

Tomorrow's Modern Futurist

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(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.

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Elise Boulding and Kenneth Boulding, *The Future: Images and Processes*. London, Sage Publications, 1995, 153.

Eleonora Masini, "Rethinking Futures Studies" in Ziauddin Sardar, ed., *Rescuing All Our Futures: The Futures of Futures Studies*. Twickenham, England, Adamantine Press, 1999, 36-48.

Johan Galtung, *Essays in Peace Research*. Vols. 1-5. Copenhagen, Christian Elgers, 1978.
- 6) For journal articles:

Yongseok Seo, "From the 39th Parallel to a Border: Exploring Alternative Futures of Korea," *Journal of Futures Studies* (Vol. 6, No. 4, May 2002), 5.

