

Autistic science

“I do not believe it can be hoped that cybernetics alone will provide, in a more or less distant future, the solution to the triple enigma of life, conscience and thought.”

Louis de Broglie

There are two epistemic caesuras with consequences which have yet to be evaluated: the breaking off of Economy from Philosophy and the banishing of Metaphysics from the citadel of knowledge. There is no doubt on the cause. Rationalization and illuminist secularization have constituted the explosive mixture for the pairing of heterodox conceptualizations. If somewhat brutal yet with method, the combinatory function of nature has been diluted in order to force the creative self-referentiality. From extrovert relating to introvert relativism this constituted the falling from completeness and universalism to fragmentarism and exceptionalism. It is this process which created the savants that cannot communicate with each other and the experiments that only explain themselves.

This is how a financier got to wonder at the existence of supracontexts beside the determinism of transmission mechanisms, an accountant to be fascinated at the amount of freedom available by turning to epistemology beyond the sclerotic normative of the account, a statistician to proclaim his happiness when entering the living universe of macro economy, an informatician to beam with delight loading his feedbacks with new sense as a learning process a.s.o.

The model of self-sufficient sciences is the ultimate image of the defying of nature, the only one sufficient to itself through functional complementarity and the tolerance of diversity. The Economy, by rupturing the ideatic texture it has with Philosophy, has given up the contextual justifying of its functions and bet everything on efficiency. Problems have been reformulated within the strict guidelines of a *ceteris paribus* type of rationalization and the solutions became abundant as long as they counted exclusively on externalities. The solutions did not cost the economy nothing when the absolute creditor was situated around here and there of rationalization.

The simple organizing of the contents of knowledge, fragmentary in most part, creates the illusion of touching on the pattern of science. The persistence in this illusion, conforming because it eliminated reflexive dependencies and legitimizes the autarchy of thought, has pushed the architect – as we can see – to draw just the brick, this being magically conferred with the function to design the building. Knowledge and Science have become deposit banks. The investment in synthesis, unification, reconstruction, as well as in revelation, perspective, complexity and the preeminence of open and self organizing systems has been blocked and become derisory. In the absence of this operation the Economy remains at most a Baconian *Sylva Sylvarum*.

The braking off from Philosophy meant for the Economy less doubt on the goals but also a lesser understanding of the consequences of reaching them. The ultimate cause has replaced the primary cause. From the domestic needs that define man the move was made exclusively towards the artificial multiplication of the needs that dehumanize the world. The abundance as a standard of performance has turned the economy into the perfect goal and man into a consumable mean. Rationalization does not need sentiments for being complete, as efficiency being a gene of economy is incompatible with social equity. Economy has earned its right in the citadel of self-referential sciences, but humanization has lost a chance to keep the natural virtue of the options.

While Economy without the company of Philosophy wanted to prove it can do everything, including dispensing of man, Philosophy without Metaphysics braved probing the world by fragments, losing the perspective and blocking the explanation. The excommunication of Metaphysics, as a reflex of the triumph of the rational, has transformed Philosophy into extensive grammar, when it wasn't allowed to be a mild rhetoric. The break-up with Metaphysics meant for Philosophy the banishment from among immortals. Economy without Philosophy has renounced man, Philosophy without Metaphysics has given up life. One became a science of mortification and the other has become a ritual of exhumation.

Sacrificially, the Economy has buried itself in the market and Philosophy has extinguished its aura of wisdom. Both have fallen prey to rationalization. The Economy has defeated itself by monetizing sentiments, Philosophy has lost its vocation in the labyrinth of text. The marketing specialist prostrates without any doubts to the abstract demand, the management specialist believes blindly in (and does not question!) the production function. The philosopher has broken his mirror in thousands of pieces.

The signs of coming back to the natural condition are thin. The Economy persists in formalization and Philosophy isolated itself in words. Remarrying them in their present state would really be a failure. To have a hope of fertility the pairing of the Economy and the Philosophy reborn as Metaphysic is the solution. The particular knowledge contained in the fragments of Economic Science must be integrated in the real Economy in order to have the correct vision – for being complete – on the social nature of economy. Which is a rational expression of a necessity to act legitimized by an essentially anthropic theory.

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