Written by Pedro Meyer



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We were about to land in Mexico City; I had my digital camera pointing out the window when over the loudspeakers a pre-recorded voice stated, "All electronic devices must now be turned off...." Which of course I thought did not actually include my camera. However, as the stewardess paced the corridor inspecting if all the passengers were following the orders just spoken from above, she let me know that they understood "all electronic devices" as including any digital cameras.

By some misguided notion of bureaucratic expertise someone came to the conclusion that the pixels landing on a memory chip inside a camera could actually derail the communications gear on an airplane about to land. Well, they don't.

As soon as the stewardess walked past me to buckle herself down in her own seat, I took out my little Sony T1 digital camera to take some more aerial images, I knew there was no chance that my camera interfered with the communications of the plane, any more than the digital watch did, on the wrist of the passenger sitting next to me.

We are constantly faced with issues of perception, or shall I say miss-perceptions in these tumultuous and complex times when so many fundamental notions of what we believe to be "true" are never really questioned and just taken as articles of faith.

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Deepak Chopra, in his audio book, <u>New Physics of Healing</u>, tells us about the Quantum mechanical body, in order to comprehend what it really is and how the latest advances in science determine a new way of perceiving even ourselves. He begins by exploring issues of perception and how these have determined and influenced how we treat nothing less than our own bodies. Upon facing for the first time the notions that Dr. Chopra explained in great detail, I was fascinated at the uncanny similarity to all the those concerns that photographers have been expressing with respect to digital photography and matters of representation.

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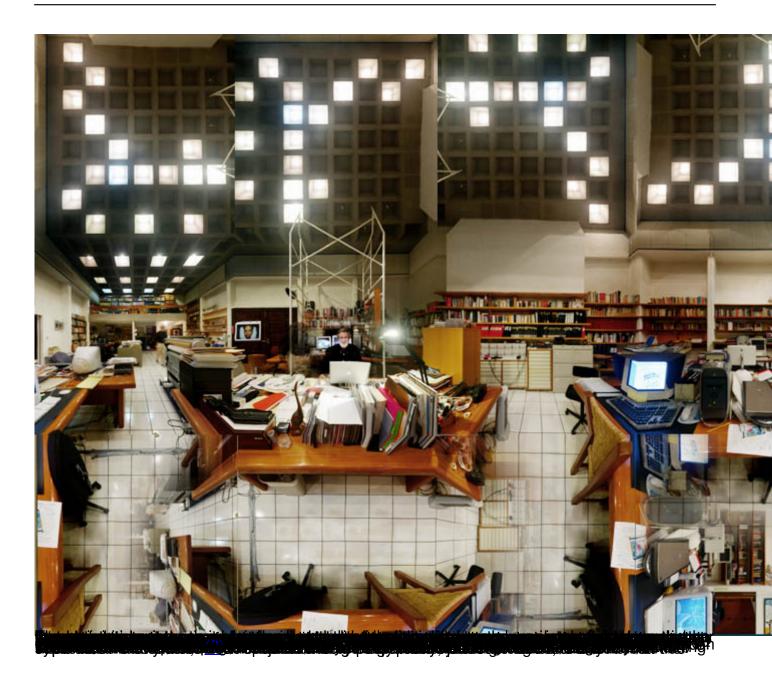


He explained how the mechanics of perception are frozen in an old worldview that should have gone away with Newtonian Physics. How does perception gets structured in our physiology? He asks. And goes on to explain how commitments are structured into our body mind by conditioned circumstances.

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