

## NOW OR NEVER...NOW AND EVER

Each generation thinks it is “modern”, “new”, and thus somehow better in all ways than the people who preceded them. The questions raised by the mere concept of the modern or the somewhat degraded term “modernity” are many. At its core is the concept of a need to destroy the immediate past in order to progress into the future.

From the point of view of a working artist I would like to set out a number of avenues to explore human choices in the “modern moment”, suggesting a few examples from the arts because sometimes it is worth remembering that symbols (ART) can serve as short cuts to understanding the ethos and future of a society.

Touching upon leadership selection methods among large mammals and the current cult of youth could also prove useful insights.

Hopefully in twenty minutes I can suggest a few blaze marks for our continued journey to greater good. For the survival of of the best aspects of humanity, we need to learn to earn a living sense of the infinite, starting from the present moment.

Jacqueline Belfort-Chalat,  
Professor of Visual Arts  
Le Moyne College

321 Hurlburt Rd.  
Syracuse, NY 13224

[belarts@twcny.rr.com](mailto:belarts@twcny.rr.com)  
315-445-0885