

# The Tantra of Physics:

A Review and Metaphysical Exposition of  
*The End of Quantum Reality*, a Film by Rick DeLano  
on the Life and Work of Wolfgang Smith

By Charles Upton

I know too well that a great majority of Englishmen are fond of The Indefinite which they Measure by Newton's Doctrine of the Fluxions of an Atom—A Thing that does not Exist... For a Line or Lineament is not formed by Chance, a Line is a Line in its Minutest Subdivision Strait or Crooked. It is Itself & Not Intermeasurable with or by any Thing Else... but since the French Revolution Englishmen are all Intermeasurable One by Another, Certainly a happy state of Agreement to which I for One do not Agree. God keep me from the Divinity of Yes & No too, The Yea Nay Creeping Jesus, from supposing Up & Down to be the same Thing, as all Experimentalists must suppose.

—William Blake, *Public Address*

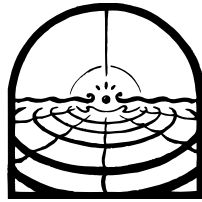
When my wife and I drove from Lexington, Kentucky to the Cincinnati area to view the long-awaited film *The End of Quantum Reality*, the story of Traditionalist mathematician, physicist and metaphysician Dr. Wolfgang Smith and his monumental discoveries—notably his elegant solution to the notorious “quantum enigma”—we arrived in a small, run-down Ohio River town in a semi-industrial area. The theater where the film was being shown was attached to a local bar; the audience amounted to my wife, myself and three others. After the movie, which was both an epiphany and a delight, I had planned to corral the other three viewers so we could retire to the espresso café across the street and hold an impromptu Wolfgang Smith discussion group. But since two of our fellow viewers escaped before I could accost them, I ended up talking only with one man who had driven to Cincinnati from Dayton, Ohio, to see the film, just as we had driven from Lexington. He was especially interested in it because he had a daughter who was studying theology and mathematics and a son studying computer science. We decided against the discussion group; nonetheless the teenage boy who was selling the tickets apparently realized, judging from his knowing smile, that the small audience that showed up represented more than a

collection of bored weekenders motivated by no more than idle curiosity, but rather the parties to a shared secret.

*The End of Quantum Reality* is a real achievement. Directed by Katheryne Thomas and produced, written and narrated by Rick DeLano, it manages to be a story of the life and discoveries of Wolfgang Smith without allowing biography to obscure its main subject: the revolution in physics just now beginning to appear (though well under way in its own world), which is destined to dethrone Einsteinian relativity and reinterpret quantum mechanics, largely through the correct understanding of “the collapse of the wave-function”, in a way that is entirely line with Traditional Metaphysics, including but not limited to Aristotelianism and Scholastic Philosophy. The graphics constitute a perfect sub-text to the narration, one that is always strictly illustrative and never intrusive, while the biographical elements, since they center on Wolfgang Smith’s intellectual development, faithfully serve the ideas without distracting our attention from them. Dr. Smith’s philosophic itinerary includes graduation from Cornell at the age of 18 with a triple major in physics, philosophy and mathematics; his teaching career at MIT and elsewhere; his travels to India to consult with Hindu and Tibetan sages; and his return to the Catholicism of his youth under the influence of his wife Thea, who actually passed away during the film’s production, and therefore appears in *The End of Quantum Reality* as Wolfgang’s philosophical muse, his Sophia. DeLano manages her appearance with a moderate and sensitive touch, bringing her in just far enough to allow Thea and Wolfgang’s love to illuminate certain subtler aspects of his vision of *corporeal* reality—which he clearly distinguishes from the *material* reality investigated by modern physics—notably its incarnation of the Aristotelian/Thomistic principle of the marriage of *forma* and *materia*. In addition, Rick DeLano’s writing and narration strike the ideal note that makes the film ultimately convincing: not the strident tone of the rebellious zealot but the relaxed, generous and gently humorous quality of the established hierophant whose worldview is both satisfying and secure.

I learned two important things from *The End of Quantum Reality*: First, that the central significance of what has been called the Axis of Evil, the “quasi-equator” that has recently been discovered in the microwave background radiation, is that there is any kind of discernable axis in this

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