

VICUNA AND WOMEN CENTRED MODERNISM

‘ A word once written risks becoming linear,
but word and thread exist on another dimensional
plane.’

For Vicuna, the mingling of yarn and text...guide us to the centre of memory, they are a path that leads towards the process of merging and uniting. Therefore, they partake in cosmic time, they vibrate through the centuries, they dwell among the immortals, they allow us to become immortal.

In short Vicuna is a Modernist.

Shall we take the hands of Eliot and Joyce? They will show us how to collapse epoch and era by descending into mythic time, dissolving consciousness, and temporal concern so that one time becomes all time. And what do they use to effect this alchemy? Why, myth and history, philosophy, and literature; they use allusion. O, how it resonates, but it *is* linear and it is cerebral. Even Molly Bloom's joyous physicality is confined to the page, forever frozen, amongst the jangling bed springs.

But Vicuna is craftier, she weaves her text on a loom, on Mary Frame whose kinetic, fluid prose comes to us unbroken down the Centuries - still moving, still speaking, still breathing. Vicuna's Modernism, twists, and jives, *she* connects us to mythic time through her foremothers, who employing their bodies, weaved and plaited and told stories as they did so, gossiping, stitching and when language failed, using the alphabet of pattern and colour, collapsing time, *and* crucially healing the fracture between body and mind.

O what an inversion do we find here, what tumbling of hierarchies, the toppling of Patriarchy. What *would* Mr Eliot have said? He who most vehemently denied that perfect virtuosity could issue from anything remotely physical, he who described female concerns as being the 'minimum material' for Art.

But hey, we are dealing with the Modernists here! And all Modernists regardless of sex, understand that most sacred wisdom of the Ancients, that all matter, all beings, all souls' are interconnected, And so, Vicuna, cunning woman, sees that:

that 'Word and thread behave as processes in the Cosmos...a symmetry

re-iterates the concept of complementarity that imbues all
Andean

thought.'

And so, the miraculous and creative become inherent within prosaic domesticity and the numinous and luminous haunt the spinning, weaving women; linking the writer to the ancestors', dreaming herself whole, that most sublime and transcendent of all conditions.

She calls herself Diviner but she is *Witch*.

O, how she dances!