



On Pessoa's *The Book Of Disquiet*
George Steiner writes:

'The **Fragmentary**, the incomplete is of the essence of Pessoa's spirit. The very kaleidoscope of voices within him, the breadth of his culture [...] inhibited the monumentalities, the self-satisfaction of completion. Hence the fragmentary condition of *The Book of Disquiet* which contains **material** that predates 1913 and which Pessoa left open-ended at his death. As Adorno famously said, the 'finished work is, in our times and climate of anguish, a lie.

It resides, Steiner continues, in an astute state of **melancholy**. "What is this *Livro do Desassossego*? Neither 'commonplace book', nor 'sketchbook', nor 'fl orilegium' will do...yet even such a hybrid does not correspond to the singularity of Pessoa's **chronicle**."

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Book_of_Disquiet

What if we are in the process of our becoming, always without settlement, constantly reinventing the same in another way, will we perforce imagine ourselves differently, cross-breeding ideas of ourselves at each turn? The 'genus' is at **root**, an apparition, to be **moulded**, in each individual. There are other **origins** to be discovered amid the archipelagos of thought. We see children, as the educationalist Maria Montessori did at the **turn** of the 20th Century, as **profound individuals**, whose communities, cities, organisations, and nation-states are indices of an assemblage of micro-individuals. These will subsist as entities, in parallax, the 'other way **round**', since nothing can ever be imagined the same again.

