

## Interview accorded to Daniel D. Marin in 2007

M. Apostol

Department of Theoretical Physics, Institute of Atomic Physics,  
Magurele-Bucharest MG-6, POBox MG-35, Romania  
email: apoma@theory.nipne.ro

### **You are Professor and scientific researcher in theoretical physics for more than 35 years. How did you come close to physics?**

Man is the result of the environment in which he grows up and of the time he lives in. My parents and my teachers insisted, when I was a schoolboy, on two things they deemed important in life: to speak correctly and to count well. Consequently, I paid attention to mathematics and to the Romanian language. Since then, I have found a great pleasure in mastering my mother tongue and I have become interested in mathematics. I have learned that the best “counting” is performed by mathematics in the field of natural sciences. I have always had a tremendous passion for calculations. I calculate everything: motion, movements, mechanisms, equilibriums, probabilities, chances... My teachers and my parents thought that I was going to be an engineer. I was inclining towards mathematics. The decisive moment when I definitely opted for physics was after reading the “Mechanics” by Landau and Lifshitz, that was, at that time, recently translated into Romanian; a book that you must be well acquainted with, given your professional background in physics. It is an outstanding piece of intellectual art. Later on, I wrote for my advanced students a course of Mechanics which turned out to be exactly and precisely the book by Landau and Lifshitz. This confirmed once again my belief that we should not waste our time and efforts with obscure semi-works but to do all the best to study the great masters. Life is too short to not try to go straight to the aim. Theoretical physics has always fulfil my two major needs: to calculate and speak, as well as to write about the mathematics of the natural world. Theoretical physics is not a field of tenebrous depths. It is a highly intellectual game with life. I have always considered Theoretical Physics as a final hobby for me, sometimes even an ultimate one. It provides me with an enormous satisfaction which I have always wanted to pass to and share with others.

### **Among the scientists you knew which one stimulated you most? And what keeps stimulating you?**

I consider myself fortunate. Because I was born on the land of my ancestors, because my people loved and supported me, because my wife encouraged me to pursue my passion for physics, because I live also through my son, because I had and have friends from whom I learned a lot.

I met really great people in physics, both Romanians and foreign, real magicians, from whom I tried to learn as much as I could, whose footsteps I tried to follow. I had a congenial work environment at the Institute of Atomic Physics in Magurele, where I always felt free and encouraged to pursue any scientific interest, however strange and exotic it may have seemed at first sight; where I was forgiven all stridencies, all the steps out of line, however many they were; where I was able to freely express my criticism both scientific as well as social. When I was abroad, all these determined me to return home and settle for good in Magurele. Here, in my country, I would have wanted and

still want to build. A qualitative higher education and a superior scientific research in Theoretical Physics. The one who insisted on my coming to Magurele, in 1972, was the regretted professor A. Corciovei, whose memory I keep a sincere gratitude. He was one of the most genuine and creative scientists I have ever known. Romania should take pride in such people. At the Institute of Atomic Physics, I was fortunate enough to meet some of the members of the Theoretical Physics Laboratory, my seniors, from whom I learned a lot. They lived in a rather restricted circle and their names say nothing to the outsiders. They were people with a thorough training in their specific field, scientists of an accomplished integrity, with an enchanting elegance of reasoning and a brilliant intelligence. I learned from them the rigor, clear thinking, balance of theory, the position and construction of the physical image, mathematical engineering and its meaning. Eventually they accepted me in their circle, they gave me advice and a lot of work to do; I was thrilled. I was sipping their words and bear their severities. They taught me to critically analyze any problem, any situation, to feel completely free and secure when dealing with mathematical and physical reasoning. They really turned me into a professional, as much as I am. I owe them tremendously. For the many they remain anonymous. Therefore, I can say I learned from the great anonymous whom the Romanian physics had. And it really had some. Does it have any today? It remains for the history and those who come after us to tell. I also learned from the works by great physicists, as I have previously mentioned. I learned much from the conferences that I participated in, from the internships done in other parts of the world. I learned a lot from talking Physics, is like my second native language, and I love to do that. I feel ecstatic when giving seminars. The logos creates the world, and the power of word gives me self-confidence, almost a state of bliss. I crave to deliver seminars, lessons and courses. I love having full auditorium, an attentive and slightly hostile audience; I avidly await the criticism, I practice and exercise my refutations, I pulverize false reasoning, I fight to gain my audience, to make it favourable towards me. I win my friends through fight; I'd rather be feared than loved, though love brings the ultimate truth. I have always experienced the feeling that, somehow, I do not succeed in conveying as much as I would like to, that maybe I should go back to some of the problems which I have presented. I never speak nor write in the same way about the same topic. The game is infinite, of boundless subtlety; it enchants me even now, when I grew old as it did in my younger years. I criticize badly, I destroy with words, I build with words. I construct and crush with them. This is perhaps a rough school, a difficult path, but it certainly leads to charming estuaries.

I have no enemy whom I did not succeed turning into a friend. I like to demolish myths in Theoretical Physics. I like to incur enmity so that I have what to win afterwards. This is the fuel of my spirit. I enjoyed the opportunity to present my theories to famous physicists, whom I succeeded to make friends, even if reluctant ones. I am certainly sensitive to praise, I'm not dissatisfied with fame or reputation. But most of all I like to be the way I am. I feel good about being myself. In my opinion, the most interesting seminars were those I held abroad. There you are confronted with other cultures, other mindsets, other traditions, you can shock more easily. You must adapt yourself. Adaptation is a challenging game; you must learn a different language. I can hold a seminar in theoretical physics even in Chinese, without understanding or knowing Chinese. I give many seminars while asleep, in a language that I surely do not know; but they run smoothly, I have the feeling that what I say is perfectly understood, that I give and receive. I wake up excited and want to sleep some more. The only witness is my wife who puts up with me. Sometimes she even gets interested. I travelled quite a lot in my life, cannot complain about that. I was fortunate in this respect too. I always travelled at the invitation of some or others. I was stepping gladly into the unknown, insecure. I knew I was going to win, and I did. I am not afraid of the unknown, I am looking for it, it is my vital fluid, as water is for fish. It is true that the communist regime in Romania was trying, especially by its petty officials, to obstruct

the scientific travels. But I consider that I was, and I still am, a communist. I openly criticized in party meetings, the practices and policies of the communist party of that time, which is completely different from communism. I think a society needs a good measure to strike the right balance, a measured control and such things cannot be provided by what we usually call capitalism. I do not know if you have learned that Einstein took a similar stance in 1949.

Finally, my third source of learning were the people. I have always had this “component” to work “on demand”. I was seeking scientific queries, I was asking people to come up with them. I never rejected a proposed scientific problem regardless of how common or trivial, or "dirty", it was. I never rejected the people raising scientific questions, no matter how modest or “non-theoretical” were those people. The real craft of theoretical physics reveals itself in little, subtle things, where you can create genuine masterpieces and display all your virtuosity. A “big” problem can easily be solved, anyone can, you find it almost solved in manuals; but a new, small, delicate problem is always a challenge, has something intriguing. Since 1984 I held and still hold both a General Seminar of Physics where everyone can come with whatever problem of physics (that I discuss with my visitors, friends and collaborators) as well as a Special Seminar of Theoretical Physics where I admit, however, only the conversant ones. I was given the most difficult problems by people considered by the community as second hand scientists, amateurs. I benefited enormously from them.

### **You have distinguished yourself, in your turn, by a series of original results...**

My results, those that are, meant as many periods in my life. I think it is not too appropriate to speak about these results as they are relatively technical. They provide me the satisfaction to have succeeded in calculating what others did not, in proving that an appropriate assembly of theoretical images opens up a new, incredible perspective on the natural world, that sometimes it is possible for an artistic mosaic to be built from pieces so disparate at first glance. I am amazed, as was also a famous mathematician (Wigner, whom I believe you have heard of), at how powerful mathematics is, this gift which God gave us perhaps without deserving it and whose modus operandi we do not understand. Generally, I work constantly, all the time. I work at day, at night (while sleeping), on Saturdays and Sundays, on legal, religious, family, patriotic holidays etc. Life is too short to waste it. I always have the feeling that I am running short of time. I see and hear so many things that I am fully aware of the fact that it will never be possible for me to deal with them in detail; this saddens me deeply. Behind this relentless work there is a big secret, which I'll reveal now and here. In theoretical physics you must always be in good shape, like athletes. That's why you must have a disciplined, balanced life. It's like being in a continuous training camp. If you turn your back on Physics, she will do the same to you. You must practice all the time, as musicians surely do; or the great sportsmen; you must keep reading over and over again the classical works on physics and keep your ear to the ground. We must stay away from bad discussions held at perfunctory, lackadaisical seminars. We must stay away from bad courses and bad physics books. There is nothing more dangerous than a poor professor of physics or an approximate author. Physics is like music: if you listen a bad music you will take a false “A” note and this will cause you a deep dissatisfaction. For me, hearing is of essence in physics. And seeing also. I keep away as much as I can from hearing or seeing bad things in physics. They hurt me and make me suffer. This daily, relentless work, enables me to see after 2, 3 or 5 years that I succeeded to solve a rather important physics problem. Thus, I count both my best results and the periods of my life. My work consists, first and foremost, in contemplating the natural things, the physics theories, in practicing the techniques, in writing, reading and speaking. We must carefully choose our interlocutors, who must have, preferably, a fine-tuned sense of physics. I often speak to myself when at office, at home, in the street. I am a professor with duly papers, but without “portfolio”- meaning that I'm not very much desired by some of the teaching staff at

the Faculty of Physics. Therefore, I speak wherever I can: in the street, in the subway stations, in the pubs, at the bottom of the garden, in the back of the house, in the backyard, on the country's roads, in the bushes. Obviously, I am just kidding, but only by half, if I may say so. I know there is a saying, most likely made famous by Romanians themselves, according to which, if you work too much you have no time to "think". My experience tells me that this is a spurious assertion good only for failed intellectuals of poor quality, low coffee houses. I do not know what thinking is; I believe that I, personally, do not think but simply exist, despite Descartes. In the place where all expect me to have a brain, an instrument of thinking, as everyone else, I have none. Instead, I have a kind of spinal bulb, a knob of parsnip, a cabbage head. I do physics from instinct, from the neurovegetative system, from the spinal nodules, from the "inspiration spine", from Pavlov's reflex, from my right hand articulation, from my forearm. The physics I do comes from within myself, from my organism. Actually I live physics, rather than doing it. I construct physics. One of my defining characteristics resides in the fact that I became what I am insofar as I broke loose from my professors, my great masters. When you are able to see the real physics, it is like sticking your head through the roof and seeing the blue sky. Then, you have other measures, you even appreciate better those courses that made you suffer and feel indulgence towards them. You evaluate the world you live in a more pertinent manner. As I previously said, we must break loose from our masters; therefore, I ask my collaborators, as few as they are, to find and follow their own path. All of my former doctorands (not many, about 6 or 7) enjoy at present solid careers and though they appreciate me they avoid me. Their express conclusion is: "Professor Apostol is good, very good, but you'd better keep some distance from him. The knowledge he provides you with as your supervisor during the preparation of the doctorate is enough. He pushes you to work hard, much too hard, he's dangerous and can ruin your life." Indeed, as far as I'm concerned, theoretical physics is a perilous game with life, an adventure requiring high levels of adrenaline in order to succeed. It is an "extreme" sport.

**Which are the important current directions in Romanian physics? I specifically refer to those having a future.**

Unfortunately, I regretfully say that Romanian physics has no perspectives. Or rather, it has not the perspectives it used to have and should, normally, have. This is its present "profile". The Romanian physics is in a dire state, or to put it mildly, it is not well. The communist regime in Romania believed in science and scientific research. It built the reactor at Magurele, particle accelerators, lasers, science materials laboratories and many other things. It developed the Romanian chemistry, electronics, engineering; it believed in the researches performed in nuclear physics, theoretical physics, mathematics. Remarkable. And it really had results. Romania was among the first countries which built an electronic computer, a laser, equipments for Cernavoda nuclear power plant. The Romanian researchers were acknowledged abroad for their scientific results. Their recognition was due to this sole reason, not to the fact that they would have been members of some international "collaboration" or part of some coalition (not to say "clan"). There was only one exception that can be discussed separately. Such were the times that when people really believed in scientific research. My parents, though not engaged in science, believed in it. Regrettably, the present Romania no longer believes in science or scientific research. This is a reflection of the major crisis through which the world science is currently passing, particularly the scientific research. A crisis whose evolution cannot be clearly foreseen. But this is another matter. What can easily be seen with the naked eye and is not a pretty sight, are the following: Romania's policy in scientific research in good combination and coalition, I would even say in connivance, with our researchers, no longer builds. On the contrary, it demolishes. Systematically and methodically. We no longer set up laboratories and research institutes, purchase scientific equipments, refurbish old laboratories or training young people for research activity. In nowadays

Romania we tear down research institutes, neglect the outfitting of the laboratories to motivate our scientific tourism, destroy scientific education and send the young researchers away from home. We, meaning the Romanian state, through its laws, regulations and practices. Who else could have done all these, who else should be blameworthy? This is not the way to build. This is obviously a way to destroy. Why are we doing all these things? It is simple, this is pretty much the best we can come up with. Some of us, or to be more exact, the great many of us who succeeded to climb in key management positions. After the '90s the "scientific" Romania was infested with masses of scientific impostors who, through spontaneous generation like the mould or fungus, became overnight doctors in science, senior researchers, professors, ministries of science and scientific research. It is unacceptable to have exclusively political managers and research administrators. And we will never consent to this. Because it causes heavy destruction. Today we have former approximate students, former mediocre students, semi-intellectuals and quarter-intellectuals, former repeat students and international losers, former cadres of ex-party who are now heads of alleged laboratories, institute directors, rectors and deans. In 1990 the liberty was unleashed in Romania and since then it is at large and wrecks havoc. This is the outcome. As it was normal, these impostors launched a virulent and paranoid attack against the genuine professionals who eventually stepped aside. These later intellectuals, our real professionals as well as the highly trained technical cadres, if I may say "cadres", became taxi drivers, middlemen; they set up all sorts of "impex ltd", but most of them left the country to seek their fortune in other parts of the world that are free from the woes of a revolutionary democracy let loose. We have left "cardboard" characters and inept slogans such as: "There is no need for you to be a professional, you just have to be a good manager". An ineptitude that is costing us dearly, too dearly. Some are hoping that the young left went abroad will come back home and start to build here. Personally, I don't think so. My experience tells me that those who return in the country are the losers, the pilfers, and the petty tricksters who sniff at the terrible corruption in Romania, in the so-called scientific research and want to be part of it, like all "impartial Romanian". They come to the robbery and destruction, to the full spoilage of the Romanian intellectual values, akin to ravens swooping on their agonizing prey. Perhaps the worst thing that happened to us after the '90s is the destruction of freedom of thought which defines the genuine intellectuals. Real intellectuals whom Romania had plenty of and whom it has destroyed now. A country stricken by God. I regret that I cannot speak positively about "the important current directions in Romanian physics", the ones that may have a future. At present, Romanian physics is concerned about its public image. She rushes to cosmetize herself: a little peeling, some make up. As if she is dealing with stupid naïve people! She attempts to be part of big international coalitions (named "collaborations"), to adorn herself with dozen of computers (lying idle because are not used), to embellish herself with wall tiles, slate tiles, thermopanes, to "integrate" herself into the European Union, into the former Soviet Russia, via USA or Europe, or whatever route may seem or is actually accessible to her; anyway, the Romanian physics is trying to catch the eye and steal the minds. I invite you to talk with the peasants in Arges county, with the former engineers in Hunedoara city, with the foremen who worked at the Heavy Machinery Factory (IMGB) in Bucharest. They can tell many straightforward, clear-cut things that will shake us up and definitely awake us from our deep sleep. The lullabies sung by the image impostors to put us to sleep are fancy, faked figures, tables, indices, classifications - one more aberrant than the other - as well as exhibitions, contests and competitions - much like soccer - where prizes and medals are awarded, pictures are taken, cookies are gulped and booklets are produced saying that all is good. But quoting the Polish Solidarity saying (1982): If everything is so good, why is everything so bad? After all, this whole fuss is completely devoid of substance, it is as empty inside as cosmetized outside. We are living in a cardboard epoch. In times of generalized corruption. All scientific research funds are channelled into the salaries (often multiple) of a few and embellishment of the research facade. We polish

the stars on former epaulettes. We have a blind and empty thinking. Not without consequences of course.

**Lately, you took some stances against the present situation in Romanian research. To what extent are you dissatisfied with this state of affairs?**

If I would say I am not content, you could ask me why am I still in Romania or why did I return in the country. The story goes that our poet Topirceanu was to be dismissed from his petty librarian job by his minister. So, the minister told him: "Look, Mr. Topirceanu, you should pack up your things and go because I am not pleased with you." Topirceanu replied: "You do this, minister, if you're not pleased, because I, for one, am quite pleased". Since long time ago, I took stances against the contemptible policy of Romanian research, I still take and I will keep taking them in the future. If there will be any future. I have two reasons for doing this. One resides in my professional deformation and most likely, in a temperament prompting me to criticize. You cannot clearly see a thing unless you are able to see its limits, its boundaries. I think there is an interesting Romanian contemporary philosopher who studied the limits of things. I don't know how much he accomplished or how influent he was or is through his study. The instrument of scientific research is the critical analysis. The second reason is that I feel good at home, in Romania, on my land and I want to also feel good among and with my fellow people. I want these despicable anti-, para-, quasi-, meta-scientific scums to leave. I want the research funds to be spend on laboratories outfitting, I want new laboratories and new research institutes to be build, I want the revival of the scientific education, I want the post-calculation system of the accounting-financial law to no longer be applied to the scientific research, I want the elimination of the bureaucracy, I want the scientific research to be "salaried" not indemnified nor subsidized, I want the project-based system destroying the research's incomes to stop, I want the degrading, humiliating situation of project competition - good for bribe takers and particularly for those in the research - to stop. I want the destruction of the Romanian scientific research to stop and to retie the knot of the genuine scientific research through a proper reconstruction. You will probably tell me that I am naïve, that I am fantasizing, that Romania's downfall is irreversible, that I am out of touch with reality. You may be right and I accept with pleasure to be naïve and "unconnected" to these times. Not to be electrocuted. But I am, or in the language of my ancestors, sum. The absence is not, nor has a being. I like to speak correctly, as much as I can, and to hope. My experience tells me that if there is but one person taking the same position as mine, in other words if we are two, we will succeed. It is incredible what an outcome can be accomplished when a common stance, a correct one, is adopted by many.

**Are you certain that the funds come exclusively from projects?**

Indeed, this is an aspect that no one knows, no one wants to know. The degree of its aberration is monstrous. Perhaps for this reason people steer clear of discussing this subject. The truth is, and I must regretfully say, that in Romanian research, the project-based competition is the sole source of incomes and this aberration singularize us both geographically and historically. Nowhere else in the world and never in the history of science is or was taken such a political measure. By law, the scientific research in Romania is not paid on a salary basis. It has infrequent, circumstantial incomes that generate a huge corruption. This situation is detailed in *Antiphys.Rev.* 103 (2004). According to law, in Romania, a beginner researcher, without a doctorate, may have an income much higher than a senior researcher rank I, if the former "has projects" and the latter does not. However, these grades have been obtained, at least so it is assumed, by hard word, following examinations, competitions, results. Through such measure Romania discredits the doctorates, the scientific and professional degrees in research, pulverizes any attempt of honest work. This is the Romanian policy of scientific research and this is the reason why it is "disastrous", as I call it. You will tell me that the research projects are won, however, through competition and those who

win them have, anyhow, a merit. Since when is the scientific research a sport, such as football? Since when there is an Absolute God of the scientific research embodied by some obscure and scientifically anonymous employees, ministries and directors who allegedly know what the best criteria are? Since when and why the tradition of a peculiar hierarchy in this field - a tradition that, inter alia, defines it - must be replaced by a bunch of animated cardboard characters with very large pockets? How difficult can it be to falsify the sport competitions, particularly when lot of money, heaps of money are at stake? This is what we want, a research built upon the pattern of a football competition? Then, let's take a look at what is happening in the Romanian football and we shall have a clear cut picture of what results await us if we pursue this so-called research policy. A policy that provides but a gauge of the "political vision" of our managers, a vision typical of the kibitzers hanging around the Grant Bridge and of the beer drinkers hanging around small and sordid pubs. Typical of small, orgiastic "delphic seers". You will tell me that project competition is a common practice in western countries and European Union. This is false. It is another matter, altogether. Non idem est si duo dicunt idem. But I do not ask our politicians to be conversant with the language of Trajan, the Roman emperor. Instead, I do ask them to leave if they do not want to learn honesty, common sense and decency. The policy of scientific research and the current state of affairs in this field of activity both in the world and in Romania is an issue deserving a special, broadened discussion. It is a topic much too serious and extensive. Let's not approach it hastily in an occasional interview.

**You had the opportunity to travel, to discover places, people. Which would be, in your opinion, the key of a civilization?**

I travelled enough abroad in my life so that I am no longer interested about this. But I did not discover "places, people". I discovered myself. Now, I am reluctant to travel again. I still receive overseas visitors. I learned a lot from the interaction with other people, other places. I do not know if my answer to your question stems from the knowledge acquired during these travels. Perhaps I acquired them from somewhere else. However, here is my answer: the key of a civilization comprises two elements: monarchy and religion. The western church has always involved itself socially, the kings have put its teachings into practice. These teachings, first of all moral, build up the sense of honour, honesty, clarity. Romania was deprived of these two things and herein lays the explanation of its historical misfortune. Of its metaphysical misfortune. It did not have kings. Its sole attempt in this regard, lasted a few decades and ended in a complete failure. But this is another matter. The history cannot be fabricated. The only chance for Romania would reside in its moral uplift through professional disciplines and the establishment of a tradition of handicrafts, trades, arts, science, intellectual preoccupations. In order to achieve this goal it is sufficient to believe in these things, to cultivate them through a suitable policy. What I say may sound anachronistic, inadequate, may place me outside the current-day views of the common world and of these times, but after all, to new problems new solutions! Mimicking the west is not for us, the help and protection we are expecting from them is sheer fantasy, the danger to which we expose ourselves from others stronger than us, in the new globalized world, may be real. But what is free from danger when you want to build? And when you build up firstly in your spirit, how and from where can the enemy grab you? But that is another subject!

**Since the mental effort required from the present-day man is much larger than in the past, does it not bring him in a state of collapse?**

I do not think so. It brings him rather in a state of confuzion, of dizziness. Man is a prudent animal. He knows how to disconnect himself. This is the way he survives. After all, I do not think that our times and the current technological civilization, by comparison with the past, require from man too much intelligence in order to survive. Nowadays, we are more "keyboard" and "black box" men. The release from the survivals hardships and concerns brought about by science and

technology, the artificiality unavoidably associated to the latter, our surrogate civilization, made us, on the contrary, more vicious not intelligent. We are much more conflictual, more perfidious, more cunning, more greedy and more meaningless. And all these provide us a deep inner sense of emptiness.

### **As a scientist, what is your stance on Divinity?**

This is usually a tough question and I was hoping that you would not ask me about it (at least not publicly). As far as I am concerned, the science I tried and keep trying to do, has build up and strengthen my belief in the existence of God. In my opinion, most likely and I may say almost certainly, there is a universal intelligence which we are all a part of through both the consistency of our logic and fundamental forms of life. We are all children of God, hence we are all sisters and brothers, and we acknowledge one another as such in all that we do more genuinely. Have you never wondered why we consider so natural the principle of logical identity? Have you never wondered why we can make infinite distinctions and dissociations without losing our control? Why are we able to detach ourselves from so many things which we see only and solely as successive objects in an almost infinite series without experiencing a mental dissolution, disintegration? How are we able to understand one another when our words are so varied, contradictory, contrary and eyebrow-raising in their meanings? This is the reason why we argue with one another, because we always have the certitude, even if we do not always admit, that a reconciliation is always possible, after all. This is the reason why we wage wars, we do harm in the world, because, we actually feel secure. Where does this security come from?

**Today, some of the physicists are collaborating with geneticists, even with linguists to open new vistas for the latest research. One may ask how suggestible is the DNA to and how can it be programmed by some words and certain frequencies. Such preoccupations were cherished by spiritual and esoteric masters for thousands of years. Is science getting close to spirituality?**

I think we have many questions here. I am convinced that life sciences will make tremendous progress in so far as physics will increasingly permeate their preoccupations. Because there is a hierarchy of sciences and physics is at their forefront since it is highly mathematized and through its discoveries it affected and affects society to the highest extent. Furthermore, it has shaped, without us being aware of it, our way of thinking, of living. But the secret of life will not come straightly and by itself. We need another way of conceiving the essence of life. The path to follow in order to do this is undoubtedly the exercise of science and genuine scientific method on the phenomena of life. At present, we are in a primitive stage as concerns such attempts. I do not believe that great scientific discoveries and, to be more precise, the highest of all: Newton's calculus, occurred following linear, progressive, sustained efforts. I think it was made through the grace of God who decided, probably, to acquaint us with it. Newton himself shared the same opinion. The same holds true for the big problem of life. If we shall prove ourselves worthy, perhaps God will reveal us its mystery. I do not believe in the effect of words or frequencies on DNA, nor in the existence of spiritual and esoteric masters. Instead, I believe in the influence of the latter on the soul, which is, perhaps, the essence of life. But the natural mechanism of this influence continues to remain a great mystery.

**I thank Mr. Daniel D. Marin for this interview that provides me the opportunity to be so personal. You write a lot when it is about yourself. I hope he will accept my answers as they are. I have no secrets to hide. All my secrets are out in the open. At least, so I like to think. I also hope to be excused for my style which is, too often, too laconic. There are questions that rise issues much too fundamental for my time and competence.**



(Translated from the Romanian apr143 by Iulia Negoitza).

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