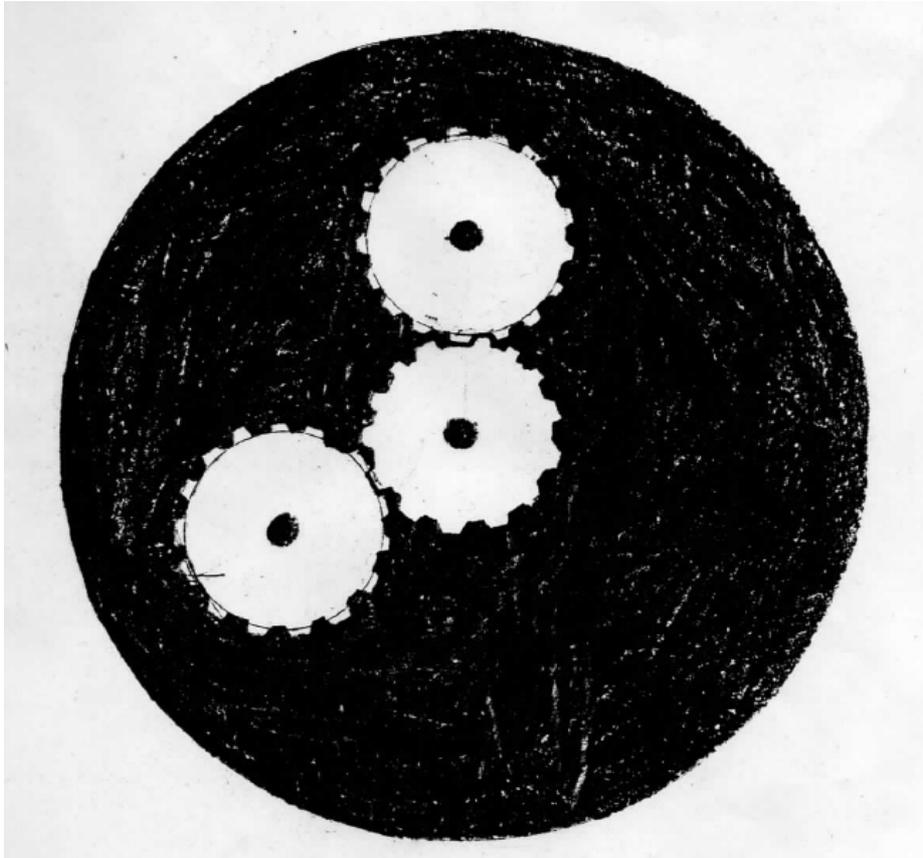


Wheels within Wheels



A cautionary tale concerning the building of the Great Machine and the horrendous accident that subsequently befell some of its negligent minders.

*“cruel Works
Of many Wheels I view, wheel without wheel, with cogs tyrannic
Moving by compulsion each other, not as those in Eden, which,
Wheel within wheel, in freedom revolve in harmony and peace.”*

William Blake.
(Jerusalem)

Have you ever felt that you are just a small cog in a big machine? You have? Well let me tell you a story. There is a being who has an urge to create. To do this you need a whole load of energy. But as you know energy tends to disperse. To create anything meaningful you have to harness it in some way. Fortunately to help him he has a clever, strong and very understanding wife. Together they devise this incredible machine.

It so happens that I have had the good fortune to acquire a copy of the blueprint for our parents' machine (let's just say it fell off the back of a lorry). At first most of it was totally incomprehensible. But eventually the beginning of a pattern seemed to emerge. Like all true works of genius the basic idea turned out to be incredibly simple.

The machine consists of a hexagonal framework. The integrity of this structure is maintained by three intersecting struts (This is probably the wife's idea). Each strut runs from one corner of the frame to the opposite corner. On the plans the struts are labelled A, D and U. Apparently these letters stand for Affirm, Deny and Unify.

There is a central hole drilled through all three struts at their point of intersection. Surrounding this hole at regular intervals are three more holes, one for each strut. Each of these three holes is one sixth of the way along a strut.

Each hole takes an axle. Attached to the axles are five wheels. The central axle carries two wheels. Each of the remaining axles carries one wheel.

The relative dimensions of the wheels are as follows. The smaller of the two wheels which share an axle has a diameter one third the length of a strut. On the blueprint this wheel is labelled 'Time'. The other wheel sharing this axle has a diameter three times that of the smaller wheel. This wheel is labelled 'Space'. (A bizarre notion has occurred to me. What if one had the skill and ingenuity to build a replica of this machine and the audacity to use it? Then one might have a device to travel through time, space and who knows what else.) The remaining wheels fit exactly into the space between the smaller and the greater of the wheels sharing an axle.

All the wheels are free to spin on their axles except one. This one wheel is fixed to its axle. This is not the axle of the largest wheel. This fixed wheel is described in the plans as A Fiery Serpent of Growth. It is labelled 'Create and Expand'. It is attached to the strut labelled A. The remaining two wheels are described as An Infinite Vortex of Compression and A Herald of Change. The Compression wheel is labelled 'Contract and Repeat'. It is attached to the strut labelled U. The wheel of Change is labelled 'Receive and Transform'. It is attached to the strut labelled D.

The wheels are cog-wheels. All have teeth on the outside of their rims except one. This one wheel has teeth on the inside of its rim. The teeth of all adjacent cogs mesh perfectly.

The axle with a wheel fixed to it is the drive shaft. Whenever one wheel moves the other wheels move in the same instant. The transmission of influence between wheels is sequential but instantaneous in time. Every change is a simultaneous reverberation at every level of structure, visible and invisible.

The story goes that a number of beings were given the task of minding the machine from outside as it were. With their cooperation a great deal was, is and will be created. Unfortunately the spinning wheels had an hypnotic effect on some of the attendants. Momentarily losing awareness of who they were they fell headlong into the machinery!

At first it was feared that the machine might be damaged. Fortunately however, when the beings had become sufficiently ground up they made an excellent lubricant.

The pain of being crushed between the wheels caused some of the beings to awake from their hypnotic trance. Realizing their predicament they began to cry out in pain and terror. Every effort was made to help them extricate themselves from the machinery in which they had got themselves caught. But many of them were disoriented by the speed at which they were being whirled round. Others realizing the complexity of the machine gave up in despair. Some blamed each other or the management. Others consoled themselves with the hope that they might be flung into a stationary part of the machine where they would be safe.

To see why it is so difficult for these beings we must look at the plans in a little more detail. We can see that there are six points where the cog wheels interact. On the plan the three outer points are labelled in a clockwise direction UDA, AUD, DAU. These three are said to stand for Creation, Reception and Repetition respectively. UDA is the point where the drive wheel turns the largest wheel.

The three inner points are labelled in a clockwise direction ADU, DUA, UAD. These three are said to stand for Expand, Transform and Contract respectively. ADU is the point where the drive wheel turns the central wheel. The drive wheel turns clockwise.

Starting at any one point we can see that there are a number of ways of going round the wheels and between the cogs back to the same place. This is assuming that one must be carried along by the movement of the wheels. The beings are constantly swept along all twelve pathways connecting the six points. On each pathway the machine appears totally different.

Most of the beings do not realize they are going round in circles. At each point where the wheels meet they have two choices. They can remain on the same wheel or shift to the other wheel. Then at the next point it seems they have the choice of moving to another wheel and so on indefinitely. So from any one starting point the possibilities multiply in the sequence: 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64 ...

But this is deceptive since some choices lead immediately back to the previous point of choice. It will be found that the possibilities are more accurately represented by the sequence: 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21.

But this too is deceptive because all routes lead eventually back to the starting point. Each route back to the start is a cosmos. Cosmoses are living beings. All life returns to source. Each cosmos is like a serpent biting its own tail. As the wheels turn the cosmoses feed. They thereby maintain their own integrity and structure the worlds

they inhabit. It can be seen that the cosmoses can be grouped in order of their complexity. These groups correspond to worlds within worlds.

From any one point there are a number of routes back to the beginning. Similarly, there are a number of possible routes from the relative standpoint of the other five points. Each of the six points can be taken as the start for a set of circuits. The total number of circuits calculated from all six points is fairly large. The machine is capable of many different types of process. However this high figure is deceptive. Many of these cyclical processes are duplications of others only begun at a different point on the circuit. If this is taken into consideration there are far fewer possible routes.

A wider viewpoint of any given circuit reveals that it does not exist in isolation. It may be identical to another route only begun at a different point. It may be part of a bigger circuit or contain a lesser. When one wheel turns they all turn. When the wheel of Time turns the circle of Space moves. The Serpents, Vortices and Heralds move between the two. When these three spin Time and Space change and all the worlds and cosmoses come into being. Thus the different worlds and cosmoses are not really separate from one another. An event in any one of them is simultaneously an event in all of them. This is how the machine maintains the integrity of what is created through it.

Of course, it is not really a machine at all. It only appears like that when you are caught in the machinery. It is really more like a living being or a dance within a temple. But come to think of it, it is not really like that either.

It may help you if you make a model of the machine described. You can draw the hexagonal frame out on a wooden or hardboard base. The wheels can be cut from thick cardboard and held in place by drawing pins. It will require a lot of careful, cutting since the teeth on all the cogs need to be of the same size and shape. But even a rough model is sufficient to show the basic principles.

“And was Jerusalem builded here
Among these dark Satanic Mills?”

William Blake.

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