

POEM OF THE WEEK

Being Modern

Synonyms surely!
Not so fast, mon ami
Things are not what
They appear, or seem

To appear

A little analysis
Is required.
Two words:
Being. Modern.

I was surprised
When my poetry
Was considered
Defined as postmodern

I checked the word
“Postmodern”. It’s legit
Refers to a style of poetry
Knock me down with a feather

There are a lot of assumptions
That has been made, continue
To be made about being “modern”
It’s inevitable, isn’t it? Surely

I start to wonder when one looks
At words which are not necessarily
Synonyms are connected
Modernism, modernity and modernisation

Similar but different in their use and application

Is “being modern” a state of being
Or a state of mind or an experience
To be experienced firsthand or second-hand
into which our minds might expand

“Modernism” is a field of study
Strange if one thinks, modernists
Studying modern people
To see how they tick

Then, I wonder. Is ‘modern’ progressive

A state of evolving? Teilhard de Chardin
Defined evolution in terms of complexification
Evolving is the move from one state of being

To another, which is more complex, more demanding
I wonder what he would make of the 21st Century
I wonder if humans have developed,
Their behaviour suggests otherwise

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