

Night Journey 46: The Transmigration of Little Joe 1921-2013

The original images of Kuniyoshi and cave paintings from Night Journey 45 are again employed but this time my choices regarding the application of the images are influenced by the studio work of Hendrix and Lennon where tracks are laid down to be reversed and mixed with forward tracks. Additionally I am also imaging Coltrane with his use of reversals of theme and instrumentation. The image is essentially studio mixing of the image backwards and forwards. The forward images are in their normal colors and the reversals in opposite colors which are represented in the white and blue. What came up the strongest on this compositional mix were the reversals burying the original primary composition which oddly returned the painting's meaning to the original meaning of the cave paintings as spirit animals to transport the individual into the next world. The result of creating these opposite images led to the theme of transmigration. To this mix I add 5 year old Asher's climbing man or what I refer to and use as a symbol of ascending man. Turning the ascending man into the sun was an easy choice when thinking of Kandinsky's painting Garden of Love where his sun fills the landscape in a similar manner. In this case the sun is more of a migratory figure. Also the snake image which is part serpent and part landscape adds to the transmigration theme with its inference of shedding of skin from one to the next and in this context would mean the shedding of the earthly reality into the spiritual reality.