

Reilly's site is a revelation and a delight. I did not imagine this kind of graphic recording could be done, large scale and at an international level. Brave New World!

But sure; you'd just need a swift visual shorthand, drawn from vocabulary of images; the nimble wit of a simultaneous translator; an inventory of fluid narrative bridges; a comic sense of humour, a soaring presentation. As we see here.

Granted, the French had Asterix and Tintin, the Americans Peanuts and Rauschenberg's illustrations to Dante's Divine Comedy. Later came the Japanese Manga; then a whole genre of graphic novels which join the comic with the philosophic. I have missed most of these latter over the years, an age-related dearth. Now it all arrives as an efficient communications vehicle. It is brilliant.

Working symbols create their own structure. A tree, leaves labelled with words, suggests ramifications deriving from a main idea; verbiage becoming foliage. A honeycomb, on the other hand, cells holding words, shows a collaborative discourse; with no hierarchy, the equal input of a group effort. A sun says nurture and growth. A starburst tells of an idea thrown out to anyone in the audience and beyond.

Stairs to climb, water to row over, a crevisse to jump across; obstacles to overcome, helping hands extended; these are bridges between the main topics of the event. Sometimes a simple arabesque provides the coherence. I enjoy the cartoon touches, such as the light bulb, flower petals as solar panel, and the "AHA!"

Jackie Damato
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