



respecting complexity

When I began reading the work of Michel Serres I felt a renewed sense of hope in the possibilities of inventive thought and humane dialogue. What I did not find was an active contingent of other people who had read his work. I kept hoping I would happen upon a place where I could meet other people who had benefited from the unique way in which his work catalyzes the readers thought process.

I was not able to find such a place, either geographically or electronically. While sketching in my cordless laptop - what others call a notebook - I decided that perhaps I should build a website rather than wait for someone else to do it. I began to do so and published it in-process hoping to connect with people like you. It worked.

Now I would like to invite you to participate. My goal is to create a space where we can exchange our ideas and experiences in connection with the work of a philosopher to whom we feel some degree of indebtedness.

particulars

1. You write something about Serres that might fit in one of the following categories:

*Time. Knowledge.
Science. Culture. Literature.
Technology. Hope. Religion.
Ethics...*

2. Make it around 500-1000 words and at a newsmagazine reading level. I can then add these to the website under the categories listed there.

3. You could also write a piece that is more advanced, like a second level that goes deeper - say 1000 - 2000 words. These types of works could be layered to follow the entry-level essays.

4. There would also be room for more lengthy research papers, theses and articles as we collect more material that would allow readers who are so inclined to go deeper.

I'd also like to suggest that you include an image or two in what you write. Some of Serres's best work involves the layering of text, image, side-bar comments and the mixing of time-lines. We might profitably include our own layerings and interactions.

The challenge we face as readers of Serres is to allow his work to stimulate our own contributions without becoming slavishly tied to official interpretations or mimicry. I'm not quite sure how we do that it would be fun to get started and see where it goes.

Your name and contact information (generally just e-mail) would be on the articles you submit unless you let me know otherwise. I will put the writing on-line in a PDF file so they can be easily printed and collected.

I look forward to your responses and welcome your ideas on how we can enrich our communication.

Milton.