



ATIF AKIN

FRI 12:01PM, OCT 1 2021

Hello Prof Atif ☺

Hi Leona, just to confirm your number, can you please name the four similitudes according to Michel Foucault?

Checking my notes...conveniencia, aemulatio, analogy, sympathy

Great, Hi Leona!

What's your favorite animal?

Cats, I guess, since I know them more, it's the immediate answer, but elephants are also great but did not get to spend much time with them.

Cats are sympathetic and convenient, and they emulate wildlife and analog to pets.

Elephants are like giant knowledge sinks, they know and remember everything.

I'm a night owl and inspiration comes often at night. When do your best ideas come to you? Not just limited to time of day, but this includes activity such as riding the subway or walking.

For me inspiration is not about time of the day or the year.

More faces and more places inspire me the best.

So, yes, walking I guess would be one of the activities as it relates to faces and places.

What kinds of things inspired you as a child?

Geography, scientifically related novels and water—in terms of the ocean, sea sides, beaches etc.

Favorite book as a kid?

I read every single line that Jules Verne wrote before I was seven.

What's a line or quote from Verne that you have kept with you?

I cannot quote a full line off the top of my head right now, and partly because I read them all in Turkish, but I remember takeaways from the experiments going wrong but still leading to new thoughts and knowledge.

I think for him the curiosity was the key, and now I looked it up and he has a quote about cats! ☺

"I believe cats to be spirits come to earth.
A cat, I am sure, could walk on a cloud without coming through."

How would you describe your practice in terms of art and science?

I work within design-related processes and media, looking at scientific and political phenomena, [the] outcome is artistic.

If you can go to any two places in the world with just a camera, where would you go and why?

I may wanna go back to Java

I like to go back to places, gives me second thoughts. Second visits help make more deliberate observations and decisions.

And that part of the world is geographically still very active. Things have changed since I was there three years ago. Merapi exploded twice since then.

That's some rapid change. Back where I'm from, the San Gabriel Mountains are rising two inches every year. It's fast.

All in flux

That concludes our convo. Thank you so much.

Good luck Leona, it was my pleasure