

Convegno **Il valore del simbolo all'inizio del millennio** / Conference **The Value of the Symbol at the Beginning of the Millenium**, Cittadellarte, Biella 2001, cfr. *Sul simbolo. Confronti e riflessioni all'inizio del millennio* (Luca Sossella editore 2004).

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... postmodern syncretism is characterized by a return to the image and by an orientalization and feminization of the world that oppose the occidentalization and patriarchalization that distinguish the Western tradition.

Two different topographies can be envisaged: the first is that of reason, described by Gilbert Durand; vertical and decisively masculine, its symbols are straight, sharp objects like the Roman sword, the plough blade, the phallus; the second is the feminine, symbolized by everything that is empty, that unites and does not separate.

Today we see a return to the symbol and an affirmation of creativity in opposition to the pure labour that had long characterized Western civilization.

The symbolic cut before which we find ourselves is that which seems to give rise to a new creativity...
