



Canon of Creativity

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CANON OF CREATIVITY

ANALYSIS OF THE CREATIVITY CHART

J. L. MORENO

MOTTO: A science of man should start with a science of the universe. A central model of the universe hovers continuously in our minds, if not consciously, then unconsciously, whether magical, theological or scientific. It influences the form the central model of man takes. An incomplete or deficient model of the universe is better than none.

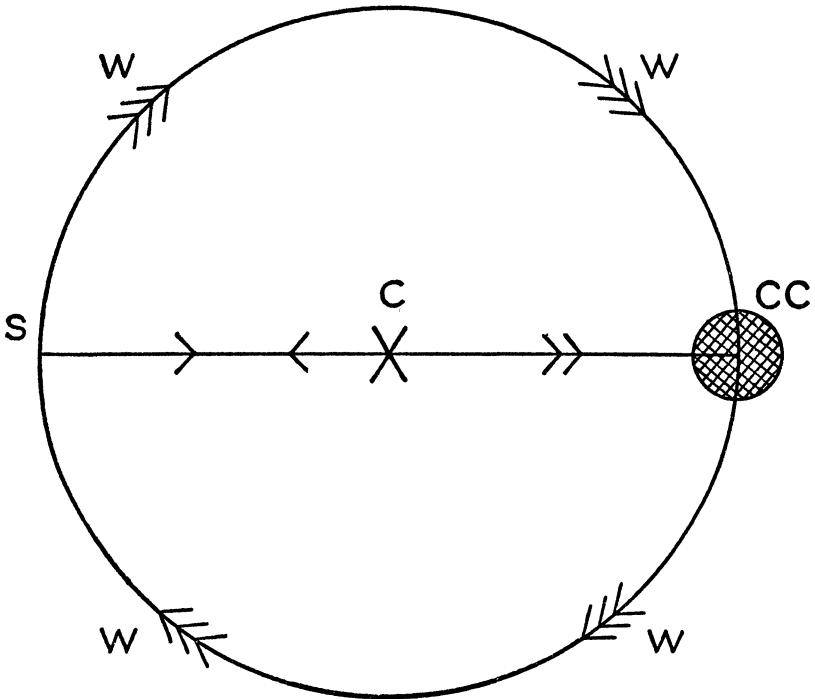
The universe is infinite creativity. Spontaneity is the constant companion of creativity. It is the existential factor "intervening" for creative processes to be released.

(C) Creativity being the key category of the universe is placed in the *center* of the rotating circle. From the center, a line representing a diameter cuts across the circle. On the left end of the circumference is placed S (Spontaneity), on the right end CC (conserve). They, S and CC, like the two counterweights on a scale, keep each other in balance. The more creativity the universe has, the larger the number of conserves which can be produced and the more spontaneity is required to keep them alive.

Creativity is the ever nourishing maternal center; spontaneity is the ever moving masculine fertilizer; conserve is the product and synthesis of their interaction.

Spontaneity as can be read from the chart has two directions of activity: one direction is indicated by the arrow on the diameter towards C (creativity). It represents interaction with the atoms of creativity, the creative acts in *statu nascendi*, producing little structured, spontaneous-creative matrices. The other direction of spontaneity is along the circumference of the circle towards the conserves at the other end of the diameter and in reverse from the conserves towards spontaneity. The arrows along the circumference are marked both ways in order to suggest a process of interaction.

CANON OF CREATIVITY
 SPONTANEITY - CREATIVITY - CONSERVE



FIELD OF ROTATING OPERATIONS BETWEEN SPONTANEITY-CREATIVITY-CULTURAL CONSERVE (S-C-CC)

S—Spontaneity, C—Creativity, CC—Cultural (or any) Conserve (for instance, a biological conserve, *i.e.*, an animal organism, or a cultural conserve, *i.e.*, a book, a motion picture, or a robot, *i.e.*, a calculating machine); W—Warming up is the “operational” expression of spontaneity. The circle represents the field of operations between S, C and CC.

Operation I: Spontaneity arouses Creativity, C. $S \longrightarrow C$.

Operation II: Creativity is receptive to Spontaneity. $S \longleftarrow C$.

Operation III: From their interaction Cultural Conserve, CC, result.
 $S \longrightarrow C \longrightarrow \longrightarrow CC$.

Operation IV: Conserve (CC) would accumulate indefinitely and remain “in cold storage”. They need to be reborn, the catalyzer Spontaneity revitalizes them. $CC \longrightarrow \longrightarrow \longrightarrow S \longrightarrow \longrightarrow \longrightarrow CC$.

S does not operate in a vacuum, it moves either towards Creativity or towards Conserve.

Total Operation

Spontaneity-creativity-warming up act $\begin{matrix} \text{actor} \\ \longleftarrow \\ \text{conserve} \end{matrix}$

From Moreno, J. L. “Who Shall Survive?”, 2nd Edition, 1953, page 46.