

CHANGE

Nothing remains stable in the organic world, from the pot of African violets on the windowsill to the metabolic pulse of your own body. Everywhere you look or observe you see change. Does Mt. Everest change? Of course, constantly. Can we slow or modify the speed of change? Can we respond creatively to the French poet Alfred de Musset's cry

O, temps suspends ton vol!

We can only sit back and watch our hair turn white. Or is that all we can do? And after all, do we want to do anything about temporal change?

Among the options available to us is transformation, which is going to mean work on time from within time. Do we want to modify the flow of time—as de Musset puts it. If so how would we proceed to modify the pace of time from within time?

It is quite reasonable to adopt a negative attitude toward 'modifying the flow of time.' We are born into time, live it as it lives us. On occasion we are given the opportunity to realign the time blocks that deploy among us—certain traditional herbals, like *aiyusca*, can reorganize the sense of temporal flow—and yet temporality, even as the ultimate carrier of death, on the whole seems a living co-partner on our path through life.

If however we truly want to impede the flow of time, we will find direction signals inside many religious traditions. 'Time is the measure of eternity' is an available concept within Christianity, to suggest a link between time and eternity, a link which puts eternity within the influence zone of time, as in the Buddhist doctrine of past lives which clearly recognizes a reversibility within time. The project of time reversal would seem to be the ultimate response to the plea Musset addresses to time.