

FROM THE DRAGON'S LAIR



#2

Poetry and Pictures (Contributions and Collaboration)

Since the late 1960's there have been in development a number of books, articles, diagrams and narratives that have never been published. There is an extensive portfolio of material that I would like to make available to the general public. Even more, I would like to enable the public's participation and contributions. It is a never-ending process of chronicling, creating and organizing that may or may not come to fruition in my life time. One of the efforts even had a catchy title:

The Story: Technophobia
MAPS OF THE OUT-BACK
(or what I did while Herb Caen was on Vacation)

Here's how it started:

I'm not sure what this path is and when it really started but, for the purpose of this life stream, there was some indication of things to come reflected in these two poems written for a class in 1967 when I was a senior in high school.

sitting sullenly amidst the din
hazy smoke silently pervades the mind
contemplating jazz.
3.22.67

sightless eyes view luminous light
lost in eternity; seeking
sound without ears.
3.25.67

I believe I read the San Francisco Chronicle (the sports section, Charles McCabe, Herb Caen, the comics and Ann Landers) even in the early 1960's, before high school. After my paper route I would go to Roscoe's (a neighborhood café adjoining the local pharmacy), order an ice cream soda or coconut cream pie and read the newspaper. To this day I read the paper (digital or otherwise) while eating breakfast and lunch. Dinner not so much.

I'm reminded of the local Zen guru who was teaching the importance of mindfulness, focus and concentration in all aspects of life. His students challenged him when they

found him reading a newspaper while eating breakfast. He thought for a moment, then responded: “You should be mindful while eating **and** reading the newspaper.”

I’m hopefully not digressing but bridging the years from 1961 to the present:

In 2011 I found this picture:

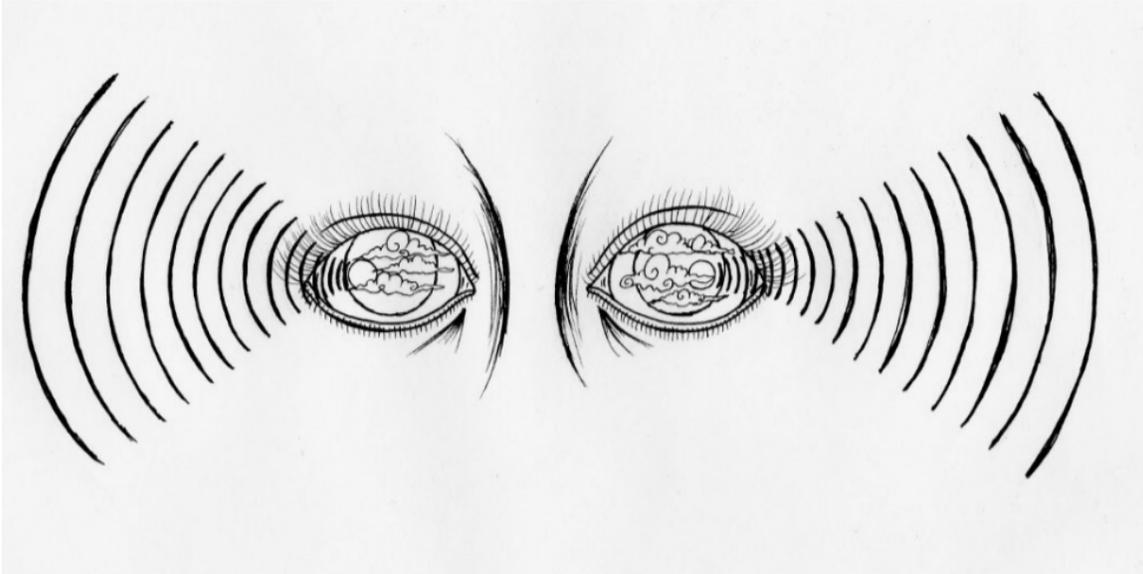


In my mind’s eye it was the “sightless eyes, viewing luminous light” from the 1967 poem.

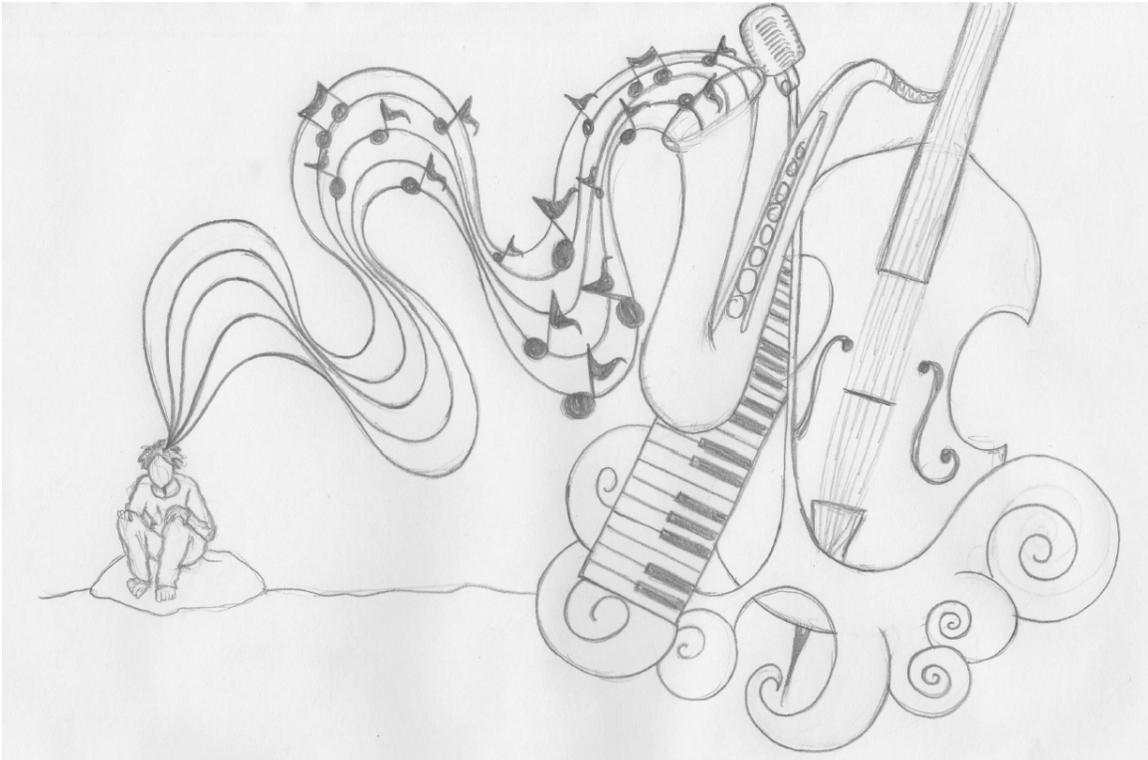
I was still keeping my eye out for a sketch to accompany the “sitting sullenly amidst the din” poem and was hoping that establishing a more public presence for the material would result in finding something.

By a fortunate circumstance as I was developing material for this web site I met Jessica Chan, a very talented artist who contributed the following two sketches:

For “sightless eyes”



For “contemplating jazz”



I'm very definitely looking forward to more participation and contributions.