**Traces in Emerging Structures III**

These paintings, some of them “en miniature” (oil-colors on paper) reflect some of the recent personal experiences during our stay here in Benasque within the last ten days. It is for the third time that these experiences will be exposed to the participants of the conference.

While most of you were preparing new results in the domain of applied mathematics, I had some rather private “parallel sessions” in our charming apartment patio in the “casco antiguo” where I tried to create structures artificially, which means, I placed a first color-setting on paper that offered to me the chance to make the different color-fields, lines become a configuration by underlining, pointing out, adding or withdrawing, until the process is said to be finished.

The final aim, I have always been working towards, is comparable to the art of a poet, combining words of our everyday-language in such an unusual way that the meaning of the poem becomes multivalent (by allusion) and readable at the same time so that the preceding personal experience becomes communicable and, thus, could be shared across borders.

Personal life has one side that is local, limited also by local restrictions, but, as far as I can see, there is also this complementary side, that is open to new horizons, longing for authenticity, beauty and an awareness of hidden potentials in human lives.

I could not say it any better than William Blake did in 1803 in his famous verses:

“To see a world in a grain of sand

and a heaven in a wild flower

hold infinity in the palm of your hand

and eternity in an hour.”

To capture the moment, when the universe shows up in the smallest things, to figure out traces of unseen structures that emerge from the fond of our daily life, this is the very special comfort and hope that art may generate. Or, as Yves Bonnefoy, the famous French poet put it about two hundred years later:

“Le ciel infini

soudain mais entier

dans une flaque brève.”

(The infinite sky

suddenly as a whole

appearing in a small puddle.)

Barbara Lucas-Leugering

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