

ENERGY AS ESSENCE

THE ART AND POETRY OF BASIL ELIADES



(excerpt)

I am more interested in the energy of a word, of an object, than the shape of it. For me, essence is more essential than form. That is why text should be big enough to fill one's mouth, and the experience of reading it aloud like drinking molten chocolate or having one's shoulders rubbed. The parts of a poem may not mean something logically, but they may well mean something illogically or use a different logic, such as that of the subconscious or dream state. The way a poem is read, or said, or accepted, means as much as the cadence that is written into it.

I am more interested in the energy of an image, of a line, than the rendition of its surface. For me, essence is more essential than form. That is why an image should be big enough to fill one's ears and head, and the experience of reading it aloud should be like being filled with hormones, or having music inserted in your spine. The parts of a painting may not mean something logically, but they may well mean something illogically, or use a different logic, such as that of the subconscious, or dream state. The way an image is seen, or accepted, means as much as the cadence that is painted into it.



Macro/Micro, Swedish Archipelago, Ballarat, 2001, panel two, 184 x 121 cm.