

Collaboration

“It is not survival of the fittest...
It is rather a case of flourishing of the most cooperative¹.”

At 10th Dot® we herald what is possible in using the artful genius of human collaboration. We aspire to the same elegant cooperative associations that exist among leaves on a tree or among the millions of microorganisms and their six trillion collaborative interactions per second that go into the partnership of realizing and sustaining a human body.

Profound collaboration of this sort is virtually unheard of throughout the cascade of known human civilizations. These tumultuous churnings of humanity have rendered “survival of the fittest” into a tired tyrannical cliché.

Granted, outwardly focused domination and fear were invaluable instincts at their inauguration. However, the scope of their application as a social organizing principle has overreached and long out-lived its usefulness. This is especially so as they have degenerated into pathologies of hubris and inferiority disguised modern truisms. The need to retire tyranny and fear from their exalted status has long been evidenced by calamities as far back as ancient times, up to and including modernity.

At 10th Dot we strive with those visionaries who know our current view of domination and fear as fictions; who know that fear and its tyranny must be a last instead of a first resort; who know fear as the unacceptable norm it is; who know fear is bought with cheap down payments of words and sustained with high interest costs of human and natural casualty.

We strive with those who know that the true magnificence of humankind lies in new massive and complex partnerships, which will eventually expand into relations with all sentient beings². Partnerships of this sort turn us to the 14th Century French word “compete” in its then classical use: *to fall upon*; and in its post classical use: *to strive (after something) in company or together*³.

We stand with thinkers and leaders choosing to strive together over a threshold that will introduce us to innovation beyond transformation. We strive together in the face of primitive, self-imposed and institutional uses of fear with its defeating

¹
Return of the Bird Tribe; Casey

²
Janine Benyus: Biomimicry Guild <http://www.janinebenyus.com/>
Paul Stamets: Mycelium Running: How Mushrooms Can Help Save the World
<http://www.fungi.com/front/stamets/index.html>

³
Oxford English Dictionary; 1979

biology, psychology and philosophy. We strive together to remove the veil that has been drawn over the eyes of humankind, rendering it blind to what is parading in plain sight—the tyranny of the past and unparalleled opportunity of the present. Striving together is our salvation from the fictions of exclusive identification with fear. As Casey says, “It is not survival of the fittest... It is rather a case of flourishing of the most cooperative.”

At 10th Dot we herald the next level of true genius waiting to be born through the collaborations of human psychological and spiritual potential. We, at 10th Dot, exist as an organization to conduct experiments, model behavior and implement the principles of collaboration that serve the birth of this genius.

This genius is our salvation even though it is hidden behind veils of fear and normalcy. At 10th Dot we have tools to remove the veils, methods to make visible the normalization of fear and its fictions, and venues to conduct experiments that provide for the assimilation of integrative concepts and models.

There are precedents. One such is seen in how the mid-millennia indigenous peoples of eastern, northern and central North America held this truth in a concept called “burying the weapons.” It was a practice that came to be at gatherings of peace. Prior to convening the circle a trench was dug and all the weapons held by participants were buried in the cache for the duration of the peace event. Dialogues then occurred birthing communities and commerce that could neither have been brought into existence nor manifested under the fictions of domination and fear.

At 10th Dot we are burying such weapons as hoarding, tyranny and untruthfulness so we can experiment with sharing, an essential transparency referred to in our next book, *The Reinvention of Civilization*. Our definition of experiment is important to understand in that it gives you an idea of the scope of the task we have chosen to strive after together. At 10th Dot® an experiment is the potent paradox of a “safe emergency⁴.”

The list of collaborations on the website is our beginning examination of what is possible in collaborative partnerships. We strive to “bury the weapons” and realize what is only achievable in collaboration—a conscious symbiosis of genius.

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⁴ We take this from a gestalt organizational systems development view.
<http://www.gestaltosd.org/staff.html>