

KLEIN TECHNIQUE™

SUSAN KLEIN SCHOOL OF MOVEMENT AND DANCE



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REMARKS AT THE NORDIC ASSEMBLY III BY SUSAN KLEIN

Training to become an artist ... When one starts to think about this process it seems ridden with paradox. How can one codify art, creativity, individuality, passion, spirit, even technique. How does one study a set pattern of systematic rules and structures within the paramount goal of uncovering the uniqueness of spirit, mind, and body?

I believe this is done by following a path to the spirit, by following a path to the discovery of that which we already are, a path to one's true nature that is at our core.

Rarely can this be done alone. We all need our teachers. To follow our own inner voice is not enough. We must add to our inner wisdom that which is ancient. We all need support and structure to find the unfolding of our unique self. Our inner wisdom must be nurtured and educated by the experience and wisdom that has gone before us. To reject all that and go it alone would be foolish, if not impossible. I would like to tell you a story about the three transformations of the spirit. This is from Neitche's book Thus Spoke Zarathustra.

When you are a young person you are a camel, and the job of the camel is to get down on its knees and say "put a load on me". This load is all that society has to offer, all that society believes is necessary for an individual to live in that society; all its laws, all its rules and all its morals, all the instruction and information society know one must have in order to live a competent and good life. When the camel is well loaded she struggles to her feet and runs out into the desert where she is transformed into a lion. Now the heavier the load the camel took on, the greater and more powerful the lion she becomes. The function of the lion is to kill a dragon and the name of that dragon is "thou shall". On every scale of the dragon is imprinted a "thou shall". These are the "**thou shalts**" of society, the "thou shalts" of their parents, the "thou shalts" of their teachers, the "thou shalts" of 2000 years ago and the "thou shalts" in the headlines of yesterdays newspapers. Once the lion kills the dragon it is finally transformed into a child, into an innocent child living out of its own center, out of its own identity. A child with the pure innocents to grow and create their lives from their own true nature.

At the School for Moderne Dance in Denmark we are trying to load our camels with as big a load as possible so they may run into the world and make their unique contributions.

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