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In our times, science seems to be in a competition with the humanities and arts. And the arts and humanities seem to be losing. We can see it everywhere, from schools urging students to study more science to the never ending jokes about starving artists and jobless humanities majors. Now- before you think this is going to be another arts\ humanities rant about how they are just as important as science- rest assured. I'm simply against the competition.

To me, it seems obvious how art, humanities and science are conjoined, entwined forever. Take, for example, the photographer whom I have spent the last days following carefully. Photography is art, despite what had been argued in after the invention of photography. That said, photography uses so much science. Optics and chemistry play a main part in film photography and technology certainly helps create our digital cameras.

The photographers (and yesterday, there were two. It is most suspicious. They seemed to be imitating each other, climbing the stairs and taking pictures from above, one after the other. I am beginning to suspect a conspiracy, the photographers painting a picture of the festival without our approval, or perhaps they are spying on each other with their cameras. Who is hiring them and what do they want? Must keep track of this development) were taking pictures of a day that was dedicated to the union between science and art, as I saw it. Using photography, the artwork was both documenting space which is scientific and playing around with its image, as seen in Neil Folberg's magical works. It was art and science, creating together.

In the lecture, the representative from SpacEL spoke enthusiastically about landing the first Israeli spacecraft on the moon for a contest. When the audience realized that despite perhaps winning 20 million dollars in the said contest, the endeavor would clearly cost more, he was asked why. Why should people put their time, money and effort into something that will end, at best, in worldwide respect and a loss of money, and at worse, an embarrassment and a loss of more money? The man had many answers, sharing his goal to inspire children to study science, mentioning patriotic reasons, but one answer struck with me. He said, quite plainly, that they wanted to do it, that the reward wouldn't be the money or glory, it would be the act. He mentioned that they were an organization and not a company, as they have a goal but no business plan- there is no goal to make money. It is simply to bend limits, to further mankind.

To me, all this sticks out for it is so different from the science that always shouts about how productive it is. This enterprise will not lead to anything productive and I love it. It is as wonderful as art used as therapy- proving once more art can be productive and science can be for no reason other than wanting to do it.

I find the union between humanities, art and science has so many roots, from naturalistic artwork documenting and exploring natural to philosophers discovering and discussing ideas of physics, to the amount of mathematicians and scientists that have been philosophers. A competition between them, as if there is an artistic brain and a scientific brain, as if it is an either/or situation when it clearly can be both is ridiculous.

And so, my own experience from yesterday's watch can be summarized by two main points of action:

- (1) The call for peace and mutual respect between humanities, arts and science.
- (2) The photographers are clearly up to something.