

## **BENOIT'S TIME - TIME ?**

We know little about what Benoit thought, said;  
Save Fractals of course; but that prodigious work  
Seems to have taken all his working time;  
Its ramifications involve us all.

But search how you will, you might even dread  
His thoughts on non-linear time to lurk  
Hidden in his pages; but in his climb  
To fame, no thought given to *time* at all.

Was this a mis-step on his part? Who knows  
What thoughts meandered through his mind? His need  
For respect from peers, esteem from fellows -  
Ever unsure, yet sure his was the seed.

Benoit Mandelbrot took real time as real  
But planted trees which might true time reveal.

Neill Edwards  
February, 2011.

## **WHO ARE WE ?**

What are we? Are we different? From whom?  
Because we study Chaos, then what dream  
Makes us think we'll get a different tomb?  
Will we be chosen in some infinite scheme

The universe has, to honor the dead -  
The thinking dead, that is. Those left behind  
May remember for a while – but instead  
Of creating some new work, they'll be blind

In later years, reliving scenes gone by,  
Not thinking what else they might – involvement –  
To become – themselves – as erstwhile friends die -  
Culmination – making friends' work an achievement.

Can we honor this special man – construct  
On Benoit's work Memorial ! A capstone

A triumphal arch of thought, leading to  
New ideas, working models by which we  
Might understand the brain, the mind, anew  
With greater insight than we now can see?

Each day new thoughts occur; today's new meme -  
Demo crassy provokes the mind to just guess  
There is no thing in this world that might seem  
Better, but fewer rules, not more, and less -

Less rule by fear might make lives less trying;  
If less controllable – but then harder  
To understand, to bring to reasoning;  
Become a friend, a latter-day father.

We follow Benoit – as some do a star;  
This then, makes us What we are, Who we are

Neill Edwards  
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