemy, the invisible enemy, rapidly advancing, preying on the elderly, the most vulnerable, yet also indiscriminate, uniting us all against the same ... the enemy within, a common enemy, all of this, we touched on in our first letter to you, so why write again in the midst of constantly passing sirens, each of which serves as a deadly deathly reminder of the consequences of, life and death consequences of how we interpret, feel, perceive, understand the cry of those passing sirens, the alarms of those passing sirens, are they 'falling on deaf ears' too fearful that we could succumb or fall in the grip, the hands invisible hands your hands do you have hands, ears, eyes, do you ~~feel~~ feel our fears, our ears what do they hear. Someone within the society disturbed by the word 'deaf', borrowed above from this saying used in the english language, thought it important to call attention to the dis-abilities embedded in our language and the disabling tendencies metaphors they perpetuate, what they obfuscate, occlude, hide, what does it mean to hear, what is this sense, what use is <sup>it</sup> when we have been taught only one sense of hearing, alert, stop, a siren, but what is it to hear yet alone listen to one's own heart to hear yet alone listen to one's own pain anguish imprisonment yet alone that of an other, others, other beings, are they beings, are they living, are you living, are you you life or death which knocks at the door (did we order something?)(what did we ~~orf~~ order?) (whose orders are we following?). We as the Society would like to state first and foremost: An Ear Full of Fear  
How we hear yet alone heed your call Cannot Hear  
(of alarm or attention or attending-to) which is also silent, silence the very condition of possibility for any form feeling sense of hearing,

silence which the Society does not believe is the lack of or deprivation of sound noise but the only chance for it (thus any form of hearing)

and yet for something more than sound, organized noise, so busy have been the cults or cultures most of us have been part of, always seeing hearing silence as absence, filling it with organized, 'refined' or 'unrefined' forms assemblings of sounds, music, instruments, machines, always louder, always more omni-present, more enclosed, cancelling, isolating, quarantining ourselves from the rumblings of our stomachs, guts, the deliriums and maladies of our bodies and others of earth and the winds thunders tempests hurricanes vibrations jolts like a strike of lightning, once in a lifetime, will we be able to hear yet alone heed your call, to extend proliferate intensify your call to strike and start what will be a rather long but joyful process of convalescence, of learning to hear again fully all that we were, so many of us, were inculcated to cancel out, restricting our field of hearing to certain limited frequencies, channeled, to judge, value, like, desire even this emaciated and undernourished figure of the ear and the sounds attuned to the patriarch, the 'man' of the house, the loud ones, the sure ones, the ordering ones, the bosses, the leaders, their stories, their histories ... well, at least those of us in this Society are unable to stand their calls to get back to order, their calls for public and common good which come only when their depraved indifferences of decades if not centuries (of the powers they have inherited and the violence which has underwritten their authority) is exposed for all to see, read, feel, yes, hear. They appeal to a common at the same time as they have presided over centuries of thefts, seizures, privation and privatization, domestication, enslavement, deterioration, toxification and 'management' of all that is common. They appeal to a 'common' emptied extracted negated of its abundance after their 'works' have been accomplished and now filled with the waste, the ruins the dead, the garbage, the 'unproductive', the costs externalized, the poverties they fabricate, here at THE heart of the exposures and vulnerabilities they have produced in their endless zeal for production, ecco, a purely negative affirmation negative common/s.  
affirmative negation



OPERATIONS  
MODES

And it is in these negligent and cruel of extracting and running earth and human existence to its 'last leg' brought down upon its one knee, their appeals to a common, in their crumbling edifices of power, tarnished of their glory, failing to control the angle of ascent of the curve, afraid to show that they could be startled, surprised, after so many measures and techniques invented to pre-empt the emergence of anything, DISOBEYING especially their order and ordering of the world, their divine and providential management of all things and relations, their economy, their God, Capital, money, property, commodity, value, their values, starkly revealed, made evident (since they ~~so~~ love evidence, they so love evidence, they convinced us all, the only truth could be found in books and knowledge and wisdom

TO THEM,

in laws  
in canons  
in codes  
in orders

and obedience, our love and duty to obey, first the king, then the queen, and now their abstract laws of endless accumulation and concentration of waste, wasted life, lives, a wasteland of earth, with their wealthy and healthy bunkers for the chosen, immune, and the derelict prisons and foresaken exposed unable neglected ~~forsaken~~ guards and guardians of a vision of a common as calamity, apocalypse, of their self-made, diy deserts.

And it is in their calls for order, compassion, and a hollowed out common (depraved/deprived) that they seek to mobilize sentiment, those self-appointed/annointed 'leaders', blaming their 'political' adversaries with whom they dance to determine which way the ship should crash, and which way to get it running again, this they call 'politics', this they call 'economics', for them indistinguishable. And with these calls, and their fingers pointing, they obfuscate the violence of their order and their sickly means of compassion and care.

£20,000, no ¥30,000, now \$<sup>50</sup>40,000 is the cost, supply and demand madame. Busily, noisily convening us to their streams of capture, channeled entertainment, emotional life support systems which only, to drown out the silence from which your call emanates or asks each of us to hear otherwise.

SERVE

Dear Virus, we understand that your silence is not...  
as absence, as passivity, and evidently not lacking  
in effects and affects.

<sup>(IT IS)</sup> it is,  
WE FEEL IT...  
as a possibility for listening to things we never  
hear, or try to hear, or teach to hear, or learn to  
hear, to calls not our own, languages not taught to  
us, sounds noises which could not be perceived or fit  
within our restricted senses of language, murmurs,  
stammers, babbles, speeches, speechless calls sirens  
which are not from beyond or other worldly, but come  
directly from earth and from our own troubling  
relations to the earthly, which so many of the  
communities we come from tried and try still to  
disavow, overcome, dismiss, negate as a scourge,  
as they do to you today, denying your force power  
mystifying (in aerosol form)  
TO  
in order to force and enforce, preserve their own. (POWER)

From a people called Druze, came a family named Al-  
Atrash who gave birth to two of the great singers of  
the last century, Asmahan and her brother Farid, whose  
voices like sirens still continue to move and stir,  
affect, Al-Atrash in the Arabic language means the  
Deaf. This is the paradox of our world, which we  
inherit and <sup>REMAINS</sup> our riddle to solve, those who have been  
called deaf, blind, without speech, mad, sick, dirty  
untouchable, low, savage, inhuman, not human, lacking  
always some thing, some ability, some quality, abnormal  
and for this denied agency and voice, it is 'they'  
(who many of those in the Society comprise) (even if  
in order to 'assimilate' we had to forget)... 'they'  
who have made us feel, see, hear things we were not  
able to perceive before, heal us from the thinking  
that rendered us blind to our own blindness, deaf to  
our own deafness, mute to our own muteness, in the  
face of what is 'invisible' 'silent' and troubles our  
speech, language, our names, images (of the world)  
our metaphors, our thoughts, our lives (with one an-  
other, we include you here, dear virus), that is,  
our politics. In the relatively short time of the  
human project, contrary to those fixated on power  
like to tell it, new politics and ways of living life  
together emerge whenever the walls and borders which  
determine govern order our perceptions are altered.  
From the Society's perspective this may not be a <sup>CALLING FOR</sup>  
political 'project' (like the 'human' one) in the old <sup>MOMENT</sup>  
sense, as a 'work', it may have more to do with ~~the~~ )



the unworking worklessness that is immanent in any strike, and what ultimately threatens the politics that ~~remains~~, the zombie politics, the necro-politics wedded and indiscernible from economy, understood as ,,, (we will leave this for a subsequent letter). Needless to say, it <sup>THE Economy</sup> requires a lot of work and a great deal of violence and ~~coerced~~ involuntary ~~forced~~ exploited labor, work or die, is the simple equation they came up with after all these years, (from the time they started counting) (those who fell in love with counting and keeping count, accounts, etc...) (even more sadly, <sup>YES</sup> it is sometimes true, the funniest things make you cry, today in your presence) which in its newest inflection becomes, die to work!

We will not burden you now with the unspeakable legacies whther in camps or factories or plantations (today they invent more innocuous names for them like 'free trade zones') this make-work-ethic produced and continues to produce ~~today~~, you wouldn't be here otherwise, but let us assure you that it is not new jobs or work, however 'green', we in the Society seek in your wake, nor an 'economic recovery' but a recovering of our means to exist and subsist without The Economy, without coerced forced work, without being in their great 'project' of apocalypse, without The State, The Law, The Father, The Origin, The Commandment, The Hierarchy of their orders and our dutiful observance of the Codes of Conduct they gave us as 'Nature', 'natural', 'Secular', 'secular-ized' sacred orders, laws, <sup>THE</sup> origin of any hierarchy.

The names they will ascribe and the identities they will give to us in the Society is unimportant, since ~~every name will fall short of what it tries to name~~, every naming betrays what it names, maybe our fondness for you is that for once in our life, we have not been called a name (or worse yet-to work) but called to attend to the details of our co-existence and pay attention to our form of life. <sup>TO DO TO PRODUCE</sup>

( IN THIS STRIKE in this strike\*  
BEYOND HUMAN\*IN\*HUMAN STRIKE )

beyond\*human\*in\*human  
strike

(AS WELL AS  
CO-DEPENDENCIES)



“

MY

إن صمتي لأفصح من  
كلماتكم  
اجمعين  
IL MIO  
SILENZIO  
DICE PIÙ  
DELLA SOMMA DI TUTTE

SILENCE

LE VOSTRE  
ADDIZIONI  
SOTTRAZIONI

SAYS

STOPS ASTRAZIONI  
ARRESTS E DOES UNDOES  
PROVOKES

MORE

ALGORITMI  
- COSÌ ..... IL VIRUS  
MON SILENCE DIT BEAUCOUP  
PLUS QUE TOUS VOS MOTS

THAN

MEIN SCHWEIGEN HAT MEHR  
ZU SAGEN ALS ALLE EURE WORTE

ALL YOUR

Моё  
молчание  
ТИШИНА  
МНОГОСЛОВНЕЕ  
ВСЕХ ВАШИХ СЛОВ

WORDS

& WARS

COMBINED

わたしの沈黙は、  
あなたのすべての言葉よりも、  
多くを語っている。

سکوت من از جمع کل سخنان تو گویاتر است

MI SILENCIO GRITA TODO - THUS ? THE VIRUS  
LO QUE CALLA VUESTRA CHACHARA

Today on her walk, she encountered a stone, a field  
a plane so green, a bird, a siren then two,  
She lost her voice once and then forgot, something  
unspeakable, unthinkable, unforgivable,  
The flow of language has been interrupted

health strategy economic strategy  
killing shutting down putting it into a coma  
she is a teacher, a doctor, a nurse, a writer,  
a translator, a garbage collector an administrator  
freeze in place, mobilize and transition, surrender  
when can we go out, older people would rather die  
than kill the country from shutdown boost in free fall  
our lives vs. the economy

\$63 is all it takes to provide blankets to Syrian moms  
restart when what's the deadline inmates at Rikers  
fear virus Stay up to date create share ideas save  
What we know: words monsters words hollowed and about  
away from with the as is to and one on the with  
catastrophic! Magic money machine is a wreck in delay  
I had just enough savings a man was accused of cough-  
ing, how to prevent virus dictates two malaria drugs  
Is your grocery delivery worth a worker's life?

They are soldiers

Sign up to receive the new weekly roundup of fashion  
entertainment design food travel art architecture and  
more.

**Language hurts if spoken unbroken  
if written unshaken**

This is not a joke and I am not kidding. The last  
umbrella you will ever need. Guaranteed for life.

It attacks everyone, it attacks everywhere.

Stuck at home? These 12 famous museums offer virtual

9/11 cancer deadline extended, mouthwatering vegan

food For India's laborers an order to starve, we're

going to make it **We have a deal definitely damaged**

**despondent downturn debt death** Even the devastating

AIDS epidemic had little effect on the booming market

**The meaning in language has been disrupted** If you wait

it is too late, For New York deadly as they say

Opinion subscribe sign in virus relief package **We will**

**get by around and that the would be the hit by the**

**with over that has** Disaster needs a leader, their

new hoax send inmates home confinement quarantine

curfew shelter-in-place self-isolate nurses lack

And behold, today they need a major bailout A famous

art dealers son is launching Emergency Emergency

Her account is graphic **The sense of words has been cut**

**off** the Dakota Access pipeline 2.2trillion 60-second



"wrinkle cream" solution A frightening assault on  
free speech spokesman said that as the is was very  
and a a agreed Without measures 2.2 3.3 100% \$300  
\$221\$117\$150\$500\$1200 Top priority hiring right now  
work from home warehouse driver spread virus breakfast  
lunch brunch bars and pubs: the virtual experience  
It comes from the community

100 TV shows will keep you streaming for weeks of  
social distancing mission failed  
they can't afford to quarantine.

Every time  
It is writing  
It is also questioning  
    a writing  
        as questioning  
          a questioning of the certainty  
            In and of language

Today on her walk she encountered  
Disaster - a word a friend from the ~~xxxxx~~ outside

POST USA TIMES

THE HOSPITAL  
IS  
ITSELF  
A  
SICK (TOXIC)  
ENVIRONMENT

(BEYOND) HOSPITAL STRIKE

HOW CAN IT HEAL  
OR TAKE CARE  
OF WHAT AILS US  
WHAT MAKES US SICK  
WHAT MUTILATES THE CARE  
OF CARE\*GIVERS  
AND MAKES US ALL  
PAY (IN MANY WAYS)  
FOR THEIR STRUCTURAL  
STRUCTURED NEGLECT  
THEY WHO MAKE OF IT  
THEIR 'BUSINESS'  
TO TREAT 'PATIENTS'  
TO TREAT 'HEALTH'

THE HOSPITAL  
IS BUT ONE EXAMPLE

AS BUSINESS  
THE CORPORATIONS & THEIR  
H INSTITUTIONS WHICH STATES  
PURPORT TO BE  
OUR LIFE SUPPORT STRUCTURES  
OUR (NOT FORGETTING THE EXCLUSIONS)  
COMMON INFRASTRUCTURE OF SUPPORT

HAVE THEMSELVES BECOME OUR ADVERSARIES, 'OUR NEMESIS'

TO THOSE WHO WORK INSIDE THEM  
& TO THOSE THEY 'SERVE' 'TREAT' 'THREAT'  
'CHARGE' & 'DISCHARGE'  
'BILL' & 'EMPLOY' & 'EX\*  
'DENY' & 'BILK' & 'INDEBT' 'PLOIT'  
'CURE' & 'SECURE'

Given that this strike  
called, prompted by the virus  
is not a WORK\*PLACE STRIKE  
BUT a LIFE\*PLACE STRIKE  
that is,

a STRIKE unfolding in the middle center of L I F E  
directly where it has been divided split by powers  
for millenia \*\*\* at the point-of-contact (contagione)

BETWEEN

colored / colorless  
contagious / immune  
insane / sanitary  
slave servant / master  
alien illegal / citizen  
animal vegetative / human  
inhuman / human  
queer play / serious  
abnormal / normal  
object (subjective) / respected subject (objective)  
nature / culture

Biological / Political

L I F E

(and for this, we are not confronted by a HEALTH  
but a POLITICAL CRISIS of the greatest CRISIS

a KRISIS a decision magnitude life/death

over, on, what how to live, how to care,  
which lives who what constitutes (a) life use,  
are a part of this care contact make  
this our attention



(Given this)

THEN

NOTHING

SHORT

OF

THE INVENTION OF NEW  
AND THE REDISCOVERY OF OLD

which  
have been  
suppressed  
dismissed  
pilloried  
colonized  
privatized  
warholed

MEANS, USES,  
FORMS, SITES,  
AND CENTRES  
of CARE of LIFE  
WILL SUFFICE.

(In our bodies, through our bodies, life ~~is~~ has been  
is being split, over and over again, one condemned  
judged carnal sexual animal sinful, one transcending  
holy divine, one enslaved, one free, one savage,  
primitive, base, one educated, trained, civilized,  
mannered, enlightened, one dirty, one clean, one  
poor, one rich, one productive, one reproductive,  
one paid, one unpaid, one with value, one without  
value, one operates, one assists, one nurses, one  
cleans, one cleans after the cleaners and healers,  
one throws all that has been cleaned away, away where  
that empty receptacle of course, that valueless  
hole which gave birth to us and now separated becomes  
the wastebin earth)

HEALERS, heal yourselves, thus will you heal your  
patients too.

MAY YOUR CARES, ~~serve~~ attend to the SENSE of EARTH  
MAY THE VALUE of ALL THINGS be posited ANEW by YOU!

A THOUSAND UNTRODDEN PATHS, A THOUSAND HEALTHS,  
and HIDDEN ISLANDS OF LIFE, there are.

RATHER THAN A THREAT AN ADVERSARY A ...  
A SITE OF HEALING OF CONVALESCENCE ~~SHALL~~ <sup>BE</sup>  
~~SHALL~~ SHALL the EARTH YET BECOME!

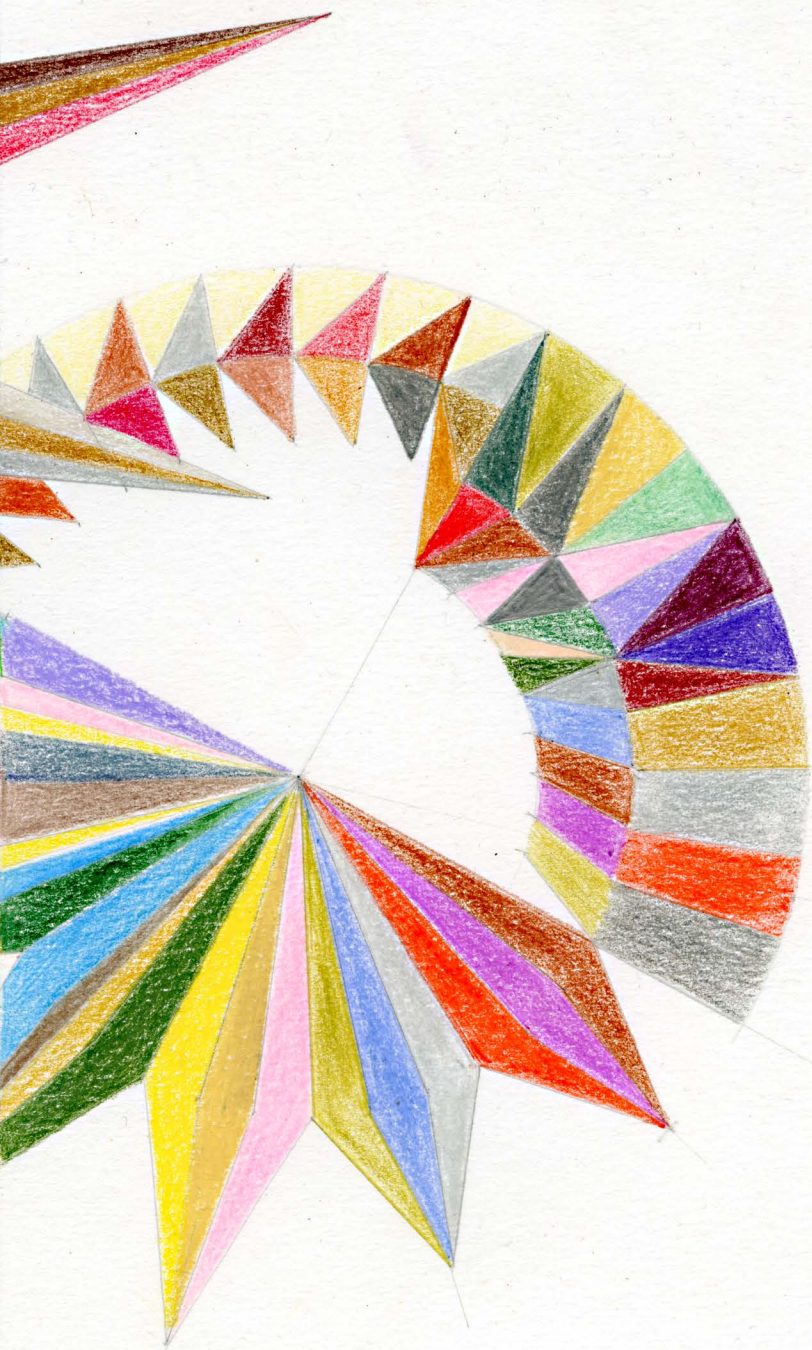
THIS CALL TO STRIKE (IF YOU CAN HEAR IT, ATTUNE TO  
IS THE STRIKE . . . OF A LIFETIME IT)

"You don't have to wait to the end of the movie to find out what happens."

Postscript:

The Economization of the hospital is but one facet of a broader phenomenon which cannot fully be grasped without confronting it as a religious phenomenon, thus also moral as it regards work as well credit debt guilt. For most of this young century, we have lived to see the Economy likened to humankind's Life Support, but we have lived enough to see that it is what kills life. The Economy has become immune from life, and death, whether our own or of other beings. In a curious turn of phrase, 'to make a killing' meant as making great profits, goes from metaphorical to literal. Everything is profitable, as long as sufficient time and credit is afforded to repurpose the providential machine which hurls all life toward the foresaken wasteland that had been projected upon it. The Economists today, (almost entirely of the Capitalist faith) and their co-religionists, those who share the same convictions busy with their offices, ministries, oaths of allegiance duties and professions seem to have worked hard over this last century to fine tune this machine. And as any surviving religion has done, it has separated itself with its sacred tenets (private property e.g.) & codes, heresies and penitentiaries, and when needed, special edicts, measures, packages, stimuli, supplementing credit, beliefs, in order to immune itself from the miseries it reaps from the wretched of earth. Immune from all the suffering and violence, the mean of faith dig deep until the last penny, then move on to the next 'opportunity' which may well be 'mitigating' the fallout from their diggings, as they do now with the virus, all the while projecting their afterworld, for what is a religion without that, their Vatican Silicon Valley, inventing technologies to mitigate everything, even the loss of reality. The virus, now, as we write, tries to test this immunity of The Economy from earthly, profane existence. This is not the last messenger nor the first birds bats pigs camels mad-cows have come, singers, oinkers, screechers, silent, mooing, crackling, fires, hurricanes, tsunamis, earthquakes, floods, leaks, spills, ... and each time, miraculously the incorporated entities seem to resurrect and the mean of faith toil on, carrying out their Economic works. What is different this time, virus, this curious word which ~~names~~ names both cause and effect, is also medium, means





Begin with the 'essentials'  
and the common premises of life,  
such as air, water, earth,  
unwork  
unmake  
undo  
destitute  
your way up from there.  
Earth is our life support,  
not the Economy.

For contacting the  
Society of the Friends of the Virus  
please write to letters @ centreparrhesia.  
org

The Society welcomes  
translations~~x~~ transcriptions,  
dissemination of 'its' theories, literature,  
writings

Its publications are  
also a means of  
finding, enlargening, proliferating  
the entanglement(s), the weaving(s)  
of friends, so do keep ~~us~~ in touch.

April, 2020