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Social Amnesia

To all who remember

There is a difference between memory and remembrance, and it is clear to everyone. Also, there is a difference between memory and the ways in which certain details, moments and dates, invoke the memories. However, the role of forgetting is not entirely clear. Especially if we are thinking of collective forgetting, or group forgetting.

The way in which something is forgotten is often much more important than the ways of remembering the same event. "The Museum of Innocence", a book that has become a museum or a museum which became the book honors one emotion that never dies, but comes back to life by watching the things that were once owned and/or touched by a loved one. In this way, the act of remembering becomes something sacred, located in a new space and time, but still strong enough to revive memories.

According to Merleau-Ponty, museums (and libraries) create a false conscience, but when we consider them as a reminder of what was and what *we do not want and/or should not and/or may not forget* then they become something

stronger than the conscience. Prior to this, it is necessary to emphasize the difference between the three above-mentioned terms:

- *we do not want to forget something* – like in the novel "Museum of Innocence", remembrance is an eternal monument to eternal love that keeps still alive (only due to the will of the one who is in love);
- *we should not forget something* - we have convinced ourselves that something is worth to be closed in the museum of our own memories, or someone else convinced us (which is not an ideal situation);
- *we may not forget something* - like the previous explanation, it is correct if we decided to remember something by ourselves, according to our own conscience, and not for others and social pressure.

Why is all this necessary? Regardless of our personal opinion, the whole life is built of memories. Memories, remembering and commemorations shape our lives, the lives of people around us and our relationship with other people. Regardless of whether you remember a past love, past battles and past sufferings, your attitude towards all of this will mark one of three possible reasons for remembrance or forgetting: I do not want to forget, I should not forget, I may not forget. However, we noted that the role of others in this process is the most important. Because of this memory as a process should and must start within us, for us and for the situation that is important to us. If we decided to remember something, then we must do the same and mark it, give it a proper name, and separate it from oblivion forever.

It is important to us, such as it was important for Kemal to preserve over 4200 cigarette butts. And only he knew why. And through that emotion, he convinced the rest of us. Why it is important to love. Because in a world where, unfortunately, we remember more bad things than good, we need to do it primarily for our personal reasons. And to explain it to ourselves. Because of us. It will start as the individual memory that can create collective memory. And some people say that it is not possible. But it is. For us and with us. For Europe (and the rest of the planet), which is burden by memories. Specifically, one can never be burden by memories. Only people who remember for the wrong reasons. And they do not know that the same reasons only lead to forgetting. Forgetting through the suffering.

Accordingly, here is a small guide for remembrance for Europe (and the rest of the planet):

No matter whether you memorized yesterday's rain, the first love, war, innocent victims – just do it primarily for yourselves. Build your personal museum for all those who are important to you and those you want to preserve from oblivion forever. And do not let uninvited guests to wander through your personal museum. And remind those who are in not to be too loud. Because memories are sacred. And no one would dare to annoy them.