

# VIN VIN

SILVIA CAPUZZO - UNDERWORDS

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## Oscillating States

Everything is vibrating, you know. Scientists (and hippies) tell us that “all matter is just vibrations of various underlying fields.”<sup>1</sup> Physicists tell us that particles are not particles at all, they are wave functions that collapse when observed. Or they are standing waves, or probability fields, or quantum excitations of a field, or a collection of tiny vibrating energy strings, or a “a deformation of the qubit ocean.”<sup>2</sup>

What is a qubit ocean? Theoretical condensed matter physicist Xiao-Gang Wen explains, if we look at a landscape, “we see mountain, lake, trees, snow... and light. If we look closer, we see atoms, protons, electrons, quarks, photons. If we look even closer (...really really close), we see... boring spins (up's and down's, i.e. qubits 0's and 1's). We call such a collection of qubits (i.e. spins) a *qubit ocean*.”<sup>3</sup>

So everything is up and down, ‘boring spinning,’ deformed and vibrating its energy at us. No wonder we feel out of sorts, as if there is a humming beneath everything we see and touch. No wonder life's banalities feel like a dizzying yet wonderous “quantum noodle soup.”<sup>4</sup> No wonder the condensed matter of living presses upon us, shakes us with pleasure, possibility, and nausea.

More: a growing number of quantum physicists (and Buddhists) subscribe to panpsychism, or the belief that everything physical also possesses an interior “mental” or experiential aspect.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://earthsky.org/human-world/consciousness-what-is-theory-vibration/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.quantamagazine.org/what-is-a-particle-20201112/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://xgwen.mit.edu/blog/are-we-living-quantum-noodle-soup>

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

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What happens in your mind when you consider their view that all “entities that surround us, from electrons to atoms to molecules to bacteria to paramecia to mice, bats, rats, (hamsters, tomatoes, earth, cuttlefish, cars, birds, bratwurst), etc., ... may be viewed as at least a little conscious”<sup>5</sup>? What happens to your gaze when you internalize that, “Each real thing’s outside is an object for all other subjects, and so on, in perpetual oscillation as each part of the universe proceeds from subject to object to subject...”<sup>6</sup> Or if you digest further that, “we can confirm ... on the basis of the quantum phenomena Jung’s view that ‘...psyche and matter are two different aspects of one and the same thing’”<sup>7</sup>?

Scientifically, perpetual subject-object oscillations are called the ‘creative advance’, “the laying down of reality in each moment...”<sup>8</sup> Now, and now, and now, an incessant reversing and re-reversing of roles. So which reality are we laying down, here in our quantum now, as we observe and are observed, are felt and feel?

We look and see we have entered a creative advance where hampsters scamper in a nebulous zone, hands and dried tomatoes stare at us, and ostrich heads remain above ground, exposed and repeating as if on bedroom wallpaper or in a nightmare. Perhaps we look closer and find we are looking at buried images unearthed from smartphone screens, Google map street views, or memories, or imaginations, or the imagination of an other with whom our particles resonate.

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<sup>5</sup> <https://blogs.scientificamerican.com/observations/the-hippies-were-right-its-all-about-vibrations-man/>

<sup>6</sup> Hunt, Tam. (2011). “Kicking the Psychophysical Laws into Gear A New Approach to the Combination Problem.” *Journal of Consciousness Studies*, 18, p. 99

<sup>7</sup> Ponte, D. V., & Schäfer, L. (2013). Carl Gustav Jung, Quantum Physics and the Spiritual Mind: A Mystical Vision of the Twenty-First Century. *Behavioral Sciences*, 3(4), 601-618. <https://doi.org/10.3390/bs3040601>

<sup>8</sup> Hunt, Tam. (2011). “Kicking the Psychophysical Laws into Gear A New Approach to the Combination Problem.” *Journal of Consciousness Studies*, 18, p. 99

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Perhaps we look even closer, and mesh the physic and material into a liquid, bodily understanding of how a squid can dissolve into flesh, into a fetus, into a vase, as its wave form is disturbed by our gaze. Or we feel a small boy among us, amid all this fluttering, dressed for the ocean, both trapped and gloriously free.

Perhaps, like us, he is practicing “the paradoxical gift for being separate and alone and yet intimately connected, mind-wired to distant things.”<sup>9</sup>

–Catherine Foulkrod, 2023

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<sup>9</sup> DeLillo, Don (2015). *Underworld*. London: Picador, an imprint of Pan Macmillan, p.89.

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## **Silvia Capuzzo**

Silvia Capuzzo (b. 1996, Merano, Italy); lives and works in Milan. In 2022 she completed the Master's Degree in Painting and Contemporary Visual Arts at the Academy of Fine Arts, Urbino, Italy. In 2019 she has been awarded with the prize of Centro Arti Visive Pescheria, Pesaro, and in 2021 she has been awarded with the Prize of Contemporary Art Museum MAC Lissone. She is among the finalists of Francesco Fabbri Foundation Prize 2022.

### **Solo exhibitions Upcoming:**

March 2023 VIN VIN in Naples (IT)

### **Group Exhibitions:**

#### **2022**

Biennale Gherdeina 8, Selva (IT)

Osservatorio Futura, Torino, Italy (IT)

#### **2021**

Fondazione Centro Arti Visive, Pescheria, Pesaro (IT)

Museo di Arte Contemporanea MAC Lissone, Lissone (IT)

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## **Catherine Foulkrod**

Catherine Foulkrod is a writer of fiction and essays from Carbondale, Colorado (USA), who is now living in Naples. Her work explores the overlaps and discords between internal and external realities and can be read in The Believer, New York Tyrant, Unsaid, Bookforum, El Malpensante, and elsewhere.

Recent commissions include essays on the paintings of Cecily Brown for Thomas Dane Gallery (Naples/London, published by Ridinghouse, UK), and Contemporary Fine Arts (CFA, Berlin).

She has received fellowships from Summer Literary Seminars in Tbilisi, Georgia; the Vermont Studio Center; the New School; and Brown University.