Energy, Matter, Reality, Worldview, Art and Ritual 2023

Thomas A. Burns PhD.

Klamath Falls, Oregon

Energy is everywhere in the cosmos in different frequencies and concentrations.

Matter and energy are transforms of one another – matter being one way energy concentrates in energy fields of different types and complexities.

There is nowhere at any micro or macro scale in the cosmos that there is not both matter and energy. Atoms, molecules, bacteria, dust, rocks, animals, plants, mountains, oceans, planets, solar systems, galaxies, the universe are all energy expressed in matter in what we humans consider as different scales. These scales are just convenient ways we humans carve up an infinite material and energetic reality that we believe we can "observe" with our limited senses.

In fact, reality is a vast, totally interconnected, integrated, and unified three dimensional "web" of matter and energy that operates as ONE phenomenon. There are no separate "things" involved in separate "actions" that we can separately "observe." We just perceive it that way and act as if it is accurate given the enormous limitations of our senses.

Our reality of separation is an illusion that we live by and have evolved by along with all other similarly sensorially limited organic creatures on Earth. This view is the basis for our competitive behavior which has evolved to be our primary means to access the energy we require to assure the survival of our species.

Through our human intuitive mental competence – in contrast to our intellectual competence, we have access to understanding and being in reality from the alternative perspective of total identity unification, but unfortunately a great many of us moderns make little use of this mode of awareness and operation.

Art and ritual are the primary vehicles within our cultures that we humans <u>can</u> use to access and express this expanded sense of our selves in a totally unified reality. The experience of oneness within art and ritual offers strong support for both the social, communal, and ecological values and the cooperative behaviors that allow humans to operate responsibly in their societies and ecologies.

I began my career seeking to understand the basis for artistic behavior. That expanded to include ritual/religion. In my life-long search for an answer to this question, I have had to pursue a variety of academic disciplines to discover the above overall picture of reality within which I contend that art and ritual function.