To: Shumon Basar <shumon91@hotmail.com>
Subject: Re: sm\\\\\\\\\|||||||\|||||||~~~~~~~~~~~`~~~~`~~~~
Date: 16 April 2000 08:08

posh

ideas for your journal included:
- dome (too depressing, best left to die...there's a moment when the topic of sexymachines attracts a similar sentiment),
- bachelor-machines (done),
- a grafik variant on bachelor-machines involving cad-architecture and internet sex (not seen to be a problem.. .although love-of-lewerentz as the supposed alternative offers some mileage),
- feeling more murderous than humourous,
- too many distractions,
- american chicken-farms produce 10 000 lbs of feathers an hour,
- eros is no substitute for thanatos and anyway both are dead topics not to say their combination,
- the recent successful genetic engineering of a more intelligent mouse means we're all presently thrashing around in stupidity (such as genetically engineering mice-brains, not to say coming up with tests for mouse intelligence that involve making the poor creatures swim through milk according to helvetica-medium navigational grafix pasted onto black bin-liners, as if the average airport terminal were a sufficient model of reality...though good enough for data-architecture to be sure),
- 'sex' gets added to 'machine' to make the latter attractive to our most primitive instincts when really machine is the only part that is interesting...genetic engineering requires sex because it is the machine that gets the engineering accomplished,
- 'machine' is supposedly for accomplishing something, whereas 'sex' is supposedly for its own sake...the confusion and the blurring of such distinctions is a prelude to the eventual loss of interest in making them,
- new, better, worlds are always more healthy, more clever, more youthful, more powerful, more wealthy, more efficient, that is, are always more superficial than what prevailed previously and our generation will be regarded nostalgically as the good old days of pre-g.m., pre-strings when people used metaphors like 'profundity'...much as we currently regard bosch and 'myth'
- nonetheless, the pursuit of newbetter creates mutations in the prevailing richness which, at the time, serve to keep adherents and detractors interested and the 'users' using,
- the pre-loaded superficiality of newbetter is its main attraction, since attraction is governed by the mass-culture aggregative behaviour of primitive instincts, rendering political life to determination by behaviour and behaviour to determination by complexity algorithms after the fashion of those used for populations of bacilli responding to stimuli...algorithms also useful for working out next year's handbag,
- the gap between primitive instincts and the sophistication of the means of communication is only apparent, since the latter progressively attunes itself to the horizon appropriate to bacilli...the faster, the more like data the communication, the more even 'machine' seems like an indulgent metaphor and 'sex' a cluster of similacra once needful for the metaphoric imagination (ranging from fitted kitchens with black ceilings and purple uplighting to debates about benjamin),
- in other words, as culture tends toward the low hum of infinite, monothematic process (or towards the gentle stink of rancid butter), for which human mortality will be the only cure, the notion of 'sexymachines' is a minor irritation, like a porno site that refuses to load in singapore

love

bex