Schiefe Zähne



JENNA BLISS & SUSAN CONTE

Feelers

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There is a time of day when numbers don't mean anything. You're standing in the middle of symmetry. Everything is equidistant and looks the same. It makes you nervous and rigid because clues matter! When an event emerges that is strong enough to break the symmetry, it's a huge relief. Finding it may require shifting your visual field. But towards where that shift should be directed is much more difficult to know. The praying mantis can help you there. She is a prophetic insect with the ability to show you the way. When you meet her, she raises her arms and points in the direction you need to proceed. Chances are she has devoured her mate that same morning or will do so later on. An appetite, about which you wonder whether it underlies all her actions. The praying mantis' mimicry is her luxury. Supposedly, she has no need to hide from her attackers or her prey, and yet she hides from everyone. This becomes her misfortune when herbivores mistake her for a slim leaf. So her invisibility equals risk and meeting her equals luck. Following the gestures of a hand whose highest operating authority you don't know is exhilarating and daring. At some point there will be contact between you and the other, and it might as well be friction. The ancient Persians believed that the moon was hung high above the earth to reflect it in its entirety. Thankfully this isn't true. It would be awful having to see your own reflection that much, as your webcam selfview proves. But tracing slivers of yourself in the movements of others can mean, above all, that you don't have to break symmetry on your own.

- Sarah Rosengarten

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