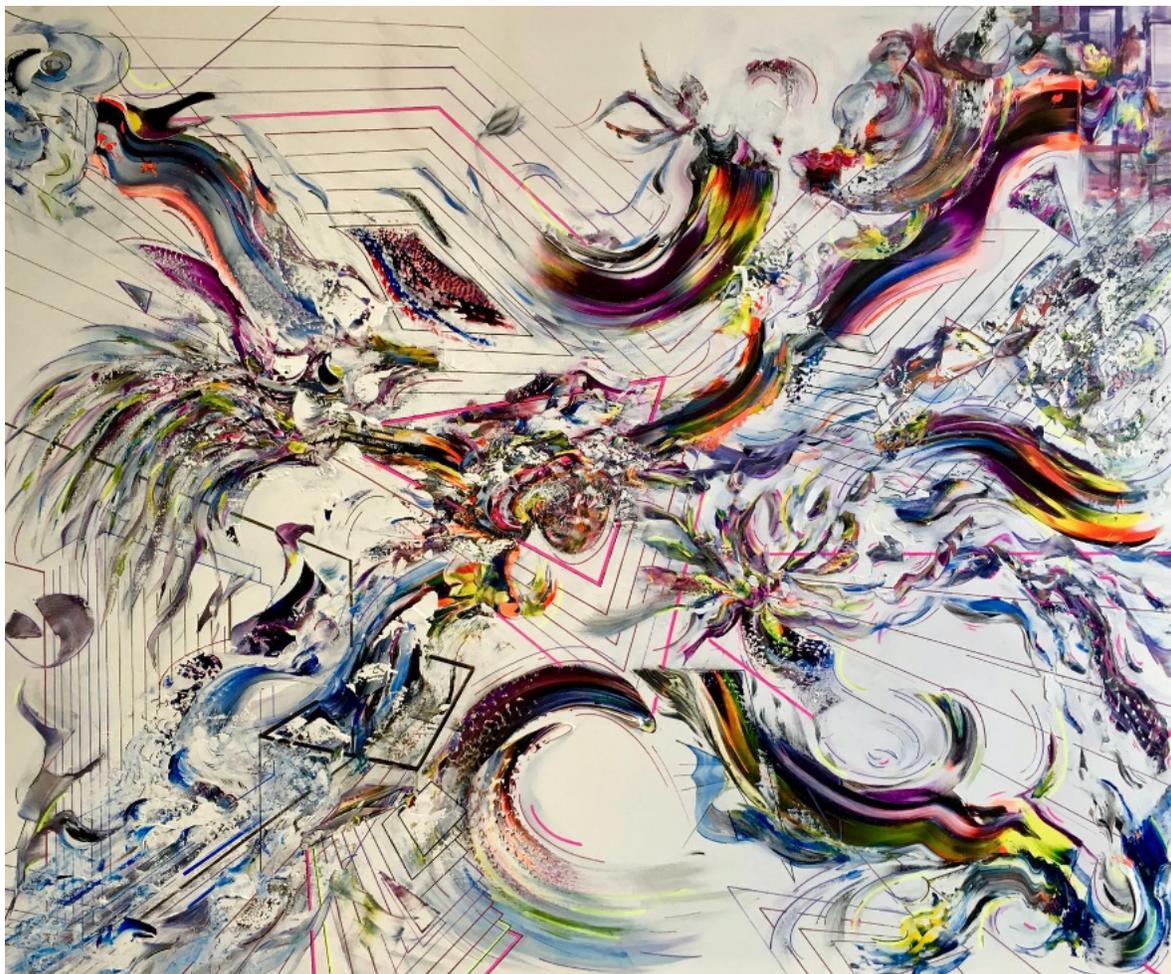


# Alexandre Beridze – ‘Portrait of a thought’

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Since the days of Aristotle, it is known that the distinguishing quality of man is its mind, the ability to think. But what is a thought? And what does it mean to think? The questions are both very old and very difficult.

The question "What is a thought?" relates to the question "What does it mean to understand?"

We agree that understanding is an assimilation. We say "I understand!" when we can compare what is being studied with what is already familiar. The method of thinking is comparison.

You can compare, for example, math and music. Whitehead writes: "The science of pure mathematics in its modern versions can be represented as the most original product of the human spirit. Pythagoras was the first to say about the deep connection of mathematics and music, who proved that the basis of both mathematical and musical beauty is the same law, expressed by number.

"Geometry is the archetype of the beauty of the world," claims the great Kepler. The laws of beauty are universal, the same pattern is embodied in an elegantly proven theorem, a classical landscape, an architectural masterpiece and a great symphony. One of such universal laws is the golden ratio.

In contemporary art, there is an amazing phenomenon related to both mathematics and music: this is plastic mathematics - abstract painting, a manifesto of which Kazimir Malevich created a century ago. "An artist can be a creator when the forms of his painting have nothing to do with nature [...] It is necessary to give the forms life and the right to individual existence."

This is exactly what the brilliant artist Alexandre Beridze, the master of the "mental figurative", does. In the series of works titled "Reflection", he visualizes the thought process. The result is astounding: what has always seemed to be the property of philosophy alone – the reflection, the attention, the subconscious, the impulse of life - became available to vision.

The fact that the German classical philosophy is related to the music of Viennese classics - the processuality of truth embodied in a sonata form - has become the property of painting.

It is no accidental that Alexandre Beridze lays the foundation of one of his best works on the Hegelian spiral - the path of thought development, one of the laws of Hegelian dialectics - the law of negation of negation: thesis - antithesis - synthesis.

It would seem that painting is a static art in nature. Once created, the image is still. Beridze's work is completed, but not static, it remains fundamentally dynamic. Again, the great Hegel and his concept of procedural truth are recalled: "Truth is not only a result, but also a path to it."

"You are your brain," say modern neuroscientists. And the great physicists of the 20th century said that the secrets of the universe are hidden in the depths of the human brain. Man is the sum of the World, the Microcosm, and his brain is similar to the Macrocosm, the Universe. That is why the human Thought is able to comprehend the World.