

Analytical

Art

of Pavel Filonov

A school,
a method,
a direction.

At the start of the 20th century, the role of art had to change

It was no longer:

- a window to an outside world
- description of something
- interior decoration
- illustration to printed text



Visual art does not have to **serve** anything anymore.

Pavel Filonov created Analytical Art as a way to give art **intrinsic value**.

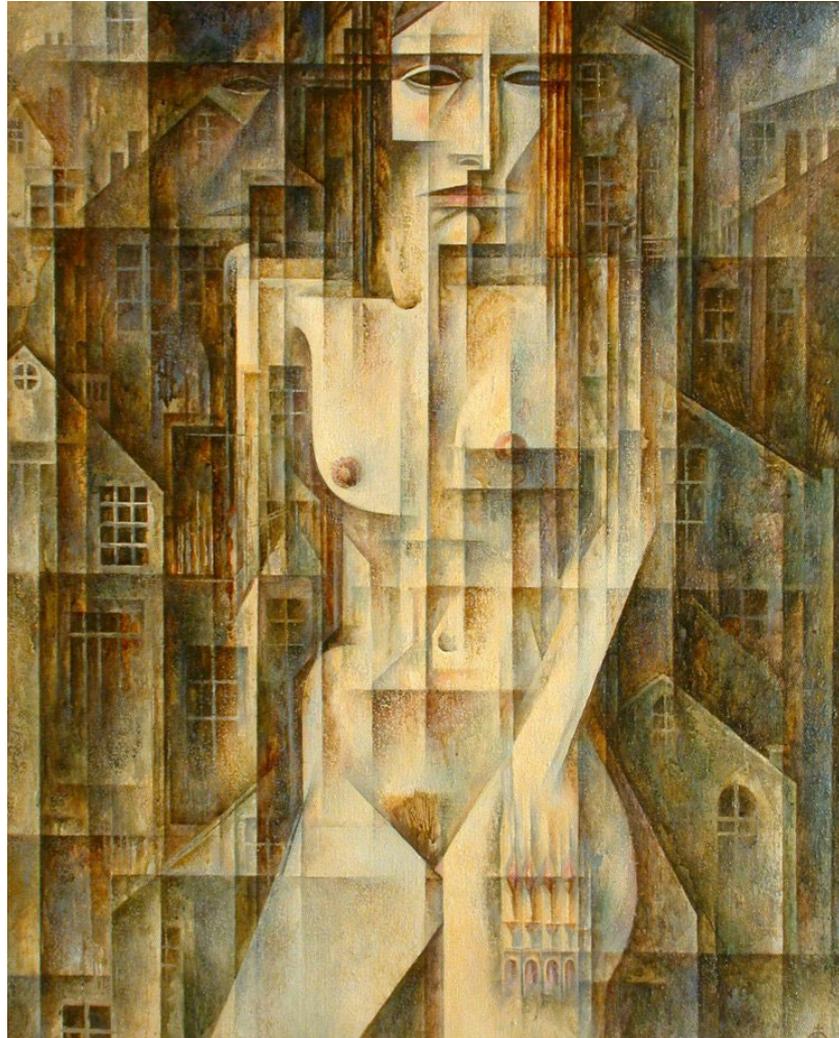
What is the only source of that value?

Artist's mind, soul, individuality, feelings, introspection...

In other words – inner world.

Art of the first half of the 20th century: Increasing efforts to seek the ways towards **the inner world of the human and the means of its expression.**

V. Kandinski, *On Spirituality in Art*



That One,
Sergey
Chesnokov-
Ladyzhenskii

How to accomplish such introspection?

There are numerous methods of elucidating the human subconsciousness used by the 20th century artists and non-artists:

- **Meditation:** good for mental health & self-awareness, but not an artistic / creative method per se
- **Consciousness flow:** good for psychoanalysis, but Freud, Jung et al impose their own clinical, non-artistic framework
- **Drugs and alcohol:** harmful, artificial and at best provide temporary or contrived insight
- **Paranoid / schizophrenic hallucinations** are not available to all and are highly destructive. They do not represent the inner world of most people.

Analytical Art Provides a Method

Analytical Art is the only “school” that teaches its students to **overcome the censorship of consciousness** not only without any harm, but as an artistic method.



Mermaid, by Alexander Zorin

Main Components of Analytical Art

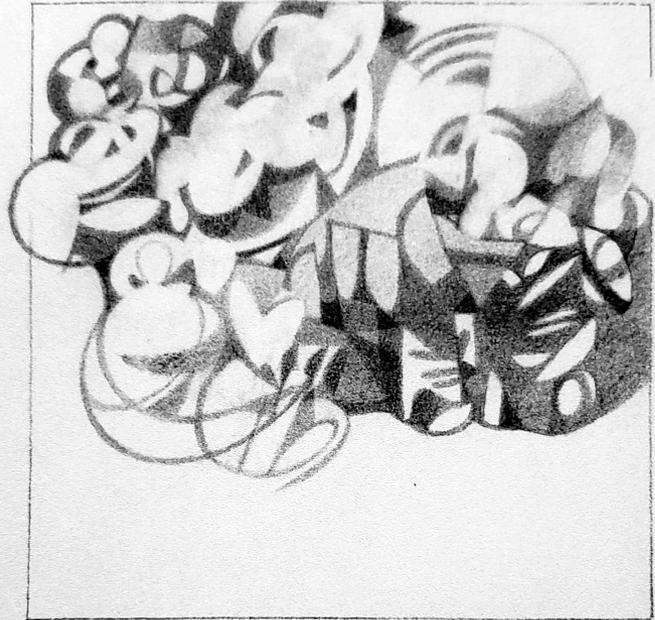
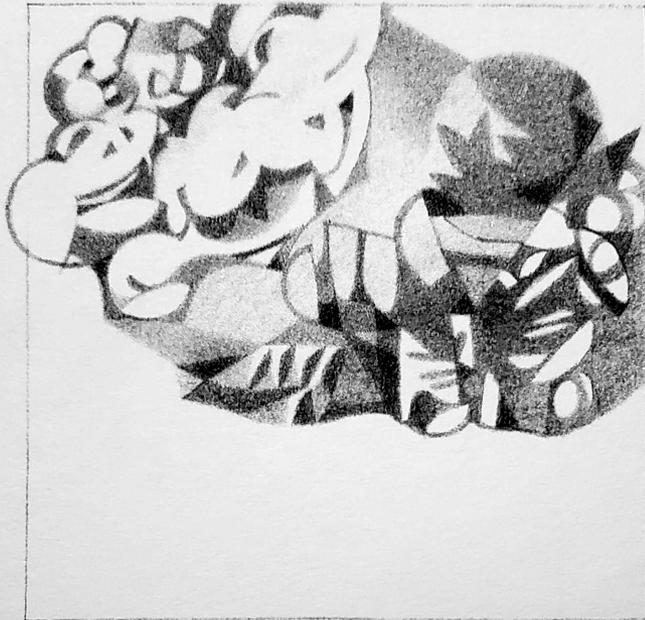
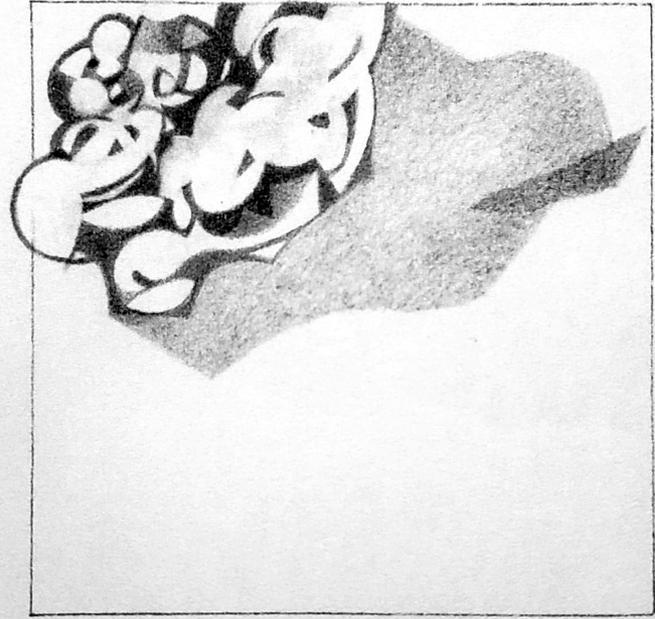
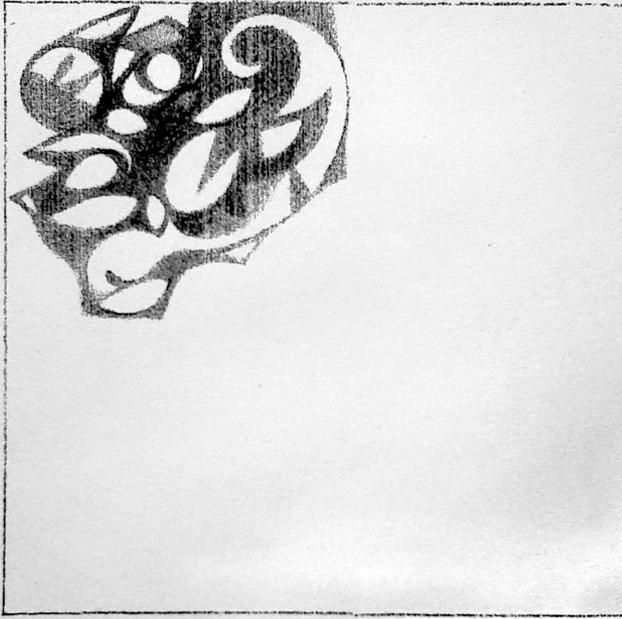
Precepts:

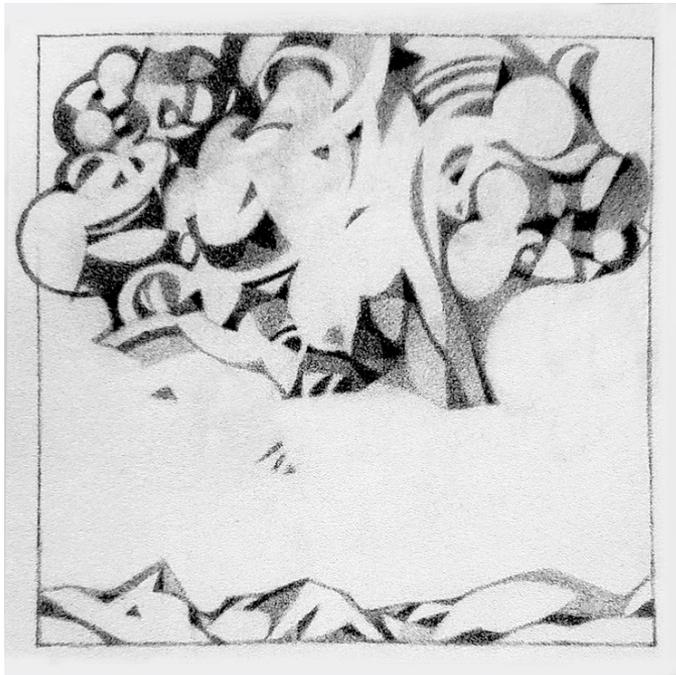
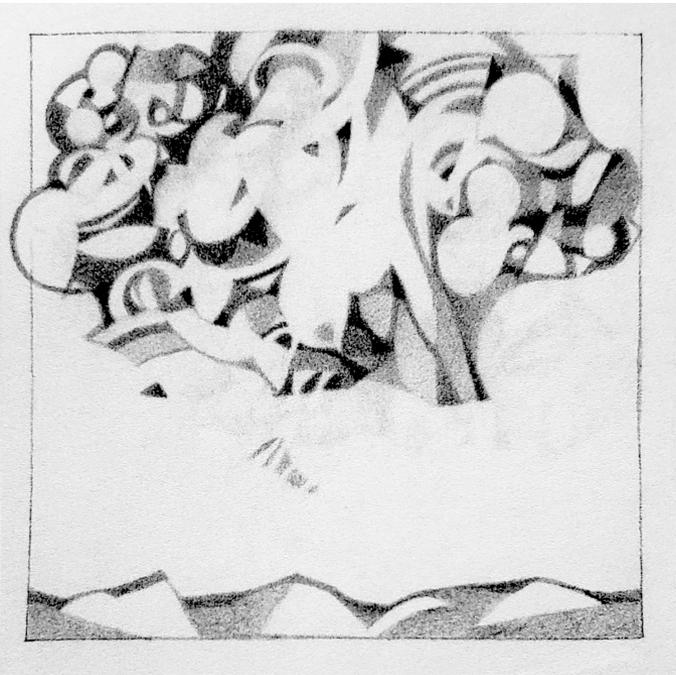
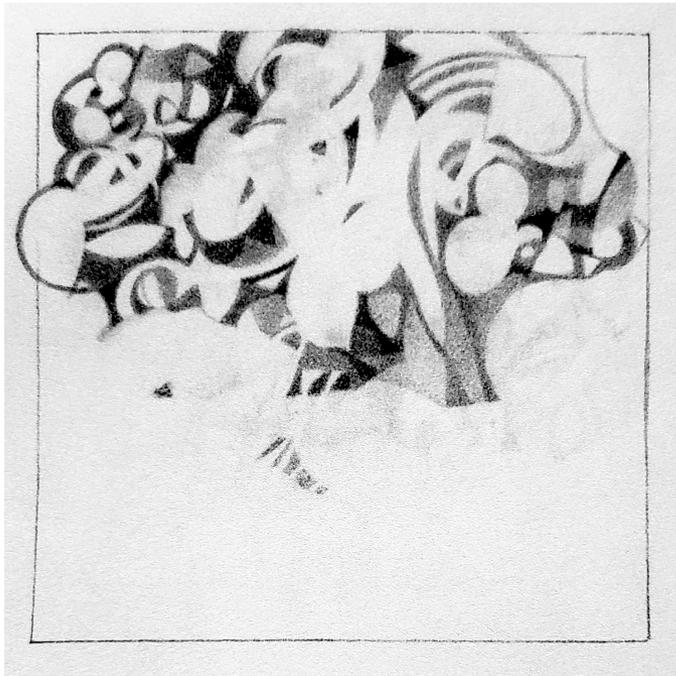
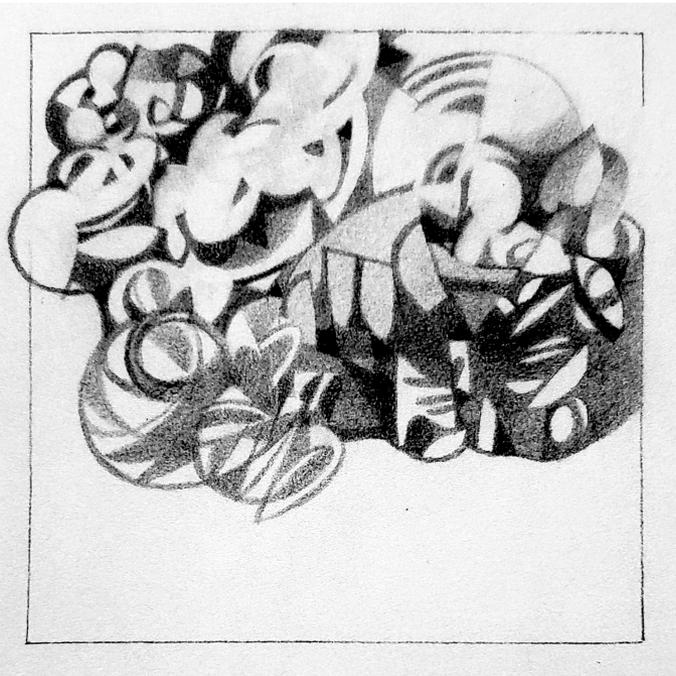
- In any object, the inner phenomena define the outer (superficial) appearance and meaning
- Image becomes constructive / meaningful only as it emerges out of its suprematist "atoms"

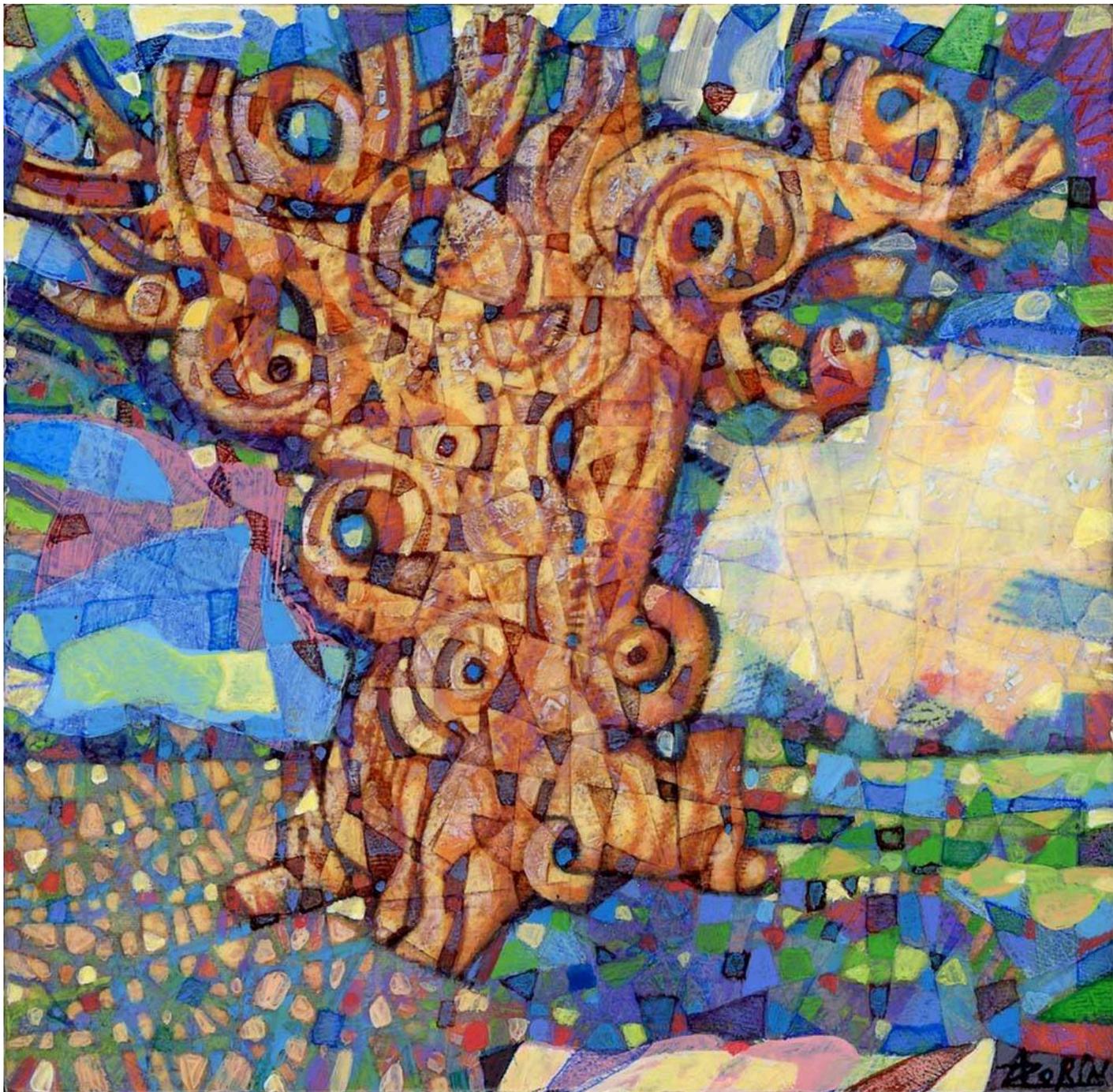
Process:

- A non-programmatic method of form-creating which requires the conscious limitation of rational (figurative) imaging
- From particular to whole; occasional to regular; flat to 3-dimensional; abstract to objective
- Image should be in constant flow, with the greatest possible granularity (number of constituent shapes)

Stepping through the process...







Tree of Life,
Alexander Zorin



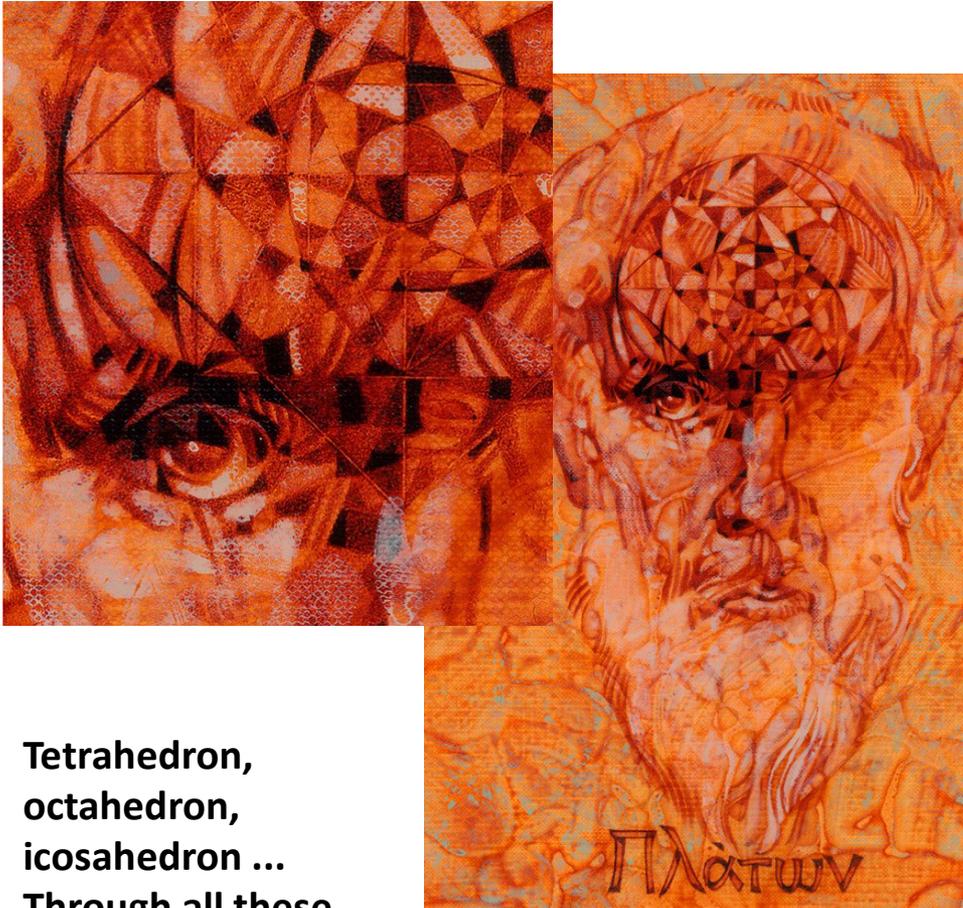
The dualism of the ancient Greek phenomenon. Dionysian (wild, natural) and Apollonic (harmonious, artistic). Moreover, all this originates from the water, well, like Aphrodite herself.

Meta Greece,
Alexander Zorin

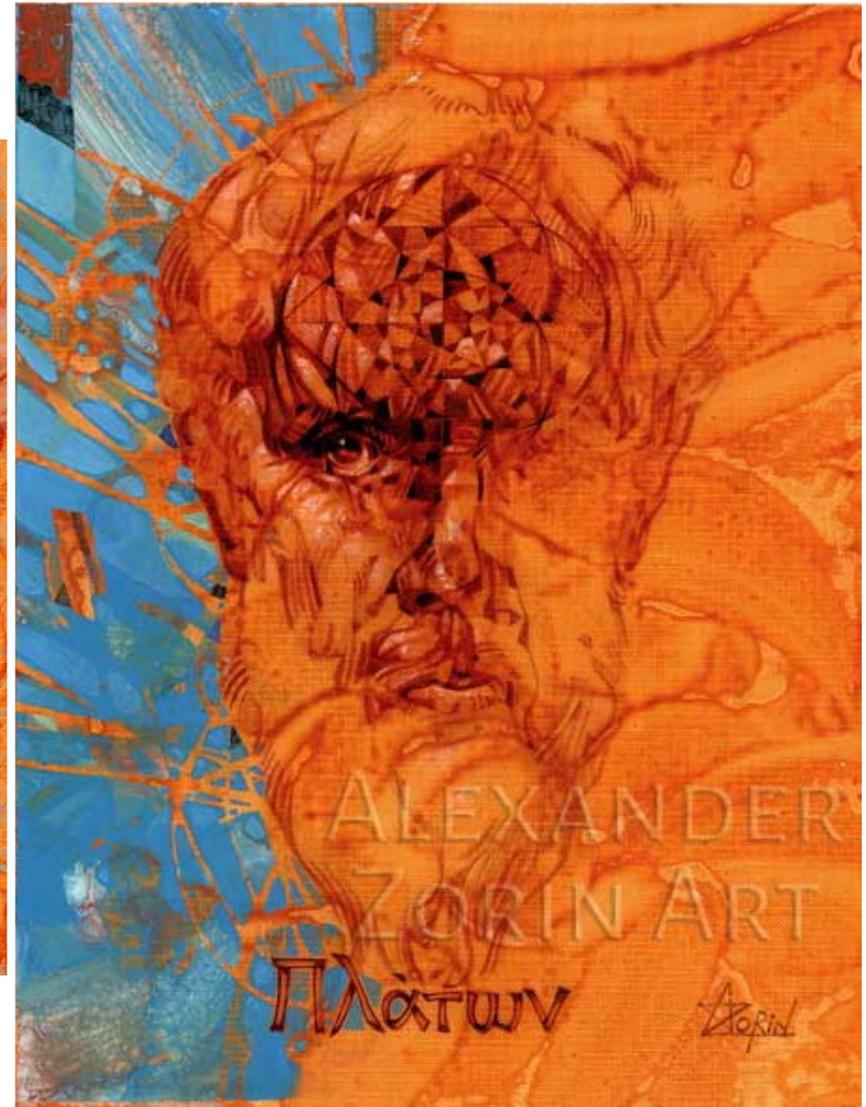
Student Technical Exercises



Stop the "inner dialog", draw without thinking of anything special – let the drawing draw itself. Only then, analyze what was inside your mind and **finish** the artwork.



Tetrahedron,
octahedron,
icosahedron ...
Through all these
"hedrons" a face
suddenly appears!



Filonov



Pavel Filonov, Self-Portrait, 1911

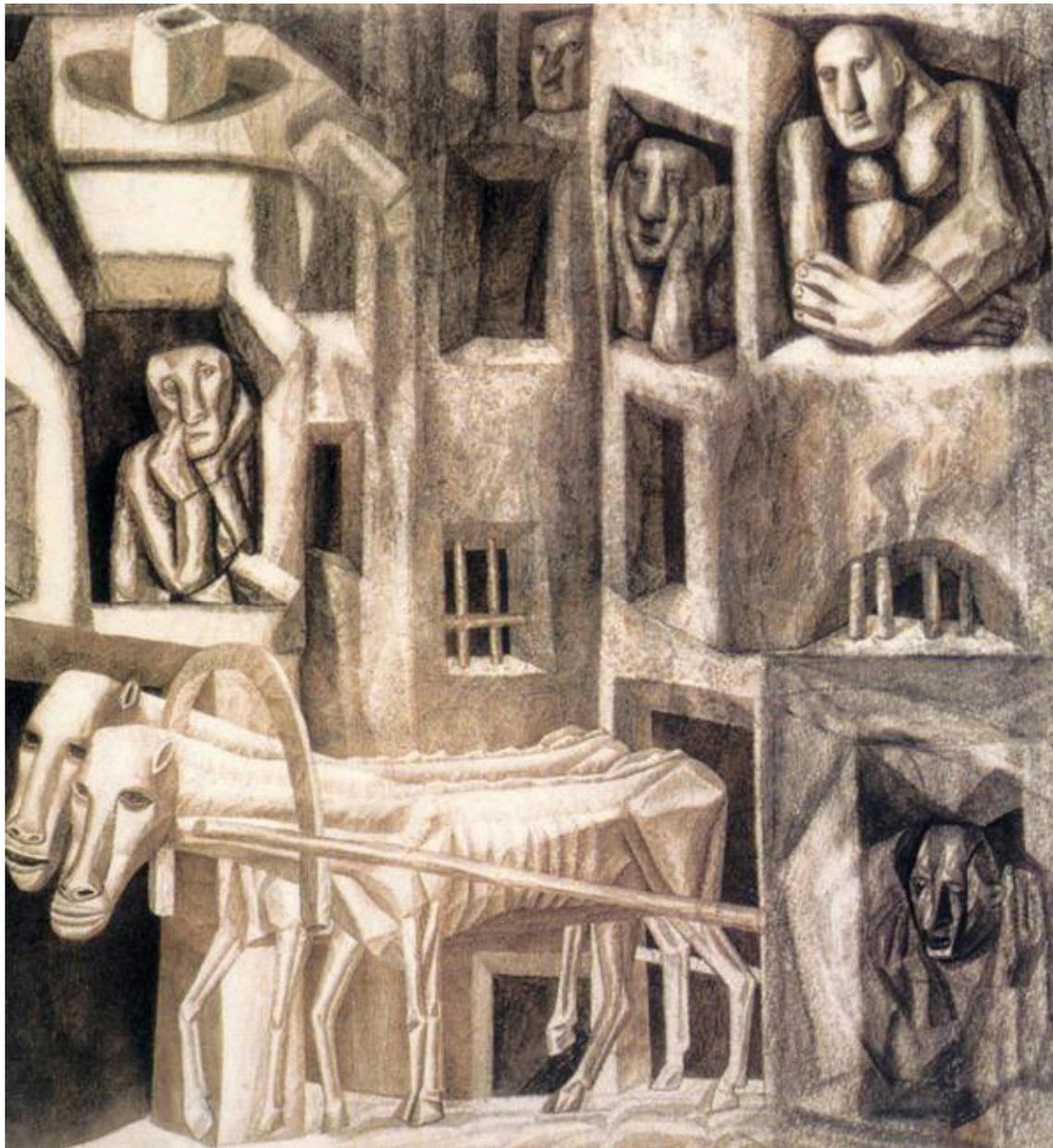
“Look and have an understanding of art not as to WHAT, but HOW it is done. What is interesting is not the face of the clock, but the movement of the inner mechanism and progression of time.”

Pavel Filonov, Two Heads, 1919





Pavel Filonov,
Eleven Heads,
1935



Pavel Filonov,
Workers, 1935



Pavel Filonov,
Goat, 1935



Pavel Filonov,
German War,
1915

One Approach – Different Results

There is no copying the master



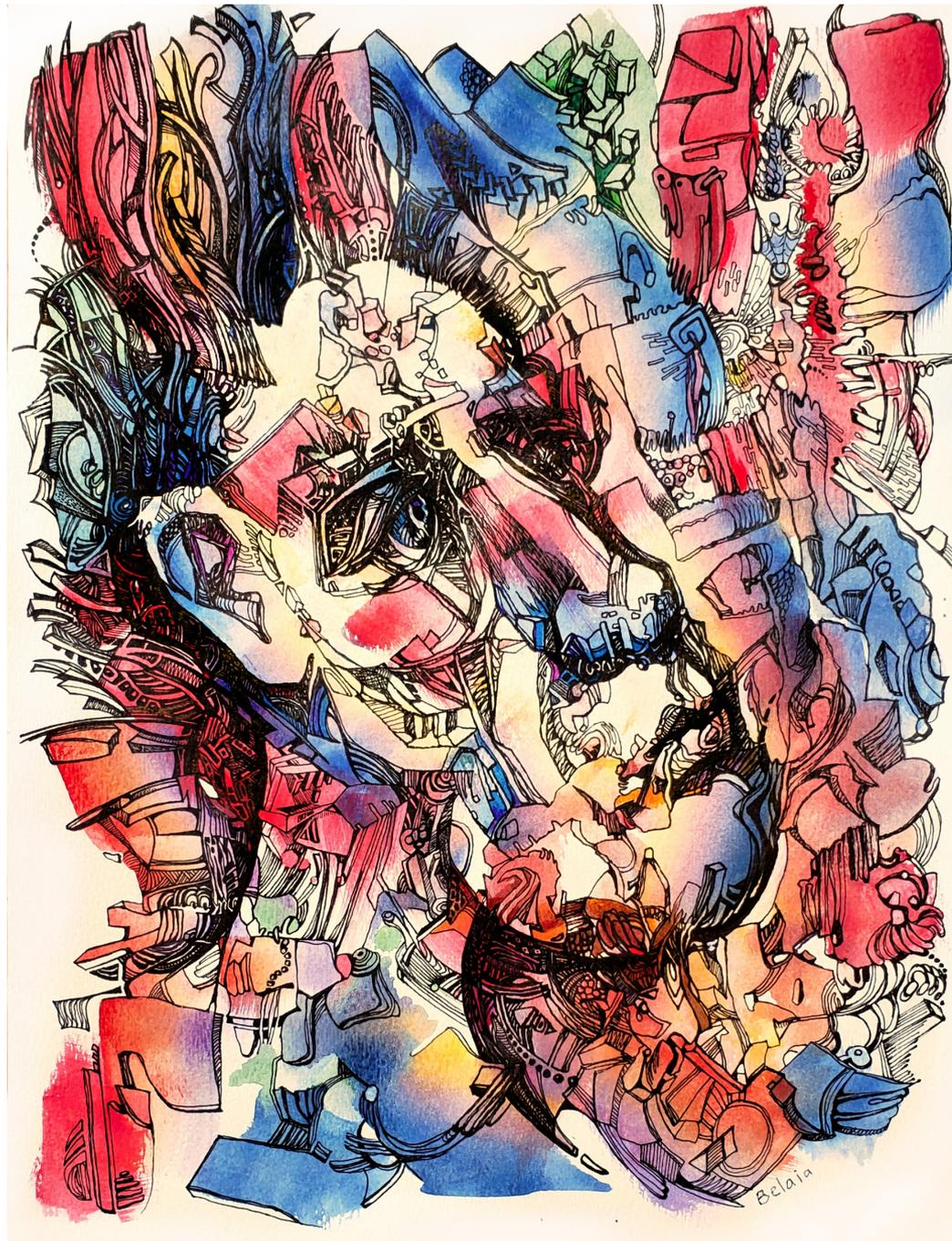
Jazz,
Levon Aslanian



View,
Andrei Mudrea



The first,
“mindless” stage



From Afar,
Dina Belaita

And yet the same method can lead to emotional abstraction or a figurative result



Svetlana Mironetz – *Abstraction and Fishermen*

Even hard-to-fix media such as ink still allows for analytical process

Vladimir Zolotukhin



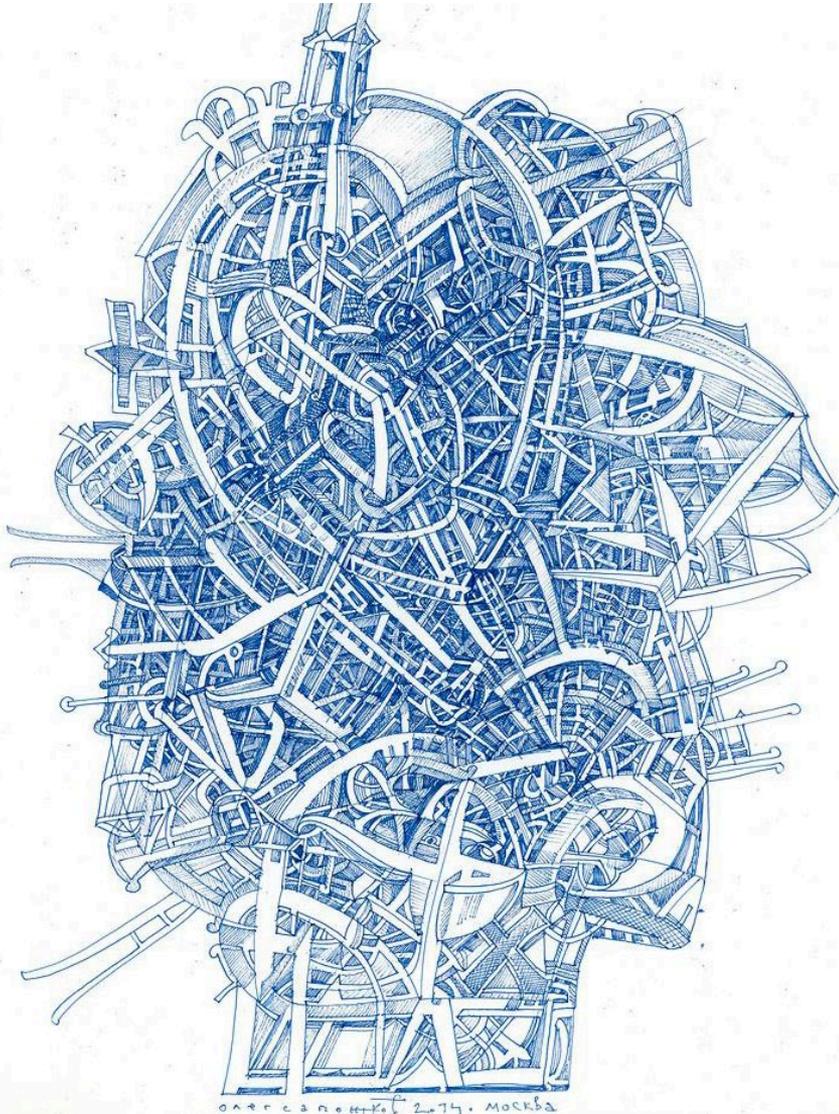
A Few Insights

When the original element is not a shape, but a line or a dot



A. Zorin – *Pilot and Pilate's Dream*

Unfinished vs. Finished work



Analytical art sees
abstraction as the
highest form of
shape-creating.

Enlargement



Abstraction,
Alexander Zorin

**I have been a student of Analytical
Art for 30 years.**

**I hope I have conveyed some of the
reasons why.**

Thank you for your time.

Dina Belaia

July 2020