



Oil on Canvas
44" X 40"
Charles H. Reinike III

Connecting/Prelude

We perceive the world around us through our five senses: hearing, taste, sight, smell, and touch. Our senses gather data that we use to function in our tangible environment. Pondering and reflecting on these experiences leads to abstract thought. So we can say that what we experience with our senses is the beginning of the learning process.

If we imagine our minds in our infancy as *tabula rasae* (or clean tablets) on which we build our knowledge through empirical observations, then we can say that this is the beginning of reason.

Some of the symbols found in this painting:

Arch – Gateway to understanding, passage to enlightenment, eternity.

Light – Ultimate understanding, source of perfection.

Reflections on water – Earthly things emulating the divine.

Landscape – The world that we perceive through our senses.

Clouds in Windows – Contain the symbols of the five senses:

Hearing – the harp

Taste – a pear

Sight – a hawk

Smell – a rose

Touch – a swan

—Charles H. Reinike III