

The Cosmic Dance

By Linda Mishkin

Imagine shrinking down to molecular size and literally traveling through the arteries and veins that map the inner life-flow of our body, or gliding through the web of neural pathways in our brain, the highways of thought and ideas. Magic? Perhaps. Yet that is precisely what one experiences upon entering *Fiberspace*, the three story, mesmerizing installation, conceived, designed and constructed by Claudia Bueno, with video collaboration from her brother Adolfo Bueno.

Movement created by super-imposing blue, green and yellow-orange projections of fire, water and burning coals onto the hurricane of filaments, intuitively and intentionally interwoven and layered, results in a dance of visual and even spiritual delight. From the moment we enter the room and set eyes on the web-colossus, we are overwhelmed with awe and wonder; this labyrinth of resin-covered cotton threads of varying lengths and widths evokes our internal and external universe—which are, maybe, one and the same: this installation is You; this is Me; this is We.

We need to edit the aphorism, “Great minds think alike,” to say, “Great minds *perceive* alike,” even if they (the great minds) communicate in diverse genres, some of which are wordless. Such is the case with Claudia’s masterpiece, whose truth echoes the works of mystics from the past as well as the brilliant quantum physicists of today. What began as an intuitive desire to construct a pattern, screaming to be exteriorized from the depth of Claudia’s being—where it probably incubated for years prior to her focused research into *growth patterns*—becomes a nonverbal representation of *what is*:

From various spiritual texts and diverse philosophers and poets, we find references to the *Unity of all things*, the illusion of separation, the notion of awe and respect for all that exists.

Physicist and philosopher Fritjof Capra concurs, stating in his book, *The Tao of Physics*:

“The inseparable cosmic web is alive; it moves and grows and changes continually...[this] web of relations is intrinsically dynamic...movement, interaction, and transformation”

Claudia's wordless communication through texture, light, and movement is nothing more and nothing less than a physical representation of a spiritual and scientific worldview. She has shown the fluidity of existence and the connection or Unification of being; she has made visible the *living cosmic web*. She has channeled the collective unconscious and spouted what we all know, but do not necessarily know that we know: that life is an eternal dance, in which we are all and forever participants.

In the art of translating one genre into another, a danger exists of which we must be cautious: the danger of too much explanation, too much justification, too much analysis and the attempt to make a paragraph out of a poem, so to speak. Claudia's installation is to be experienced. If you let them, your eyes will understand; your body will understand; you will *know* without verbal language. You Will Know.

On the one hand, Claudia's work is the result of much research, observation, reflection, and planning (sketching, calculating, designing)- all left-brain activities. Finally, after a metaphorical gestation period, the right-brain kicks in an uncontrollable act of birthing. With many challenges, including health risks (allergic reactions to the chemicals used), Claudia has created a magnum opus: a dance of growth patterns in biological organisms and systems, a philosophical statement connecting spirituality and science, and a visceral, visual delight and ecstasy.