

Designing a Brand-New Universe

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At 11:30 on Sunday 27th April 1980, shortly before my 38th birthday, as I was strolling across Wimbledon Common in London to the pub for lunch, a big bang exploded in my psyche, which has led me to design a brand-new Universe, one that is quite different from that which physicists construct today. For *physics* derives from Greek *phusis* ‘origin, nature’ and *nature* derives from Latin *nasci* ‘to be born’. So the authentic natural scientist orders the Cosmos starting at the Origin of the Universe, which is within us all—the Divine Source of Life bubbling up from the Fountainhead in the Eternal Now.

Discovering that nonphysical, mental energies are causing technologists to drive the pace of evolutionary development at exponential rates of change was a mind-shattering revelation, which it has taken me 32 years to heal. For I had been given the key that would unlock the innermost secrets of the Universe: what it is, how it is designed, and how we could live in love, peace, and harmony with each other and our environment for as long as there are human beings dwelling on our beautiful planet Earth.

Yet the Universe I live in today is not really new, as I was to discover in 1998, when a friend introduced me to *Consciousness Speaks* by Ramesh S. Balsekar, a former President of the Bank of India and an Advaita sage. For this book begins with the words, “All there is, is Consciousness,” which by then I knew with Absolute Certainty in my own direct experience. For *Consciousness* means ‘knowing together’, from Latin *cum* ‘together with’ and *scire* ‘to know’. So when we learn to integrate all knowledge in all cultures and disciplines at all times into a coherent whole, Cosmic Consciousness is a natural concomitant.

In Sanskrit, this transcultural, transdisciplinary worldview is called *Satchidananda*, from a compound of *Sat* ‘Absolute, Eternal, Unchanging Being; Truth’, *Chit* ‘Absolute Consciousness’, and *Ananda* ‘Bliss, Absolute Joy’. So *Satchidananda* means ‘Bliss of Absolute Truth and Consciousness’, which never goes away, no matter what the vicissitudes of life might be. Nondual *Satchidananda* is Immortal. For *Sat* denotes ‘what is’, deriving from the Proto-Indo-European (PIE) base **es-* ‘to be’—the root of *is*, *ontology* ‘science or study of being’, *interesting* ‘between beings’, *essence* ‘inner being, soul’, and *Presence* ‘before being, prior to existence’—from the suffixed form *-ont*, also root of *soothe* (with Truth), Swedish *sann* ‘truth’, *satsang* ‘an assembly of seekers of the Truth’, and Mohandas K. Gandhi’s *satyagraha* ‘Truth force’.

Furthermore, the cataclysmic, apocalyptic awakening that has unified the psychospiritual and physical energies at work in the Universe is not unique. It is very similar to that which people experience when taking psychedelic substances, like LSD, various types of mushroom, or beverages of *ayahuasca*. For as Ralph Metzner describes in *The Expansion of Consciousness*, “a psychedelic experience ... typically leads to a more or less total deconstruction of one’s worldview, the model of reality and of social relations that we have come to accept through our upbringing and education.” And with or without psychotropic drugs, many have had similar apocalyptic epiphanies, for *apocalypse* derives from Greek *apokaluptein* ‘to uncover’ or ‘to reveal’ from the Greek prefix *apo* ‘from, away’ and *kaluptra* ‘veil’. So *apocalypse* literally means ‘draw the veil away from’, indicating the disclosure of something hidden, but revealed by John of Patmos in these words, “I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.”

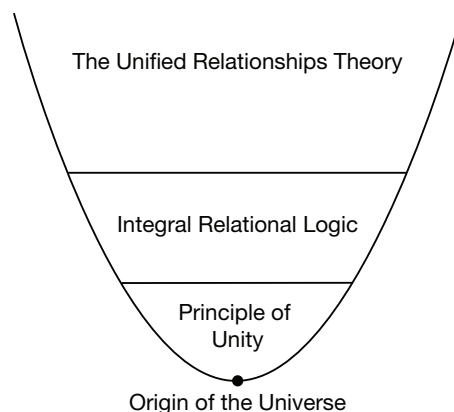
But do such liberating events always reveal this universal truth? Not often. For how can we interpret these unifying cosmic experiences within a conflict-ridden social environment and by using a language that has evolved to represent worldviews that are based on delusion, quite separate from Reality? In particular, the word *science* also derives from *scire* ‘to know’, from PIE base **skei-* ‘to cut, split’, also root of *schizoid*, *scire* meaning here ‘to separate one thing from another, to discern’. So reductionist science causes us to suffer from schizophrenia, from Greek *phren* ‘mind’. In particular, the global economy, based as it is

on materialistic, mechanistic science, serves to maintain our fragmented, split, specialized minds in delusion, inhibiting us from healing what Erich Fromm called our sick society in *To Have or To Be?* in 1976.

In contrast, *art* derives from Latin *ars* 'skill, way, method', from PIE base **ar-* 'to fit together', also root of *coordinate, reason, read, harmony, order, and arithmetic*. So it is the task of the arts to put back together the distinctions that science has discerned. It is through the creative, synthesizing power of the *Art of Loving*, rather than the divisive, analytical techniques of the sciences, that we can heal our fragmented minds in Wholeness, and hence heal our grievously sick society. It is by intelligently applying the arts to self-inquiry that we can generalize the holistic semantic modelling methods of information systems architects in business to create a meaningful, oxymoronic science of consciousness, taking logic—the primary science of thought and reason—out of mathematics into psychology, where it properly belongs.

As I can see now, this is what the Logos—the immanent, divine intelligence rationally governing the Cosmos, in Heraclitus' mystical meaning of *Logos*—led me to do in the weeks following my death-and-rebirth eureka moment on 27th April 1980. Eight weeks later, around midsummer, the acorn that would grow into a mighty oak—healing my shattered mind in Wholeness—emerged in consciousness. I call this holotropic seed, which is an irrefutable, universal truth, the Principle of Unity, the fundamental design principle of the Universe, which Heraclitus called the 'Hidden Harmony', which can be elegantly expressed in just seven words—*Wholeness is the union of all opposites*—or six mathematical symbols: $A = A \cup \sim A$, where A is any being whatsoever, \cup union, and \sim not.

In turn, the Principle of Unity has generated all-inclusive Integral Relational Logic (IRL), a commonsensical, egalitarian, holographic, fractal-like, nonaxiomatic, noninferential science of thought and consciousness that we all use everyday to form concepts and organize our ideas in tables and mathematical graphs or semantic networks. In turn, IRL provides the Cosmic Context, coordinating framework, and Gnostic Foundation for the open-ended Unified Relationships Theory (URT)—the much sought-for Theory of Everything; the megasynthesis that Pierre Teilhard de Chardin prophesied in *The Human Phenomenon*; and the Holy Grail, Philosophers' Stone, and Apotheosis of human learning.



What this means is that if we could all assimilate the Principle of Unity in consciousness, we could all heal our deluded, schizoid minds and live harmoniously together in the Age of Light. We would then be freely alive while still in our bodies, called *jivan-mukti* in the East. Sadly, however, transforming egoic, either-or thinking into Holistic, both-and is easier said than done. For this seed must be planted in fertile, virgin soil, which is well nourished, watered, and lit, free of thistles and stones, which is a metaphor for our mechanistic conditioning, especially that which we introject from the cultures we are born into. And Western civilization, especially, teaches us that we are separate from the Divine, Nature, and each other, leading this predominant culture to be built on seven pillars of unwisdom: misconceptions of God, Universe, Life, humanity, money, justice, and reason. Therein lies the rub. These pillars of unwisdom provide many with a precarious sense of security and identity in life. So it can be too scary, even overwhelming to start afresh at the very beginning, rebuilding our education and economic systems on the seven pillars of wisdom, despite the rapturous rewards of doing so, which are literally out of this world.

A massive life-shock is thus needed to shake humanity back to Reality, induced by completing today's Scientific Revolution, just as Newton completed the Copernican/Keplerian/Galilean revolution with *Principia* in 1687. Awakening to Total Freedom would thus complement the Spiritual Renaissance spreading around the world, enabling us to use the transnational techniques that information systems architects use to design the Internet to cocreate the eschatological Sharing Economy, based on love rather than money, giving everyone on Earth the opportunity to realize their fullest potential as human beings.