

*Casual Alchemy*      *June 2021*  
*“Intuitive Making” Presentation Notes,*  
*rough*



***Exploring*** *Self, Community and Nature with chance, coincidence, accident, Unconscious Intelligence by making objects as compasses, tools of personal exploration in the helical twist of our 3 Living Realities: The Imagined, The Perceived, The Remembered*

***WHY?*** *It changes! It needs attention, reviewing, refreshing by Looking In, Out, Down, Back and Ahead.*

*These are not tasks, but invitations, idyls to “kindle magic in an unmysterious world .”*

Joseph Stella

## Talk Notes Omega

**Zoom Intuitive Making event 6.8.21**

### **WHAT'S? Happening?**

#### ***The Climate is Changing***

“The rush and pressure of modern life are a form, perhaps the most common form, of contemporary violence. To allow oneself to be carried away by a multitude of conflicting concerns, to surrender to too many demands, to commit oneself to too many projects, to want to help everyone in everything, is to succumb to violence. The frenzy of our activity neutralizes our work for peace. It destroys our own inner capacity for peace. It destroys the fruitfulness of our own work, because it kills the root of inner wisdom which makes work fruitful.” **Thomas Merton**

**It's personal:** age stage, medical, political, spiritual, “standing”, visibility

**Shifting WorldView:** Each reveals different layer of reality; “*I believe different things in different places*” Fedrico Fellini

**Time** is changing: from chronos to  
\***Kairos**\* Slows Down, different  
frequency WAIT!

#### **Check Astrological Movements**

SEE [jessicadavidson.co.uk/tag/apocalypse/](https://jessicadavidson.co.uk/tag/apocalypse/)

**Encounters w Disorder Cognitive Kaleidoscope** Everything still there but ***jumbled-replaced-repositioned less insulated.*** Interests and friends change. Pickup new frequencies/ sm tear in mind fabric more empathy, protected Each ordering we choose is seemingly a self-evident virtue ***until it is challenged.*** the **urgent need/compulsion to rearrange those deck chairs**

**Civility Membrane May Thin** out, more gets through Archetypal energy of ***Misanthrope, Scamp, Hermit***

**Watch for Emerging Archetypes**  
**TRICKSTER/Scamp** appears ***Time to Dismantle, Re Arrange, Re-Order***

**HomoSpiritus** [www.friendsofgnosis.ca/thenaissance-and-homo-spiritus/](http://www.friendsofgnosis.ca/thenaissance-and-homo-spiritus/) Religion is the attraction of the soul to God Quaker***Inward***  
***Light*** [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theurgy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theurgy)

**Aging/Eldering** accelerated stages of dementia, erratic behaviors ***Joan Halifax, Andy Fisher*** learning to live in twilight w dated and worn forms. ***like my website*** [surrendrng.uncertnty-embracng-mud](http://surrendrng.uncertnty-embracng-mud)

# **Responses**

***discovering adjustments to personal sustainability***

**WHY?** *To get more access to core themes, your psychic fuels, the Values that drive your actions*

**HOW?** 2-Word Answers:

***Play More      Trust Intuition***

**Be Creatively out-of-control** *Like Boiling a Frog*: incrementally move boundaries of ego out with regular contact w coincidence, accident, Kairos, Others and Nature  
“Collaborate” = *Merge, Dissolve, Emerge*

**Honor Indirect Attention, different valence, nutrient mix from sharp limelight attention**  
**Use noticing, casual attention. Avoid the Full Frontal approach see what develops**  
**Try using more Organic language: terms from farming, gardening, cooking, words about the Body**

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# **1. Alone/ Quiet/ Still**

**in the moment feeling/watching**

**En-Trance** encounters w Chance, Accident

**Wow of Now**

**Deep Breath, Do a Body Scan**

**Recognize/Accept/Honor who you are**

**It's taken years to grow into who you are**

**Be in Nature** Alone se “derive” (da reev)

**Be Open** to the game changing

**Prep/Resp may precede Event**

**Be Playful and Joyful** Just Notice/Touch,  
perhaps Arrange **Altars**: “a sacred empty space  
that invites psyche”

**Be Curious and Alert to accidents,**  
**coincidences messages.** But do ask if these  
shiny objects, side trails  
are in service of wisdom or a distraction

**Expect/Invite Visitors** via Needs, Dreams,  
memories, Old Clans, themes, **“Oh, you  
again”**

**2. Alone/Active** *only slightly more self-aware/directing, but still alone.*

Some questions and activities

**Just Note/List** where you energy, interests time REALLY goes. Check out “**Etheric Cords**” This is like a Diary)

**Explore Your “Smokey Life”** your range of reactions to profound disorder. natural and cultural upheaval,

**Your VIOs?** *an attraction to an inanimate object:* Stuffies fetish, talisman, **Why**

**Who’s Showing Up?** New and Old (Cameo Roles) sticking in your Stories? In Dreams

**Language.** *Collect ORGANIC images,* ideas and words: *cooking, foraging, ripening,* Notice and Be Alert to Technical and mechanical -based words, images and ideas

**Review Your NEED for**

**Wonder.** awe, play, mystery, “feeling in”

**Dexterity** (transforming, hand-spirit,

**Stories** (how you fit into the world),

**Organic/Sensual/The Feral/The Carnal**

to Belong, to Provide, to Dominate, to Submit

***The Need to Lump and the Need to Split***

**Review Your Clans**, Now Recognize,  
Find, Tweak affiliation Disfiliation changes  
Ascribed earned *Again, see Etheric Cords.*

**Matterings/Projects** *Make Trance-Catchers*  
Objects are Clues to speak to merging  
selves. Witness Plurality Practice  
Impermanence

Try renaming/positioning objects? **What  
Else could these Be?** “art dolls” “fetishes”  
“stuffies” “outsider art”

**Honor the Ordinary** **Use Empties** boxes jars  
*as Altars, (DollarStore) See what comes*

**Make** Cards, Tools, Masks, Effigies (“dolls,  
puppets?”), via Cards, Tools, **altars** “a  
sacred empty space that invites psyche”  
*What do you need tools for? Protection,  
sorting, aggression honoring, awe inspiring,  
skills demo*

**Try Haiku** *5-7-5 Nature-Now*  
**Contrast** *in both words and objects!*

**Seek New Knowledge/ perspective** *see list*  
*"A different language is a different vision of  
life"* Federico Fellini

**Look at** Cave Drawings of people, tools,  
animals See Etsy. Pinterest algorithm  
Look up ***Process Art, Reverse Grafitti***

### **3. With Others**

**Consider “Sonder”** “ when you realize everyone you see, pass by has their own complex life. *like yours* - with similar heartache happiness, routines,-

***TRUST THE CAPACITY OF THE Other***  
Be Wary of JARGON: fancy *words that isolate* Talk *WITH* people not *AT* them

**Role of Artist/Teacher as Steward of The Imagination; Knowing when and how to “Step Aside”**

***See Jenny Mack YouTubes***

Help inflect **exploring over exploiting;**  
Just Ease discovery of preferences;  
collaborating/merging/blending w  
Imagination;

**Responding to chance, accident to explore experiment with degrees**

**of control, safety, merging, emerging**

**Help Access** Deep Patterns of S’elf : Games,  
Giving, Getting, Organizing/Destroying

**Play with Childen 3-4**

**yo** [Winonadescription](#) Images from  
albums Maple seed insects, sand Buddha’s



**Games** Trust the Players rules to be made up. Create pieces, cards, spinners but no rules Game Pieces “Points? ”thorns? Just enough Prep to indicate, resonate with deep idea of “game” Game of Empties? \$5 at Dollar Store

**Practice Gifting, adornment,**

**costuming** It’s Organic, intimate: *like planting a seed*

Develop playful persona to listen to: via puppets, masks, GameName (anagram)

**Matterings/Projects** ”Place Such Objects in your Home, Gift them to

Others “Collaborate”/Dissolve Collect

**Make Kits** Select psyche-related, iconic shapes, materials S’paper, dwood *Just sand this*. Stay with the Common: dirt, rust, smoke, fowers/grass (pounding as **Disorder**) Outlining as **Order**

**Share/Learn** *New Knowledge, perspective*

*Poems, Quotes* Find “touchpoints” for sharing What you’re discovering to be “true”

[taoist-farmer-f12c](#) [surrendrng-to-uncertnty-mud](#)

# **Notes** from a similar 2 1/2-hour *Imaginal Toolmaking workshop in 2008*

We are all makers. Like beavers keep chewing, we humans have to make to stay alive. We make breakfast, time for visiting, our way; we make deals, we make up and we make trouble. We make products, our living, our families, our peace; we make friends and enemies, this and that...

Every form of making works on several levels. There's the "practical" level. We make things that look like other things we have and use and seem to need: *knives, forks, spoons, pots, chairs, benches, beds...*

My interest as a researcher, is in the "imaginal" level of making. What "else" does something do? What does a thing mean? Or what meanings are getting mattered by these things? On this level, humans are the ways that certain energies get themselves into the world. Because we "make", we are a part of a intricate process... not unlike how bees pollinate flowers and make honey and, and, and

**Well, no matter. I am a very practical maker and believe and trust and know that the imaginal level of making is always happening.**

*So what happens in an Imaginal Toolmaking Workshop??*

**We make lots of different tools, practical and imaginal. We make a mallet. We might re-handle spoons and forks; we might re-sharpen metal into knives; ... and we learn more about just what tools do. Tools help direct our attention and our physical energy for the tasks of living... Those screwdrivers, hammers, drills all have their purposes.... and so do the sticks tipped with shells and feathers. Wands are just tools for collecting and directing energy. *Just a specialised form of a screwdriver... (maybe a screwdriver for the soul)***

*What Skills? What Activities?*  
**selecting materials, cutting, shaping, sanding, drilling, joining**

*What's the take-away?* well, a wooden mallet and several other tools or tool-like items of your choosing.

***Is this really weird?*** yes and no. It depends on how weird you are or want to be. (*And the word is spelled "wyrd"...look it up!*).

**Some people make the mallets, spoons and knives... others see the what the wands and small sculptures are all about. Anyway, it's only two hours. How bad can it be?**

***Show me the stuff!*** OK Here's Kim Vergil's work in March-April 2008



*The Hag  
Skull*



*Bird  
Hatched*