

*Ion, The Republic VII & X, Phaedrus*

# PLATO

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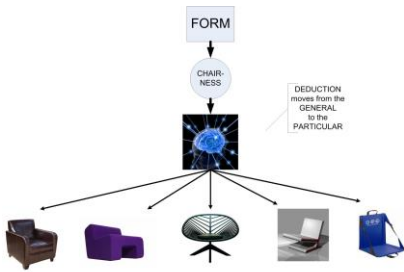
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## PLATO'S DEDUCTION: THE CHAIR



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## PLATO'S FORMS EG. MODERNIST ARCHITECTURE



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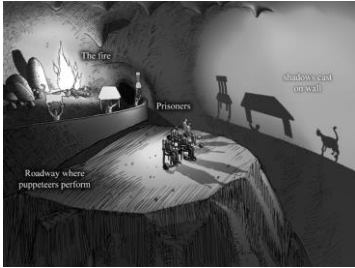
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## Plato's Allegory of the Cave



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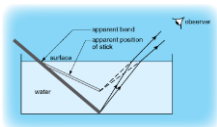
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## Lies, Lies, Damn Lies, and Lying Eyes

- The Doppler Effect
- Visual Perception and the Case of the Two Tables



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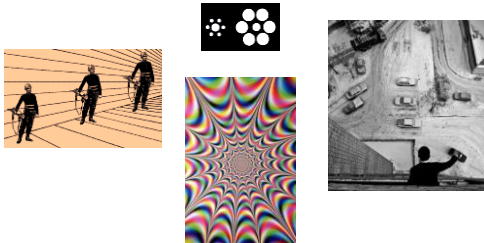
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## PLATO'S SUSPICION of the SENSES



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## The “Deceit” of Representation

If you look at a bed from the side or the front or from any other angle, is it any different? Or does it remain the same in fact but different in appearance—and does this not hold for everything else?

The latter is true. It looks different, but it’s not different.

This, then, is the point we want to consider. Does painting imitate reality or appearance? Does it imitate illusion or truth?

(*Republic X*, 80).

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## CONSEQUENCES OF LIES?

- What, according to Plato, are the consequences of the “deceits” of representation?

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## The Bower of Bliss

- In Spenser’s *The Faerie Queene*, Book II: Temperance, the gate of the Bower of Bliss depicts the tale of Jason and the Argonauts:

Ye might haue seene the frothy billowes fry  
Vnder the ship, as thorough them she went,  
That seemd the waues were into yuory,  
Or yuory into waues were sent;

(2.12.45.1-4)

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# The Bower of Bliss: Lies, Pretty Lies and Artwork



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# PLATONIC EPISTEMOLOGY

Reality/Illusion

What, according to Plato, is REAL?

What faculties are used to discern the REAL and the ILLUSORY?

Glaucon asserts that the table "seems" to change but he "knows" that it does not. HOW DOES HE KNOW WHAT HE KNOWS?

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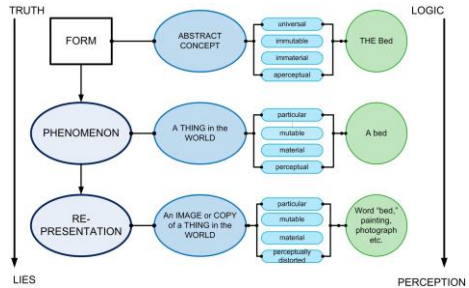
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# PLATO'S ALLEGORY of the BED



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# Melanie's Question:

- Regarding mimesis (copy or reflection of ...?):

WHAT ABOUT MEMORY?

If I remember an experience or a thing, is this a "mere" reflection or is it a real thing?

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# TWO KINDS OF "KNOWING"

## HYPOMNESIA:

- surface knowing, memorization, knowledge derived from the senses alone, "foreign" knowledge;



## ANAMNESIA:

- "SOUL KNOWING"; knowledge derived from REASON (or divine inspiration); knowledge of the FORMS "remembered" in our living experience.




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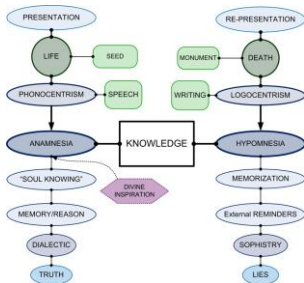
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# PLATO'S MODEL OF KNOWLEDGE




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