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Feeling to Thought

an independent record label

PREFACE

The Feeling to Thought page on this website is aimed, primarily, at making available detailed liner-notes pertaining to published recordings. These serve to take the place of booklets usually included in standard CD packaging. This allows for notes to be unrestricted by word-length and thus able to communicate in greater detail, matters particular to each recorded document. This page, then, is set up to run in parallel with the music you'll hear on Feeling to Thought CDs and, where apposite, it cross-refers with the Composition page.

Feeling to Thought CDs are records of creative exchange. They are generally project oriented and in this sense they are stand-alone documents. At the same time, each of these projects bears relationship to the others through the work of *Collective Autonomy*. Communicative exchange is the fundamental concern here and towards this end both the recorded sound documents and the written texts contribute.

Each CD document will be listed in the Feeling to Thought Contents and by clicking on the title of your choice, the relevant 'liner-notes' will appear.

The Introduction that follows will shed a little light on the label's background as well as that of the website. *Projections - One* gives a more philosophical slant on the positive implications regarding independent record labels. This short essay can be found at: Top Menu>Writings>Essays>Projections: the series. For an in-depth introduction to Collective Autonomy go to: Top Menu>Collective Autonomy>*An Introduction to Collective Autonomy*.

INTRODUCTION

When I established Feeling to Thought in 2006 as an independent record label, far from my mind at the time was the likelihood that I'd set up a website. Several friends had encouraged me to think about doing so but I guess, due to my age and lack of familiarity with computer technology, I chose to avoid the process of learning what amounts to being another language. My interest was finally ignited by Simon Barker's generosity in placing Feeling to Thought CD titles on his website, KIMNARA www.kimnara.com.au together with several texts I'd written. This then led to Miriam Zolin, the editor of *extempore* www.extempore.com.au publishing, in hard copy and on her website, a number of my texts. By now, well and truly bitten by the web-bug, I began to think seriously about a site through which I could publish my work; one for which I'd be entirely responsible.

As I thought about the website and considered the fairly broad field on which my work grows, the plot thickened and a solution was not immediately forthcoming. With all my work being interdependent yet clearly segmented, deciding how to structure the website proved tricky. My major concern in this was accessibility for visitors but, in it being accessible, I didn't want to create the impression that these interdependent segments might be segregated.

Then, as if completely taken out of my hands, or, looked at another way, placed in my realm from another source, the solution became manifest. This particular experience I related in a letter to my sister, Lynette, towards the end of last year and I feel I'd like to include a passage here, with a few amendments, from that letter as the relevance will be obvious.

Sometime back I awoke in the middle of the night from a dream that, as clear as the screen before me right now, revealed a complex of pentagons, the corners of which touched the periphery of circles. The following two days were spent with my old drawing compass and, after many attempts, I worked out the proportions whereby from the radius of a circle I could map onto the circumference a pentagon as in the dream image. I set to and created a complex that then also included triangles, a shape that has been with me all my life. The geometric design that resulted is, to me at least, quite striking, but had had me puzzled ever since dreaming of it.

Then just recently I had another dream that clearly presented the Buddha Families. There are five of these: Vairochana (center), Ratnasambhava (south), Amitabha (West), Amoghasiddhi (north), and Akshobhya (east). Our historical Buddha, Shākyamuni, faced east as he overcame Mara at the time of his enlightenment. Akshobhya embraces unchanging nature (as wisdom) and aggression/hatred (as one of the five poisons). My own greatest single struggle in life has been the overcoming of agression, a form of ignorance (which Vairochana embraces as a poison), though I've a fair serve of the other poisons as well!

It was through the recognition of the connection between these two dreams — the connection between the pentagon complex and the five Buddha Families + the triangle (the Buddha, the Dharma, and the Samgha — the three jewels or tripple gem) — that I realized the time had come to get the website happening ... 'interpenetration'. The design will be intrinsic to the homepage and the homepage will consist of the five colours that represent the five Buddha Families — white, yellow, red, green, & deep blue (respectively).

The label, Feeling to Thought, is, in a sense, the realization of another kind of dream; a daydream perhaps, but nonetheless, an entity I never imagined would materialize. Between its initiation in 2006 and the present its overarching concept has become clearly established. It proffers a philosophy fundamental to Collective Autonomy and, now with the advent of the Sudhana Cycle, its once dreamed-of potential has become a matter for fulfillment. This, to me at least, is cause for celebration.