

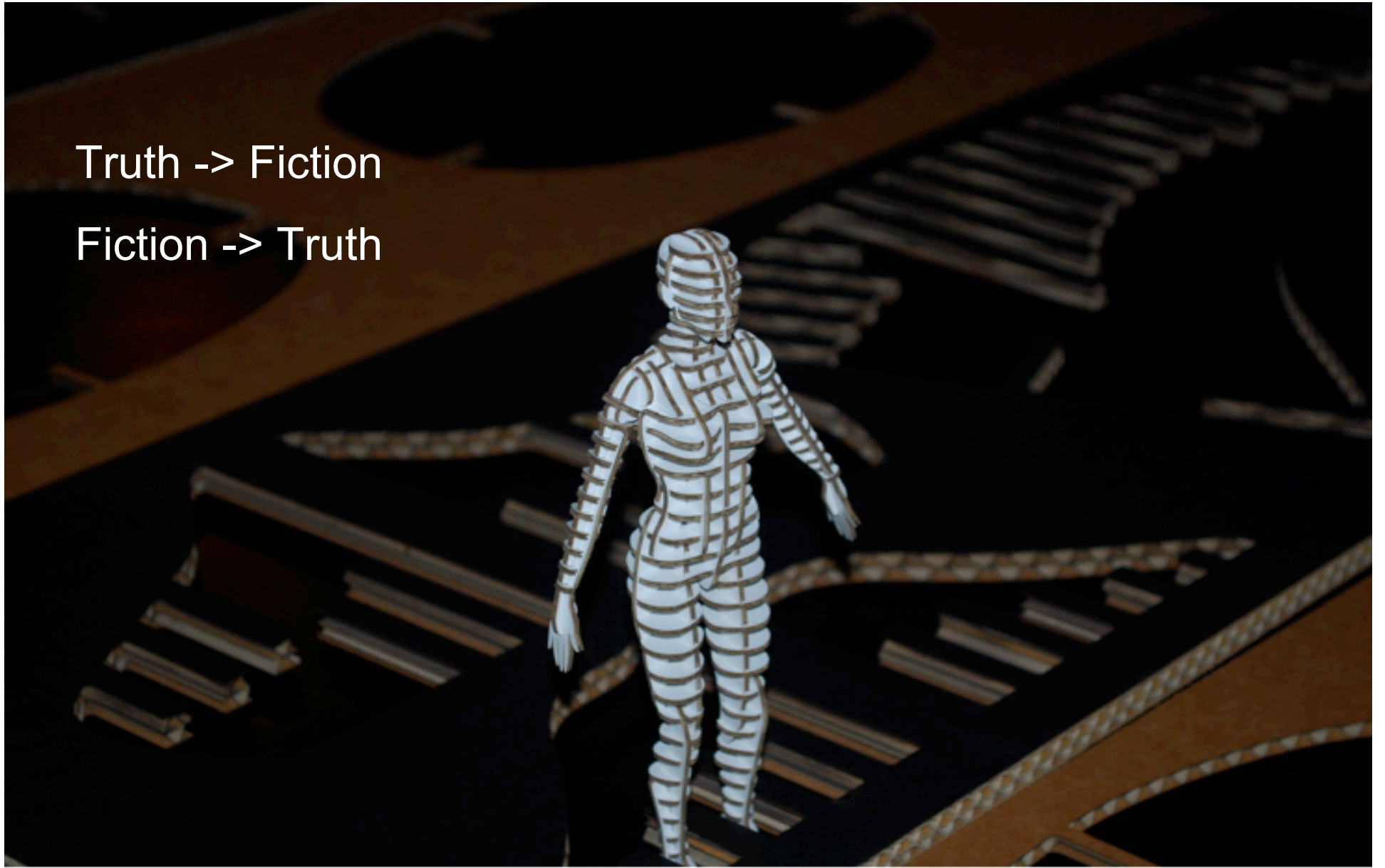
The Cloud and Collaboration

Stephen Downes
Ars Electronica
Linz, September 5, 2009



Truth -> Fiction

Fiction -> Truth



Artist

As
though
we
have
an
understanding
that
we
are
inherently
dishonest

inherently
social

inherently
spiritual



Human Nature

Leviathan




The Body Politic



Churchland
Matter and
Consciousness

Stich - From Folk
Psychology to
Cognitive Science

Folk Psychology



Varela: The Embodied Mind
LeDoux: Synaptic Self

Nature as Network

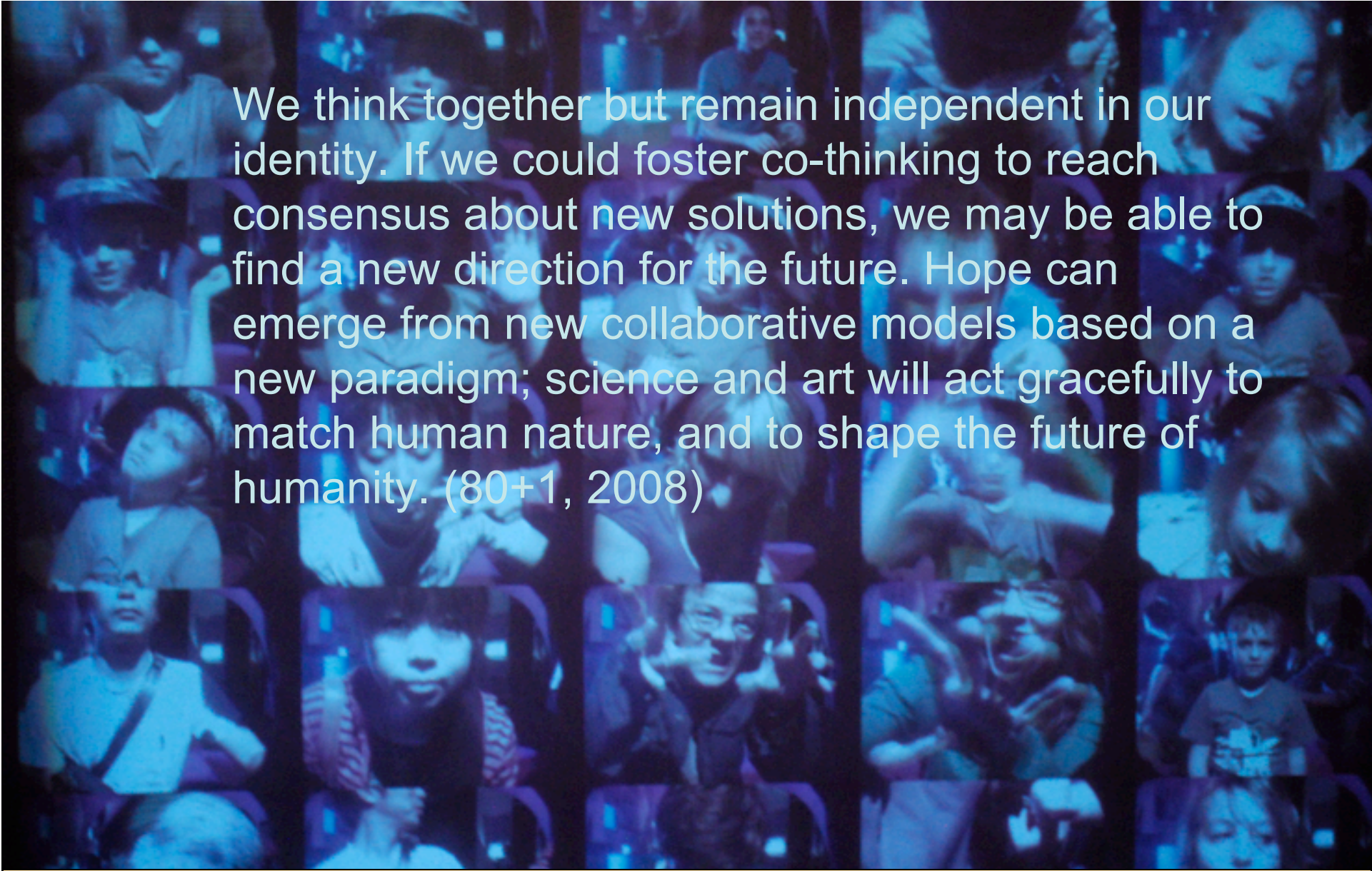


Peter Russell

The Global Brain

Billions of neurons forming
connections interacting with each
other achieving consciousness

Social Brain



We think together but remain independent in our identity. If we could foster co-thinking to reach consensus about new solutions, we may be able to find a new direction for the future. Hope can emerge from new collaborative models based on a new paradigm; science and art will act gracefully to match human nature, and to shape the future of humanity. (80+1, 2008)

Global Consciousness



Dimitar Tchurovsky

"worldwide social network of self-selected people resembling human brain and mind, who will collaborate in attempt to solve social problems."

Collaboration



Schrage: "an act of shared creation and/or shared discovery"

Senge: creation of a shared vision.

Shared Vision



Sameness of Purpose



Learning
is
social
in
nature
?

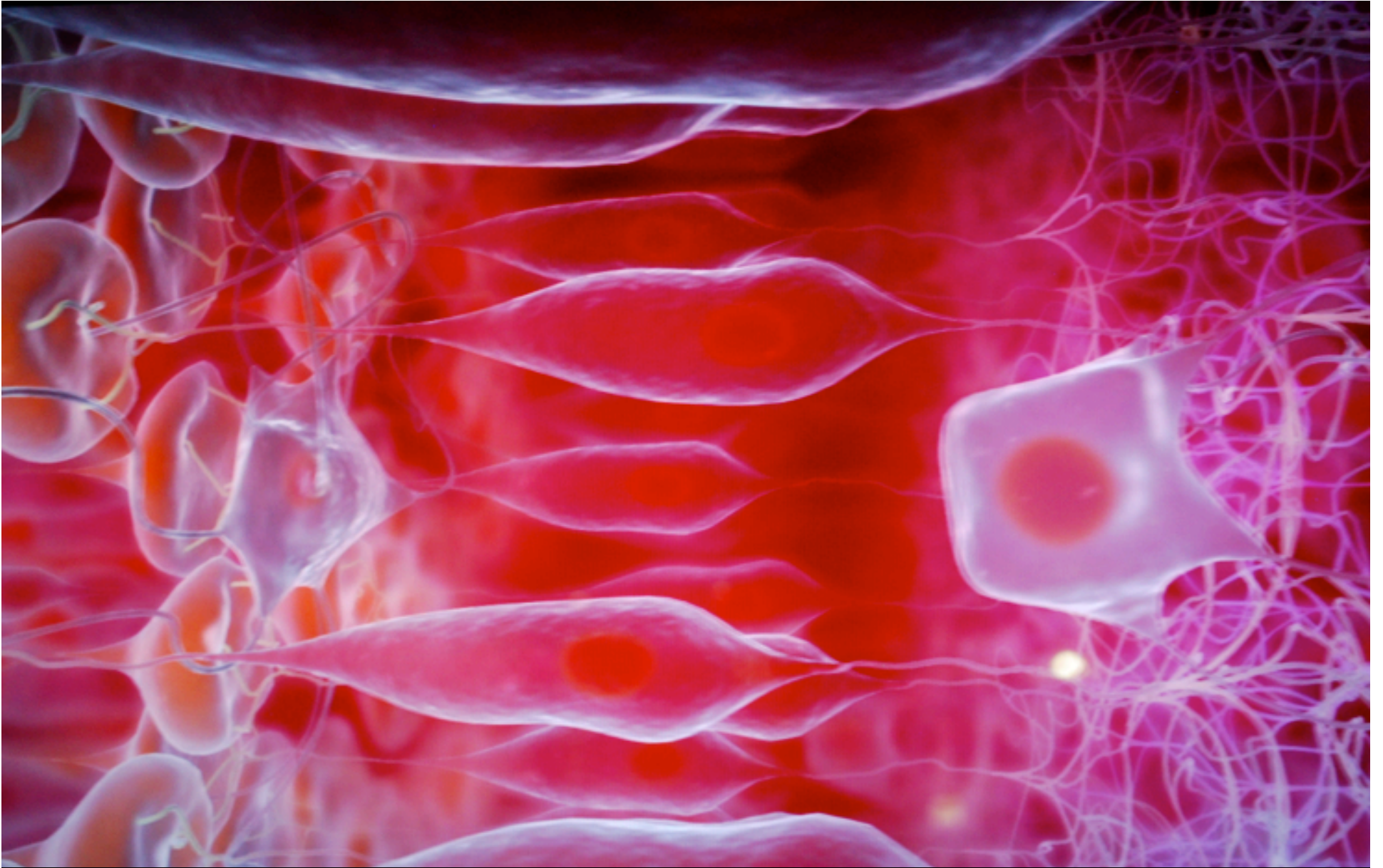
Common Understanding

Brown
&
Duguid



...reciprocity is strong. People are able to affect one another and the group as a whole directly. Changes can propagate easily. Coordination is tight.

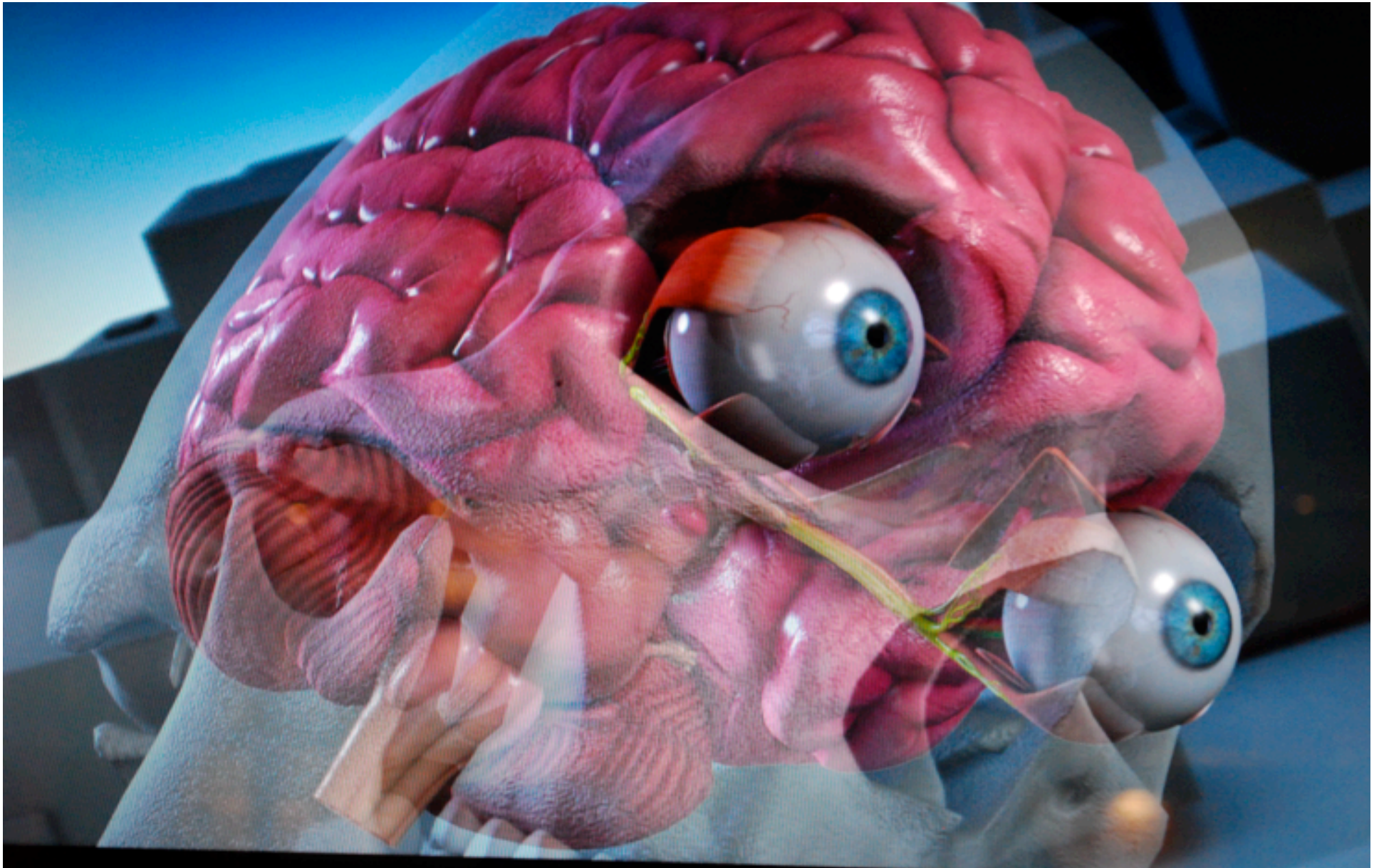
Group Behaviour



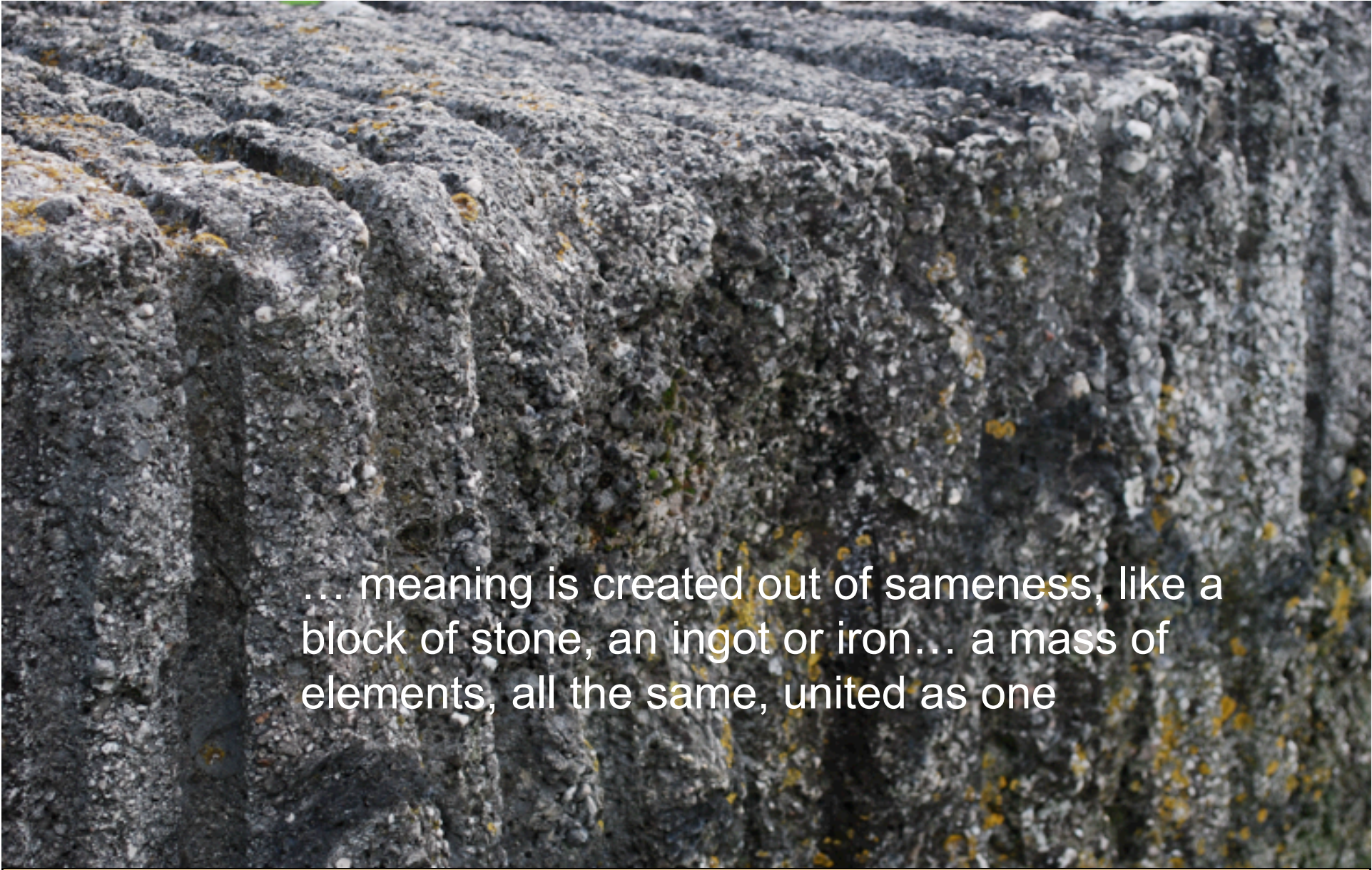
Neurons



Management



Client Focus



... meaning is created out of sameness, like a block of stone, an ingot or iron... a mass of elements, all the same, united as one

Sameness

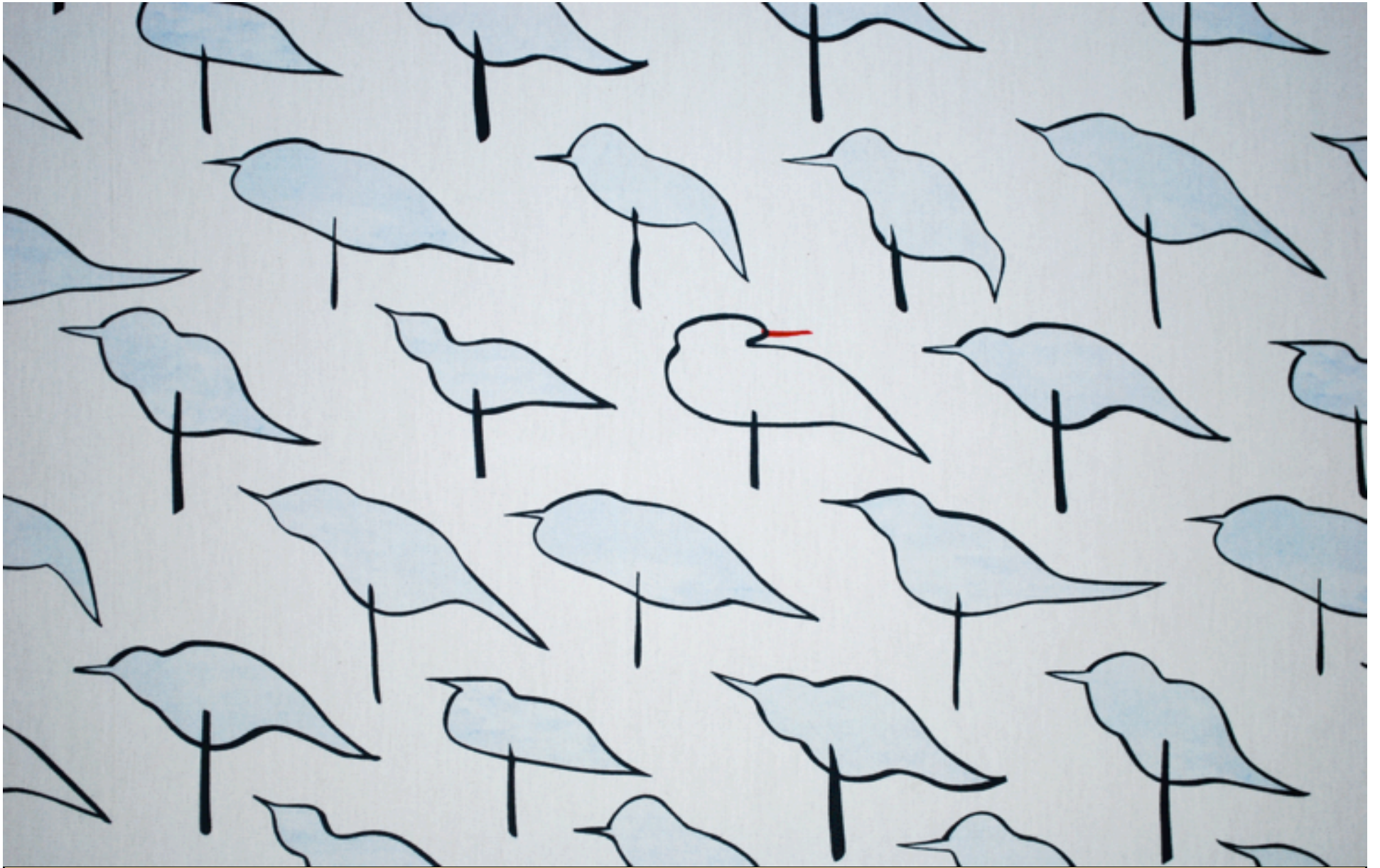


Semantic Consistency

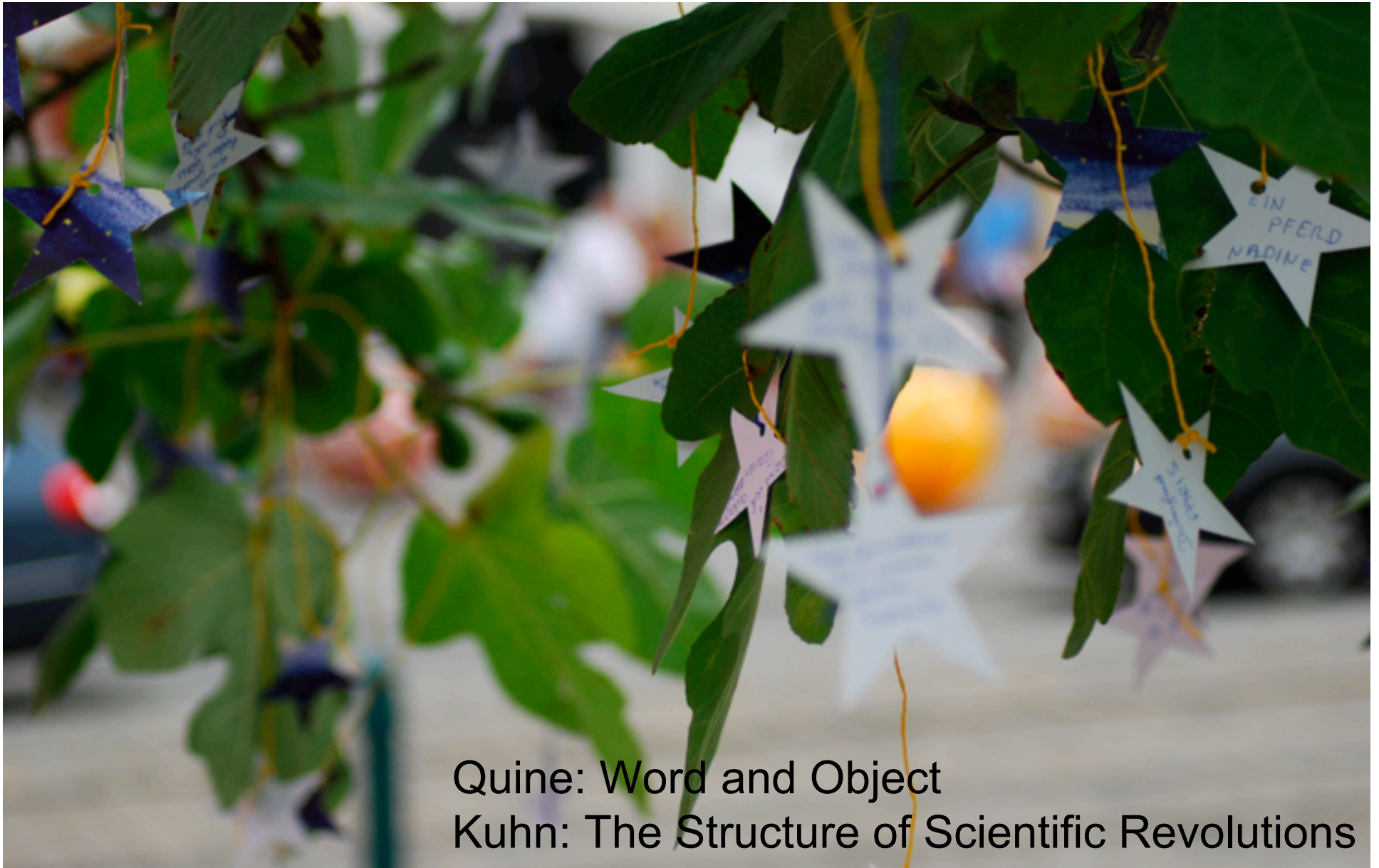
The idea is that truth, meaning, communication... are based in a sameness *in the entity*

But this is the opposite of what happens, isn't it?

Sameness of Entity Thesis



Diversity



Quine: Word and Object

Kuhn: The Structure of Scientific Revolutions

Incommensurability

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Syntactic Consistency



Language Games

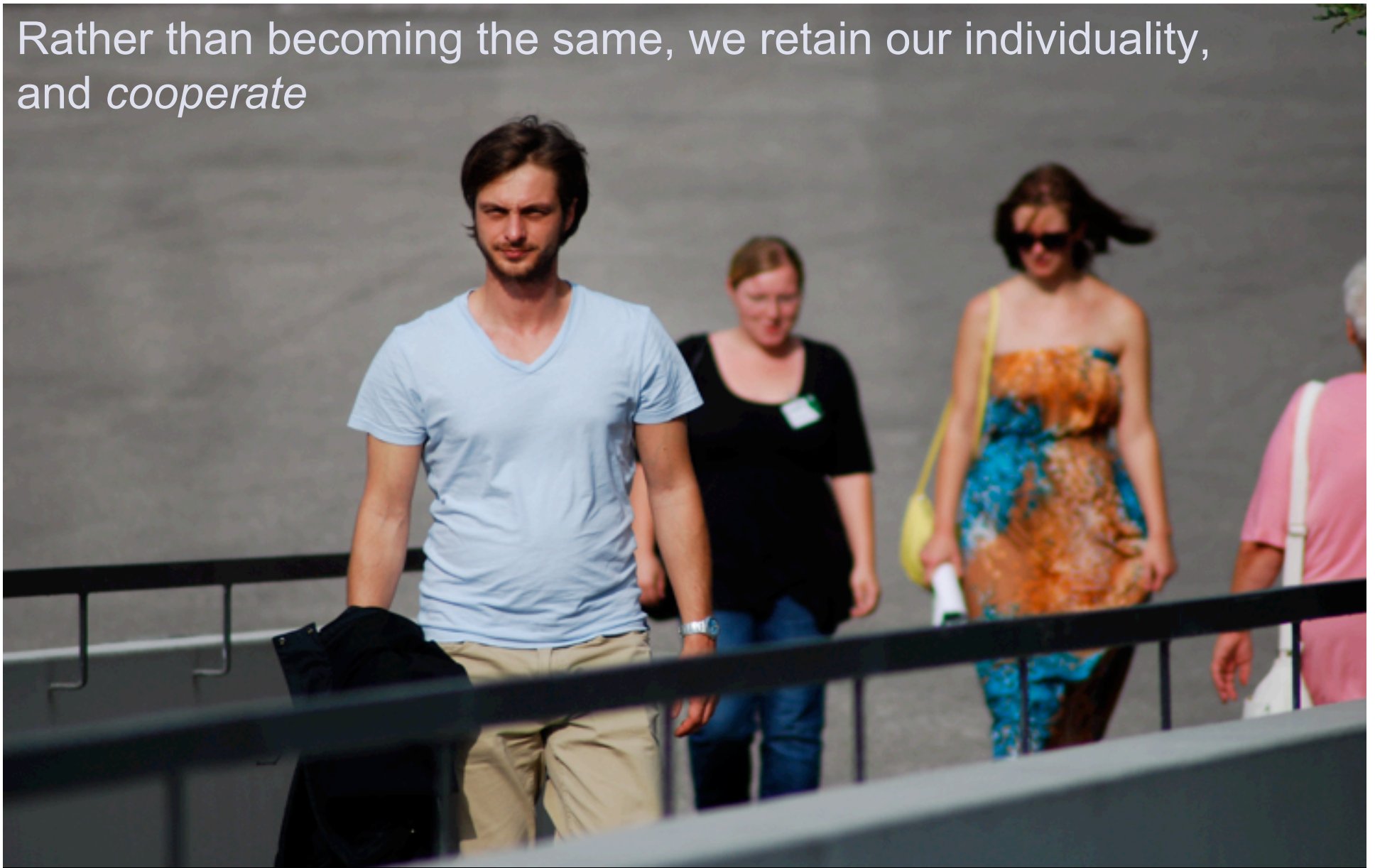
the sharing by entities of a common system of communication or infrastructure.



Community, then, would be defined by the interactions or connections among those entities, and the process of the global brain described in terms of those interactions.

Interaction Thesis

Rather than becoming the same, we retain our individuality,
and *cooperate*



Cooperation



Neural Cooperation



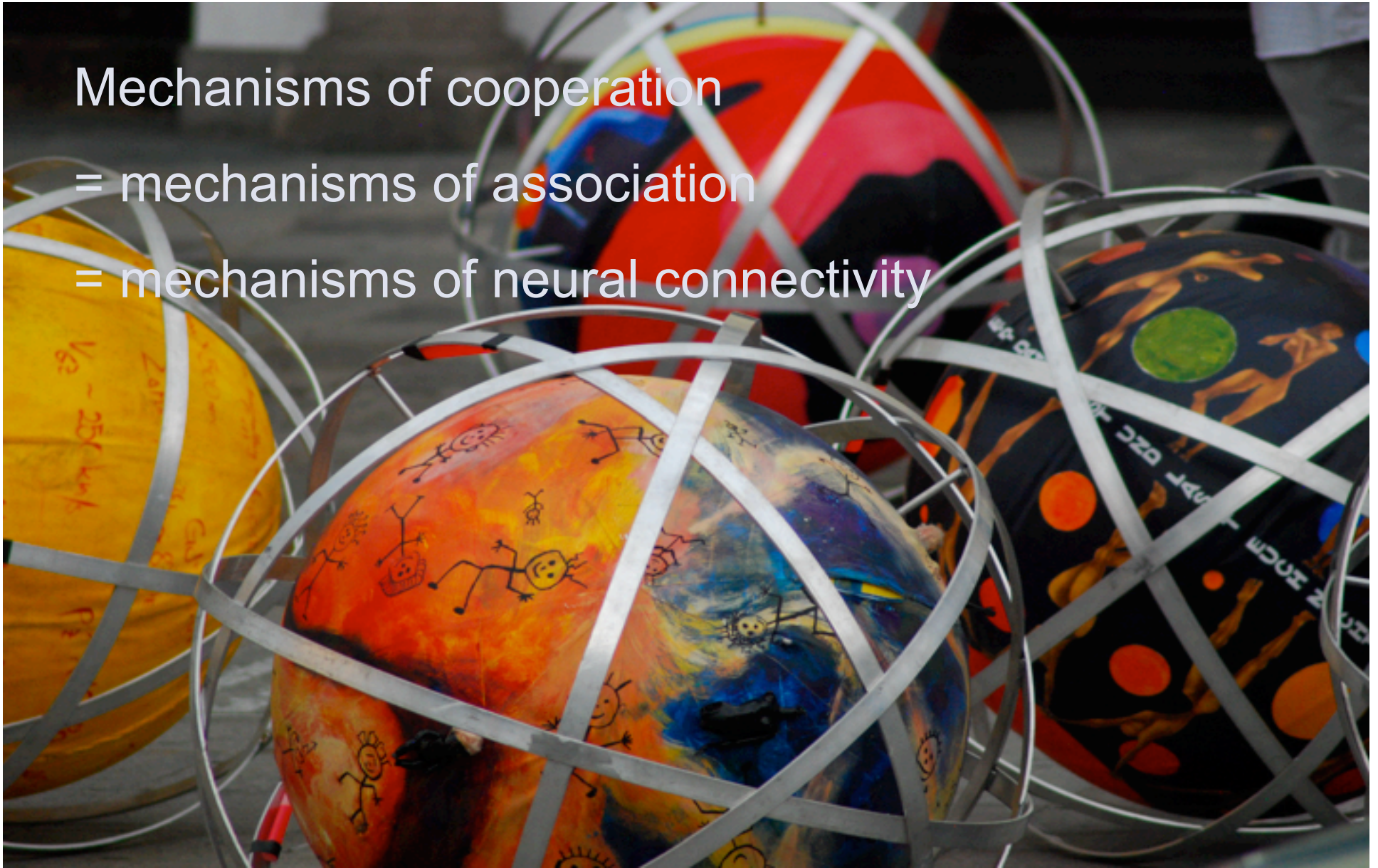
...is not collaboration but rather cooperation...

Community

Mechanisms of cooperation

= mechanisms of association

= mechanisms of neural connectivity



Association

Donald O. Hebb



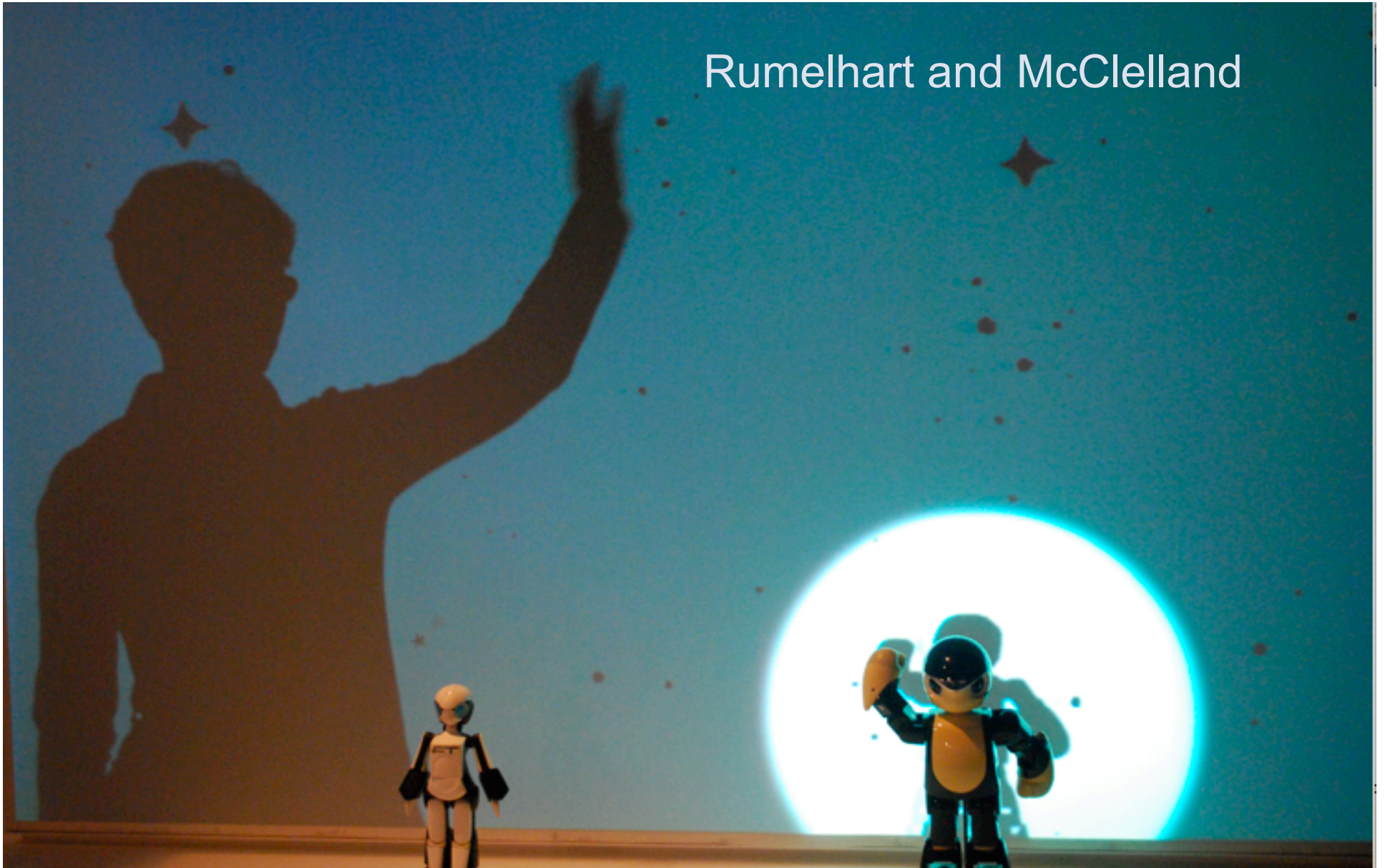
Similarity



H
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Proximity

Rumelhart and McClelland

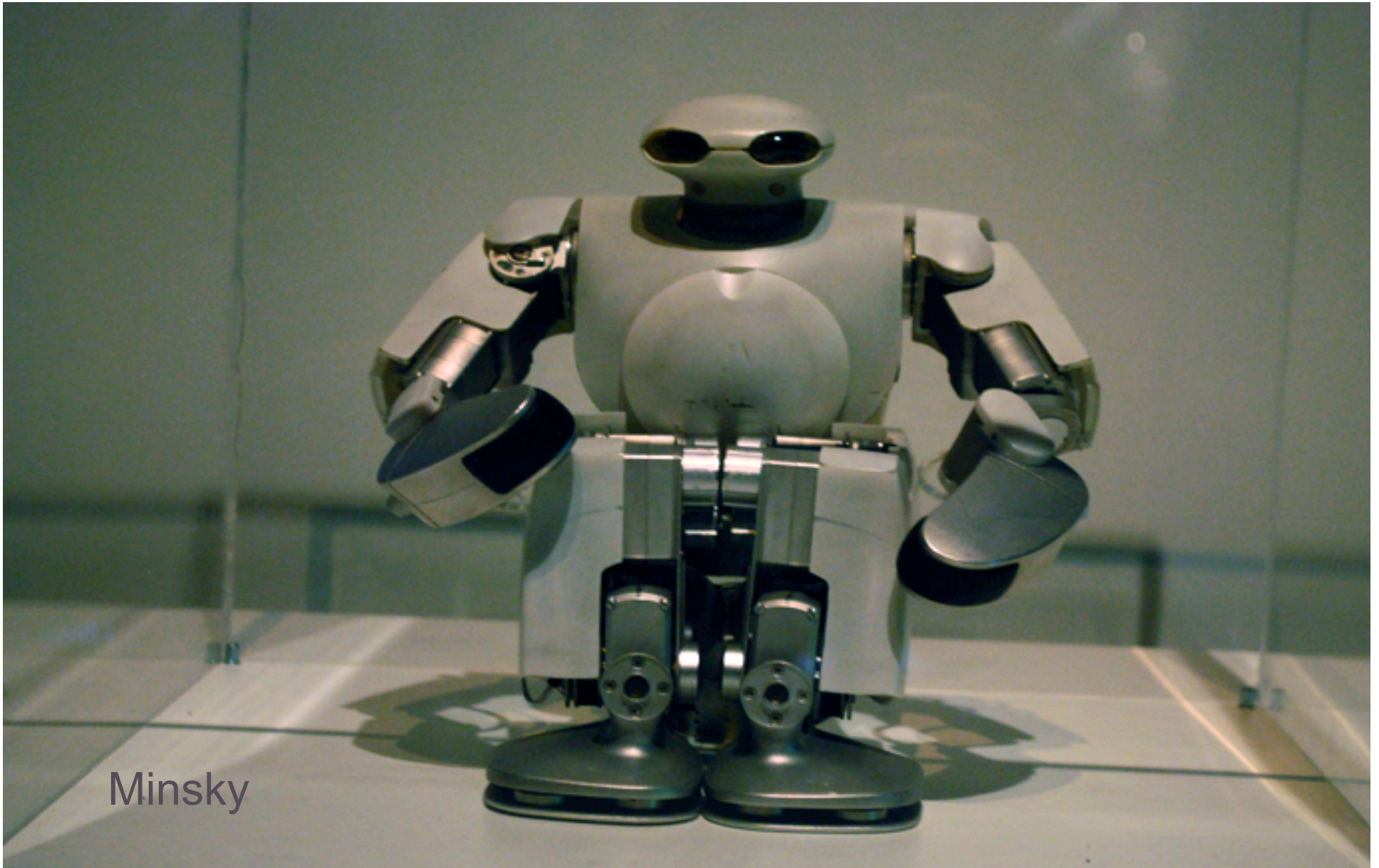


Feedback

B
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Harmony



Minsky

Society of Mind



Collectivism
Content
Collections
Collaboration
Wikipedia
Economics
Ownership

Kevin Kelly

The content-based 'new socialism' is the same as the authority-based power-law driven old capitalism.

New Socialism

A close-up photograph of a bumblebee on a white daisy flower. The bee is positioned on the yellow center of the flower, facing left. The background is a soft-focus green field of similar flowers. The overall lighting is bright and natural.

forms of socialism
as a form of
personal
empowerment,
equality of
opportunity,
sociality and
interdependence.

These four principles together constitute the
'semantic condition'

Cooperative Socialism

Autonomy



Empowerment



O
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Equality of Opportunity



Diversity

Sociality

Connectedness

Interaction

Emergence



Interdependence



Illich: appropriate and congenial alternatives to tools of domination

Conviviality



Words



www.downes.ca

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