

*Spirit . Intellect . Purpose*



University of  
**Batangas**



# **Lesson 10: Soul Making**



# What is soul-making?

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Heraclitus



John Keats  
(1795-1821)

# Soul is beyond definition



- **soul making** cannot be defined. The Greek philosopher Heraclitus said, “you could not discover the limits of the soul, even if you traveled by every path in order to do so; such is depth of its meaning.”

- **Keat** went to explain soul-making as a process where the basic seed of divine intelligence in all humans goes through necessary experiences, especially suffering, that transform the intelligence into a unique soul.

# Soul making



Making and Deriving Meaning From Art.

- In arts, in order for people to make sense of the work, it would require understanding the visual elements where art was grounded on, especially the principles of design.

**The Audience must have:**



- **Style-** refers to the distinctive handling of elements and media.
- **Form-** is what the audience sees.
- **Content-** is the subject matter and underlying meanings or themes.




## Soul-Making is a metaphor

The term **soul making** is a metaphor. The word “**metaphor**” is comprised of two Greek words – *meta* – means above and *phero* - means to carry. So metaphor is an image or phrase that carries the reader above the literal sensory realm into the realm of invisible imagination. Like myth, metaphor enlists the truth of imagination over the truth of literalism.



**“Deep,” Mario Sanchez  
Nevado (2012)**



Soul-making is a metaphorical term. Therefore, the term will never be adequate for those logical positivists or rationalistic materialists, like Richard Dawkins of *The God Delusion*, who exclude all non-material or **“non-sensical”** words.

## **Soul-making is poetry making**

The word **‘making’** in soul making comes out on the Greek word ***poieo*** which means to be the author or maker of something. Our English words poet, poem and poetry come from this word. The making is not done by impersonal processes, but by intelligent forces. So, then soul-making is really psycho ***poeisis*** or soul poetry.



# The poetry of psyche

One way to understand this is to imagine the universe as an immense dictionary filled with an infinite number of Living Words (archetypes). Your individual life is like a page upon which universe composes a poem. Your soul is a poem in the process of being composed or authored. These universal words or archetypal energies are creators, sort like radio signals entering our minds via the receiver we call a brain. As they are experienced, we turn them into spoken sounds and written words.

# Co-creating: you are the poet and the poem



We are co-creators in the soul-making processes. We choose the words and the words choose us. Our human desire for poetry comes from the Higher Realms, not vice versa; we write and read poetry because we are poetry.

The eternal words are infinite, interactive symbiotic energies. Our human word and artistic symbols carry them from the heavenly realms into the arena of soul-making. The Greeks called the mysterious process of inspiration (in-spiriting) the work of Muses.

# The analogy of word particles



Each soul formation is as unique as a snowflake or fingerprint. These universal patterns of uniqueness are being explored in the natural world in the relatively new field of fractal geometry.

Perhaps these mental emissions project toward and attract the necessary objects, persons, parents, education and experiences to complete our unique soul-poems.

## **Night Poems: Soul-making in our dreams**

These archetypal nouns and verbs come to us most easily and creatively in our dreams, when our conscious guards are down. It is I the night, while we

# Conclusion

Soul-making is not an empirical science; interestingly, many scientists working at the level of quantum reality are wondering whether there is such a thing as empirical, objective science.

Soul-making is beyond definition.

We live in an intelligent universe - some form of mysterious intelligence encompasses the seemingly random chaos and resultant order, an order that is beyond our assumed understanding of order. This Universe is suffused with Poetic words or living energies that are part of the soul making process.



Each of us is a unique poem, gradually being weaved together into a large poetic whole/soul. Every incident and event is part of that epic poem. While there may be tragedies and betrayals, troubles and failures, successes and victories-there are no useless words in your poem: and most of it goes on at levels we cannot see or understand.

## **Soul-Making: Making and Deriving Meaning from Art**

In order for humans to make sense of language and derive meanings from words, semantics and grammatical rules are important elements to be considered. Aside from this, context and symbolisms are also considered to interpret and analyze either




**Style** refers to the distinctive handling of elements and media associated with the work of an individual artist, a school, a movement, or a specific culture or time period. The content of an artwork includes not only its form but also its subject matter and underlying meanings or themes.

## Improvisation

**Improvisation** can be defined as doing something without prior preparation. There is a decision to act upon something that may not necessarily be planned. Within the present context, improvisation has become an integral part of the art.

For some artists, infusing spontaneity and improvisation adds up to the totality of the work of art.



The unexpectedness of the changes brought about by improvisation makes the artwork to have a distinctive quality that creates its individuality and identity. So in the essence, **improvisation** is evident in the process of making the painting. During the 1960's art improvisation has taken form in galleries around new york city.

Performance arts, dance, and visual arts were combined to create new forms of artworks using a new medium. These performances were known as the "Happenings" which later on paved the way for modern body art and performance art. One of the central figures in the improvisation movement was **Georges Mathieu.**



**Georges Mathieu**  
(1921-2012)





# **“Marta Minunjin Performance art”**



**Example of action painting**

# Appropriation



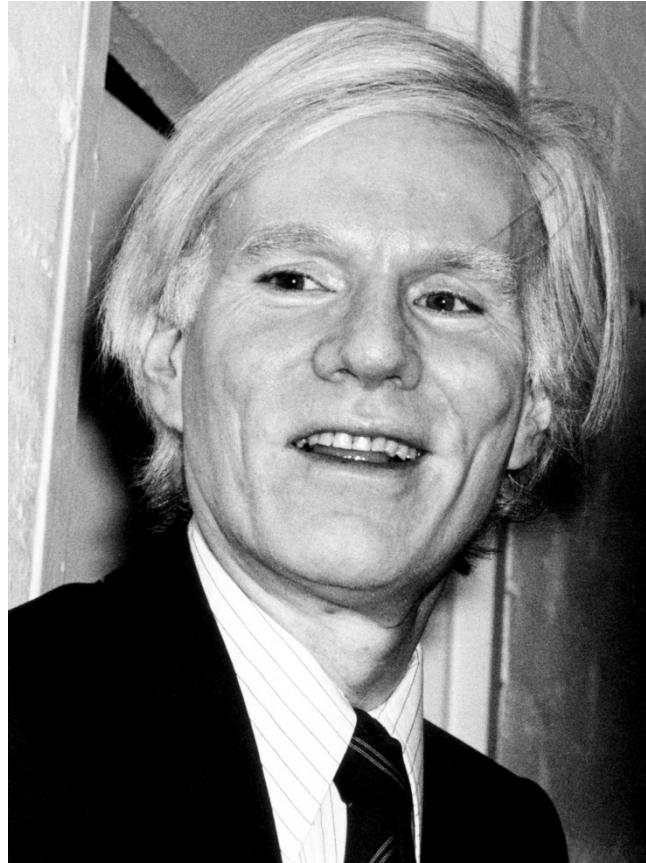
Appropriation of arts has been a common practice throughout the history. In the past, if an apprentice painter needs to hone his skills in his craft, he would be allowed to use his master's work to copy. It is as if the apprentice is trying to explore his personal application of techniques to something he is more familiar with.

However, there are some people who go to the extreme by believing that copying the exact artwork of an artist and attributing it to his own. This could be pose a problem especially with authorship



The intentions of the appropriation artists are often questioned since issues of plagiarism or forgery sometimes arise. Some would argue that the reason behind the appropriation is that they want audience to recognize the images they copied. There is a hope on the part of the artist for the viewers to see the original work in a new perspective. That appropriation would bring about a new context to the original work.

One of the most famous works of appropriation would have to be **Andy Warhol's "Campbell's Soup Cans (1962)**. Warhol copied the original labels of the soup can but deliberately filled up the entire picture plane. The idea of putting together of the soup cans is something new for the audience. Just like any product, the brand is integral to Campbell's identity. As an artist, Warhol decided to isolate the image of the product. This



**Andy Warhol**  
**(1928-1987)**





**Andy Warhol's "Campbell's Soup Cans (1962)**