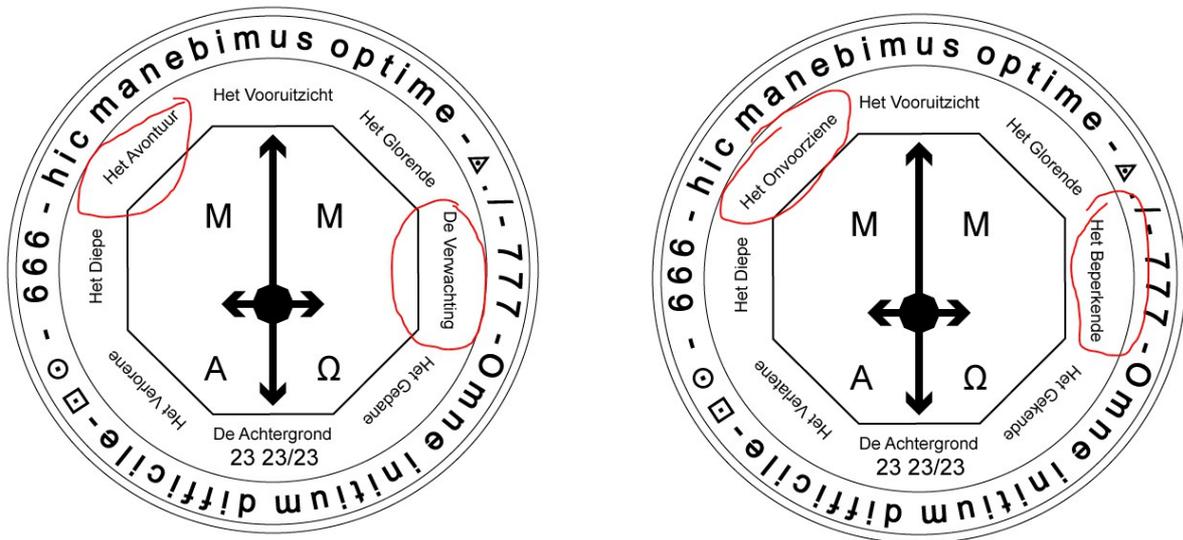


Rulesets, the pillar of severity and form

During a historia meeting we had a discussion about metaphor and the clay orbis. We stumbled upon a difference in perspective between the participants.



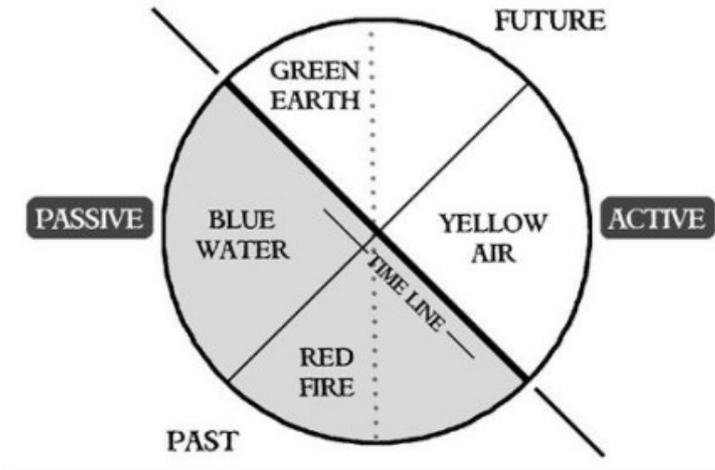
These two versions of the orbis reflect differences in the *Sensus Autem Huius Partis* (Literally: “*The Sense of This Part*”). Where some might have to the right the sense of something desired, “the right thing to do”, these two versions have nominalisations that are focussed on what others do with the maker of the orbis. The left version shows that right is “what is expected of me”, while the other one has on the right “what limits me”.

Now looking to the front left of the orbises, orbi (?) there is “the adventure” and “the unforeseen”, two different senses, with “the adventure” obviously having an element of desire lurking inside it.

This brought my thinking on the tree of life and the pillar of mercy (creative force) and the pillar of severity (form). As Dion Fortune writes in her book “*The Mystical Qabalah*” (p. 53) “*Considering again the symbolism of the two lateral columns of the Tree, we see Chokmah and Binah as Force and Form, the two units of manifestation.*”

Form, for me, represented somewhat in the orbis, is the ruleset, the frame that gives shape to the creative force. The mother that accepts and instantiates force into something that has meaning, a nice aspect of $0=2$, come to think of it. Now these rules or frames or formative pillar give me – the orbis on the left – an eerie feeling because the rules are not mine, they are the rules that society places upon me. Something similar occurs in the orbis on the right where the right is “limiting”, apparently also by what others want of the clayee.

Let's bring into the equation the 1st degree studypaper by Andy, of “active and passive”. For this Historia meeting we had decided to work with a metaphor and explore either Time perspectives, Active/passive and/or the golden ratio. The active/passive is pictured below:



What is left in the perception is passive, what is right in the field of perception is more active. What is right front is more future oriented and what is left back is more past oriented. Unfortunately for clayee number one – me – this strikes a nerve. I regularly find myself actively involved in what others want me to do – the right thing is expected of me and it's in the active plane – and I find myself passive about my adventures in the front left of my orbis.

Now keep in mind that little tiny me does what is expected by others. However during the creation of the orbis I did not etch the same words into life that the example orbis on the historia website has. And I did it in dutch. Is this because I don't feel “the expected of me by others” in the creation of the orbis, or is this because it is exactly “the expected of me by others” to find my own path in this assignment? Ugh.

On to a metaphor that we explored during this historia meeting. In it the metaphoree experienced a positive feeling towards something that was front right, the right thing for her. She had decided to take the path to the front though, not to do the right thing for her. And up until now it hadn't worked out so bad for her to “not do what is right for her”. What she was doing in practice had a sense of my own “what is expected of me” and even though I don't like it, it worked for her. Our front and rights were mixed up. Following the front right path would have been her 'comfort zone', nothing new.

The discussion then centered for a bit on “what is right?”, and we came to the preliminary conclusion that following the right path, anywhere from front to right, might just be “following the ruleset”, or the pillar of severity/form/rules. But whose ruleset? Doesn't matter! My ruleset, your ruleset, society's ruleset, as long as it's a ruleset. You need a ruleset! Might as well shape your own, but you need rules to make something manifest.

Force needs form to manifest. I need formative rules to shape my creative force and bring into manifestation my own version of “the adventure”. Once I have my own ruleset in place I expect there will be a change in the way I perceive “the right thing to do” because it will be “my right thing to do” instead of “others' right thing for me to do”. I'm pretty sure that the active element on the right side of the MoM compass will help me speed up my own manifestations. I'm going to bring my “the adventures” from front left (and passive) to front right (and active). Ain't making a new orbis though.

I can tell you that this theme has played a role in my life for some time. This time the way it presents itself to me is particularly striking.