

Florilegium

GIULIO GAMBAROTA

Reflections
Refractions
& diffractions

EXTRACT COLLECTION

Illustrations by
Maiko Yoda Callister



1ª edizione Luglio 2004
ISBN 88-900256-7-0
by Giulio Gambarota
Firenze, 2004 - il Valico Edizioni
Via Carneseccchi, 13 - 50131 Firenze
Redazione della Valle d'Aosta:
Loc. Derby, 249 - 11015 La Salle AO
Tel. 0165806404 - Fax 0165806921
www.ilvalicoedizioni.it

GAMBAROTA Giulio
Reflections, Refractions and Diffractions - Extract Collection /
Giulio Gambarota. - Firenze: il Valico Edizioni, 2004. - 64 p.; 20 cm
- (Florilegium).
ISBN 88-900256-7-0

808 (Letteratura. Retorica e raccolte. Raccolte di più letterature.)

Ann Marie Rakowski *Editorial Consultant*

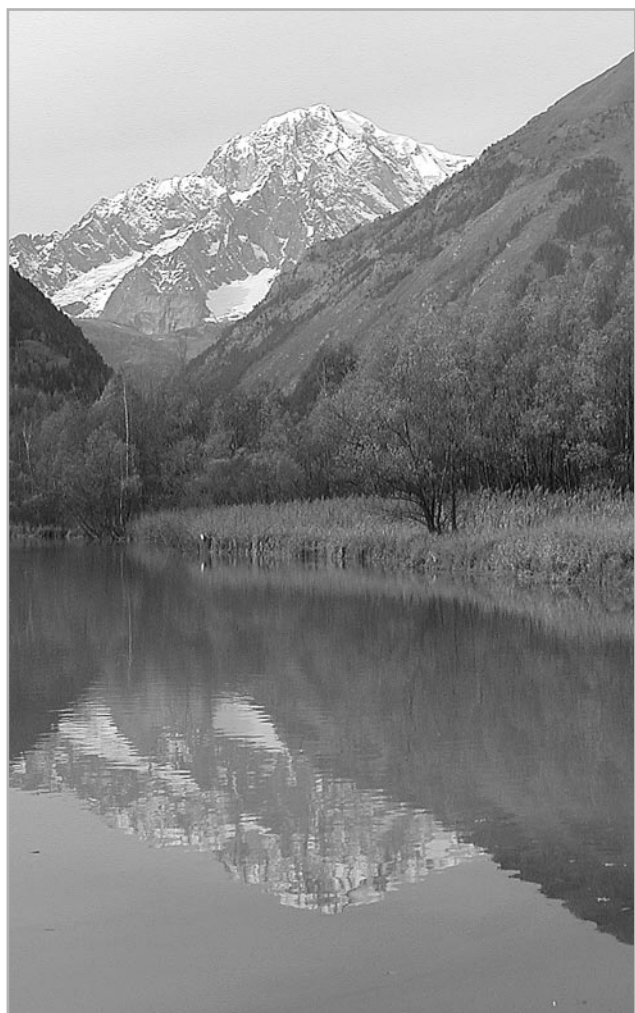
In this book, each excerpt is preceded by the name of its author. These citations, organized into three chapters, are intended to stimulate thought and discussion among readers.

Lumen propagatur seu diffunditur non solum directe, refracte ac reflexe sed etiam alio quodam quarto modo, diffracte.

The light propagates or scatters not only directly, by refraction and reflection but also in a fourth way, by diffraction.

Francesco Maria Grimaldi

From: *Phisico-Mathesis de lumine, coloribus et iride* (*Physicomathematical Thesis of Light, Colours and the Rainbow*).



Reflections





***** HENRY MILLER *****

Every day we slaughter our finest impulses. That is why we get a heart-ache when we read those lines written by the hand of a master and recognize them as our own, as the tender shoots which we stifled because we lacked the faith to believe in our own powers, our own criterion of truth and beauty.

***** PUBLIUS VERGILIUS MARO *****

Aeneid 4:24. [...] agnosco veteris vestigia flammae. [...] I recognize the traces of an old flame.

***** JOHN DRYDEN *****

I feed a flame within, which so torments me
That it both pains my heart, and yet contents me:
'Tis such a pleasing smart, and I so love it,
That I had rather die than once remove it.

***** HAROLD M^cMILLAN *****

As they left the Garden of Eden, Adam turned to Eve and said, "We live in an age of transition."





***** **WALTER BENJAMIN** *****

Not to find one's way about in a city is of little interest. But to lose one's way in a city, as one loses one's way in a forest, requires practice. I learned this art late in life: it fulfilled the dreams whose first traces were the labyrinths on the blotters of my exercise books.

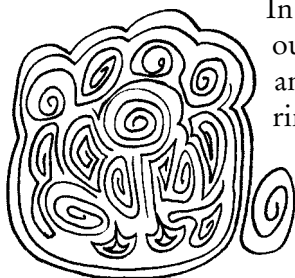
***** **JEFF COPETAS** *****

This morning I got lost in the shower.





***** ITALO CALVINO *****



In the urge to look for the way out, there is always a certain amount of love for the labyrinth in itself. [...] and a certain zeal in looking for the way out plays a part in the game of losing oneself in the labyrinth.

***** MIKE CUTILLO *****

About Giulio's birthday (April 13, 2002). This is your first birthday as a US citizen in a foreign country and not as a foreigner in the US.

***** RICHARD JEFFERIES *****

It is injurious to the mind as well as to the body to be always in one place and always surrounded by the same circumstances. A species of thick clothing slowly grows about the mind, [...].

***** PUBLIUS OVIDIUS NASO *****

The lovely Nymph, solicitous to know
Whether her child Narcissus,





Unequaled for his beauty,
Should reach old age or no,
Consults the sage Tiresias, who replies,
“If ever he knows himself he surely dies.”

***** **EPICETUS** *****

If you have assumed any character above your strength, you have both made an ill figure in that and quitted one which you might have supported.

***** **JAMES FITZ-JAMES STEPHEN** *****

We stand on a mountain pass in the midst of whirling snow and blinding mist, through which we get glimpses now and then of paths which may be deceptive. If we stand still we shall be frozen to death. If we take the wrong road we shall be dashed to pieces. We do not certainly know whether there is any right one. What must we do? “Be strong and of a good courage.” Act for the best, hope for the best, and take what comes.

***** **FRANCIS BACON** *****

If a man look sharply and attentively, he shall see Fortune; for though she is blind, she is not invisible.





***** **GEORGE STRATTON** *****

The harmony is found to consist in having outer experiences meet our expectations.

***** **ALBERT CAMUS** *****

To say yes to the world is at the same time to recreate the world and oneself.

***** **MEISTER ECKHART** *****

And still today one seldom finds that people come to great things without they first go somewhat astray.

***** **STEVEN WRIGHT** *****

You never know what you have until it's gone. I wanted to know what I had, so I got rid of everything.

***** **WYSTAN HUGH AUDEN** *****

Love has no ending.
I'll love you, dear, I'll love you
Till China and Africa meet,
And the river jumps over the mountain
And the salmon sing in the street,
I'll love you till the ocean





Is folded and hung up to dry
 And the seven stars go squawking
 Like geese about the sky.
 The years shall run like rabbits,
 For in my arms I hold
 The Flower of the Ages,
 And the first love of the world.

*** **FRIEDRICH WILHELM NIETZSCHE** ***

True, we love life, not because we are used to living but because we are used to loving. There is always some madness in love. But there is also always some reason in madness.

***** **DAVID HUME** *****

Reason alone can never produce any action [...].

***** **DAVID BOHM** *****

What is essential here is the presence of the spirit of dialogue, which is in short, the ability to hold many points of view in suspension, along with a primary interest in the creation of common meaning.



***** PUBLIUS VERGILIUS MARO *****

Aeneid 6:727. [...] mens agitat molem [...].

[...] the mind moves the matter [...].

***** HENRY MILLER *****

We are all guilty of crime, the great crime of not living life to the full. [...] What these powers that are in us may be no one has truly dared to imagine. That they are infinite we will realize the day we admit to ourselves that imagination is everything. Imagination is the voice of daring. If there is anything Godlike about God it is that He has dared to imagine everything.

***** FRIEDRICH WILHELM NIETZSCHE *****

Judgments, judgments of value, concerning life, for it or against it, can, in the end, never be true: they have value only as symptoms, [...]. One must by all means stretch out one's fingers and make the attempt to grasp this amazing finesse, *that the value of life cannot be estimated.*

***** PAUL KLEE *****

Creative power is ineffable. It remains ultimately mysterious. And every mystery affects us deeply.





We are ourselves charged with this power, down to our subtlest parts. We may not be able to utter its essence, but we can move towards its source, in so far as at all possible. In any event, it is up to us to manifest this power in its functions, just as it becomes manifest within ourselves.

***** ERICH FROMM *****

Conditions for creativity are to be puzzled; to concentrate; to accept conflict and tension; to be born everyday; to feel a sense of self.

***** GEORGE GORDON BYRON *****

She walks in beauty, like the night
Of cloudless climes and starry skies;
And all that's best of dark and bright
Meet in her aspect and her eyes:

.....

***** WALT WHITMAN *****

You will hardly know who I am or what I mean,
But I shall be good health to you nevertheless,
And filter and fibre your blood.
Failing to fetch me at first keep encouraged,





Missing me one place search another,
I stop somewhere waiting for you.

***** DALAI LAMA *****

Remember that the best relationship is one in which your love for each other exceeds your need for each other.



Take into account that great love and great achievements involve great risk.

***** JORGE LUIS BORGES *****

Happy the loved, the lovers and those who can do without love.

***** MARCUS AURELIUS ANTONINUS *****

The Universe is in love with making whatever has to be.

***** DANTE ALIGHIERI *****

Guido, I would like that you and Lapo and I would be taken by enchantment and placed in a vessel so any wind at sea would move to your and my will.

