

OUR PATAPHYSICAL GOVERNMENT

Nixon went to China 1972. Later an opera was produced called Nixon in China. Shopping in our Co-op I asked our local famous author if he planned to write Trump the Opera. "Beyond parody", he said.

But this has me thinking. Art must make its contribution to how we make sense of government and politics. Plays and poems must be written as well as operas. Artists, get out your brushes, set up your easels, choose big canvasses and get painting. Remember Rodin's The Thinker? Come on sculptors, does that not inspire you to produce something about Boris Pondering Policy.

The Brexit Festival is your opportunity. A star of the 1951 Festival of Britain was the Skylon. This cigar-shaped object pointed upwards with no visible means of support and no foundation. At the time people joked that it symbolised the economy. Perfect for Brexit.

Shakespeare has recently joined in. The influence on government of Carrie The Can Symonds has been likened to Lady Macbeth. Her defenders call that sexist. But look at the bewildering number and rate of changes of people supposedly advising Boris. The number of Contacts in his phone must be huge, increasing the chances of him accidentally calling the wrong person for advice.

Pataphysics is the science of imaginary solutions. Just what we need for The Politics of the Absurd. To do justice to our government we need a Latter Day Pirandello to write something like Sixty Policies in Search of Comprehension.

Cliff Jones 21st. February 2021

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