



LEONARDO:

Thoughts on a Cultural Icon

The hands which painted the
head of Christ and smile on the Virgin Mary's face
also designed machines to reap lives
as easily as wheat from Umbrian plains

The mind which pondered the mysteries of flight
and motions of complex shapes
also toyed with corpses
dissecting cadavers for play

With canvases gazing in silence
and sketchbooks filled with arcane imagery
Leonardo continues to amaze us
with surprising incongruities

Will: Isn't Leonardo an icon of human intelligence?

Kasim: Indeed, he's an apt personification of our complexities.

Nadia: As long as written history exists, we'll probably ponder about his achievements.

Wan-Sze: No doubt – the love of speculation and desire to make meaning out of contradiction is one of our hallmarks.

- T Newfields

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