

'When it is experienced from the inside, devoid of all exterior features, being cannot be otherwise than round.'

roundness may be the form or boundary we give to the imagination.

It is the architectural or metaphoric shape we impose upon thought to

make it visible - to make it present to itself. One could say that roundness

gives body to soul - propelling us towards the invisible associations that

the visible suggests. Like a shrine, a reliquary, an open encyclopaedia, or a

labyrinth, roundness is a region of synthesis, indetermination and shifting

boundaries. A fluid space of nexus and engagement - a suspended state of

possibility - roundness is the space of looking and being looked at,

appearing and disappearing.

roundness negotiates relations between inside and outside, here and

beyond.

Seen from the outside, roundness proposes an acceptance of the givenness

of the world. The round form is seen as distinct from other like objects and

from the space surrounding the form. It appears as a seamless,

indissoluble totality - woven in language by logic - enclosed and enclosing.

When considered in relation to knowledge and truth roundness suggests

bordered and well-ordered states of presence.

When experienced from within, roundness embraces ambiguity.

Characterised by openness and complexity - it is creative and endlessly

variational.

roundness is both a geometric and an organic shape. It is a celestial and terrestrial form. When roundness is considered in relation to that which is excluded by logic and to that which remains inexpressible through it, roundness reminds us of the impossibility of being outside the totality of our world. We can no longer think in terms of a totality that is not potential, conjectural and various.

roundness is a closed form that opens like a flower

This roundness can be both infinite and intimate.

Images of roundness may be empty or full. Empty roundness is like a vessel which is in continuous exchange with whatever is 'outside'. The round form and visual space are in a constant state of indetermination and flux in which there is no fixed state of Being – there is only 'becoming'.

roundness is a kind of wonder that does away with antithesis. In the realm of the imagination roundness is an amplification, condensation, omission - an invitation into a space for contemplation in which there are no boundaries. A contemplation of roundness prompts us to ask questions about what it is we are if we belong in the roundness of the world.

The world is round but it is not fixed.

martina copley 1997