



(Photo: New House in old Soybean Field, in old Tallgrass Prairie—N. America)

No Frame, No Thought

Without a frame—that is, a border or limit of some kind—there can be no relevant differences. Without relevant differences,—contrasts or distinctions—there can be no thought. This is so simply because there would be nothing to think about. If thought is for whatever reason active, and there are no relevant differences present within the field of perception, thought will itself fabricate non-existent differences in order to occupy itself. This fact shows us why frames in Science and Art are at once both essentially the same, perceptually, yet, in function, quite different. In Science, we may put frames potentially in the wrong place, and therefore ask the wrong questions; In Art, we may create potentially inappropriate or 'false' frames, that is, ones which tacitly tell us that there is something important inside while in actuality this is not the case. (Stare at a blank screen long enough, and you'll find a dot; Listen to silence for a while, and you'll hear a beat that is not there.) The thought of all frames—the frame which holds the whole, so to speak, including all of thought itself—is evidently where our thinking properly must come to a stop. This is because we naturally cannot go beyond this limit, although we can never say for sure when or where this has been reached.