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Photons and Electrons in the Mirror

Our concepts of a concrete reality and the material nature to things set in a continuity of time are only a small aspect of what our consciousness truly holds. We define this reality by the many systems of code, belief, habit, nurture, nature and biology that we inherit. From an early age human beings are presented with a spatial, emotional and cognitive awareness of those things in their immediate spheres and orbits namely; family, play, games, expression, mirrored identity etc. The problem, or adventure, for a human being therefore becomes the ability to begin to stand alone and apart from these codes and systems, grow and adapt to them and begin to define themselves in relation to these systems whilst also surviving, living and communicating with many others in order to build meaning into the unfathomable question of existence both collectively and privately. Since early in the last century these same concepts and systems have become more obsolete as the keenest minds on the planet trained all their efforts on an understanding of the mechanics at play in the natural world, in the 'ether' and continue to emerge with more and more certain and puzzling findings today. Classical physics became quantum physics became quantum electro dynamics. These things still do not penetrate the average psyche and have yet to manifest in any 'visible' way that humans can comprehend.

I believe the film *Mirror* by Andrey Tarkovsky presents one of the first and most direct engagements in art with these phenomena. Tarkovsky wrote extensively about film and art and perception theory in his masterwork 'Sculpting in Time'. The compression of light into rhythm and time presented a multi-faceted, deeper view of life. How this relates to memory is one of the lesser investigated, yet understood, areas of this film in particular. I want to look at how emotion reacts with physics, how this perhaps goes beyond our cognitive, spatial and temporal understanding of the world around us and is a fine illustrative tool for the abstract qualities behind quantum mechanics, the play of light photons and electrons and metaphysics.