German Lamento

About *Flugscham* (flying shame), consumer anxiety and other expectations

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How can it go on today and now with presence of mind? To recognize connections means to know that independence can only be realized by not excluding dependencies on ideas of others. To think politically today does not mean to surrender to the omnipresent political counterstrike - entertainment through fake news, calculated ego techniques and foreign bashing.

As a media consumer today, you probably just have to learn to endure contradictions more than before. For example, the fact that I feel shame doesn't mean that I can't slow down my consumerism - but perhaps that I was thinner than ten or twenty years ago - when the world was a much different, much slower and more calculable place.

Never before has (at least German) society been so rich and saturated with things and history, and at the same time so poor in ideas and an almost pathetic will to change. What is all this talk about flying shame when the climate is going down the drain? In general: The (german?) habit of complaining at a very high level, the social obstruction of permanent lamenting was and has always been unproductive. What can we (at all) still expect to finally transform the leaden time of a seemingly unchangeable present into something different? Do we still believe in the freedom of art or have we surrendered to the laws of the free market? How can one - today - move critically thinking in the world?

More and more today the motto is: the more laconic the more beautiful; the more open the more artistic. The truth is always dependent on the extent to which we allow it to become involved in our inner bubble.

Probably nature will soon simply blow over us if we do not systematically focus on change, even in the smallest things. Whenever the expectations of the changeability of society have been too high, one will fail. Unless you encounter works of art that let us run aground mentally. In the past it was about outbidding by originality; today it was about still existing or new expectations - what does not change lives wrong.

In art, expectations can never be too high, but the demands placed on them can be too low. Without expectations of one's own (still) unknown, one cannot win the future. As ideological as this sentence sounds, as true it is in truth. Nothing is as paralyzing as the prospect of non-changeability. And yet it is not possible to hold on to the unchangeable without developing counter-images.

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