

OCTOBER 2012

DANCE



Acrylic 60 x 70 cm (2012)

Dance is a complex form of art which combines music with picture, and is possibly one of the oldest ways of artistic expression of mankind. The few indigenous people of whom we still know about, they all have ritual, sacral dances to fight the evil, for healing or incantation, or to link up with the gods. Dance as an expression of an inner movement is still of big importance, just think of the Tango, the Flamenco or modern ballet that directs itself towards the audience with its own expressive body language.

The circle, the energetic rotation of its own axis, features immensely in a lot of dances. In the picture the circle winds itself upwards into a spiral, leaves the physical light red behind and strives towards the spiritual, mystical purple. Dance becomes a meditation, becomes a sacral act, a prayer, like the dance of the Mevlevi, the Dervishes in the Middle East. The posture and the movements are liturgically fixed. One rotates on its own axis, on its heart, like a spinning top driven by the heavy rhythm of the drum. The dancer rotates to the left, lifting the arms horizontally, the palm of his left hand turned down towards earth symbolizing this world, the material and the present, and the palm of his right hand turned up towards heaven meaning eternity, spirituality and immortality.

The continuous circular motion will lead eventually to a trance, to a change of consciousness in which the dancer thinks he's actually flying.

Guided by the sound of a panflute the 'soul' spirals continuously upwards. But that it doesn't lose itself completely the sounds of a 'Rebab', a one-string fiddle, keep this soaring grounded to the hard base of the drums.

Ecstasy as a the key to a transcendental reality.

Ecstasy as a key to an imaginary world or as a way to escape reality that one can barely endure, to escape a world of uneasiness and a world with no prospects....

Trance like emotional states induced by the hard pulse of techno music, flickering reflexes of light and the hypnotic effect of crowds aided by all sorts of drugs...

Disco dance, is it a prayer or a cry for help?