

Tomorrow's Modern Futurist

Alan Fricker
Sustainable Futures Trust
New Zealand

(thanks to Gilbert and Sullivan - Pirates of Penzance)

Fut: I am the very model of tomorrow's modern futurist,
I can lecture as an optimist, pessimist or realist,
I know the terms critique, and I know the words nonsensical,
From abnegate to zurrogate, in order alphabetical.
I'm well acquainted too with matters ontological,
I understand episteme, both logical and farcical,
But as for the Foresight Principal, it's rather hard to follow,
I won't know how I feel today until it is tomorrow.

All: He won't know how he feels today until it is tomorrow.

Fut: I'm very good at visual and textural scenarios
I know the teleology of all the nation's Scorpions.
In short, in matters optimist, pessimist and realist
I am the very model of tomorrow's modern futurist.

All: In short, in matters optimist, pessimist and realist
He is the very model of tomorrow's modern futurist.

Fut: I know our future history though that may seem a paradox,
By decoding Nostradamus at the autumnal equinox.
Time and its perceptions, both linear and cyclical,
My studies have extended to elliptical and spherical.

I deconstruct and reconstruct post-modern methodology,
Interpret and transform again it's complex ideology.

I decolonise the future in manner hierarchical

And repopulate the planet with species more compatible.

All: He'll repopulate the planet with species more compatible.

Fut: Except of course if nanotech, with which I galivants,
I think I can, I know I can, reduce us to the size of ants.

In short, in matters optimist, pessimist and realist

I am the very model of tomorrow's modern futurist.

All: In short, in matters optimist, pessimist and realist

He is the very model of tomorrow's modern futurist.

Fut: Megatrends and metaproblems confused me by the score

I understand the problems but what's the meta for?

My learned friends in faculty say I have put an end to history

Just because this modern futurist has put an end to strategy.

I analyse and normalise, syllogise and paralyse,

Turn paradigm to pantomime, coherence into impudence.

Each day I scan the future, cross impact and survey

Consult the Delphi oracle - aha!, three bob on the grey.

All: Consult the Delphi oracle - aha!, three bob on the grey.

Fut: But in matters astrological, or even diabolical,

I'll tell you what you want to know as long as you've a shekel.

In short, in matters optimist, pessimist and realist

I am the very model of tomorrow's modern futurist.

All: In short, in matters optimist, pessimist and realist

He is the very model of tomorrow's modern futurist.

Correspondence:

Richmond Rd, Pohara, Golden Bay 7172, New Zealand

africa@actrix.gen.nz