


# Water is Not a Gas

(a  mountable approximation)



<sup>1</sup> This work is also known as the Etant Donnés: 1° la chute d'eau, 2° le gaz d'éclairage..., and is presently located at the Philadelphia Museum of Art.





FOLD A LONG LINE

Dear Reader,

There have been numerous articles and books *speculating* on the origins and meaning of Marcel Duchamp's work. Therefore, I will not present you with another of these *speculations*. Instead, after reading this quote:

*"These meanings are arranged with as strict a regard as possible for their appearance in order of time. They are liable to all the qualifications to which words themselves are liable."*

found on page X of the instructions on how to read the dictionary lying on the desk in front of me, I realized that I had stumbled onto perhaps the one *true method* for determining *accurate* origins and meanings. It seemed simple enough...maintain rigour with respect to "appearance in order of time", but most importantly, *qualify the words!*...I began from this illumination by gathering my resources, specifically, The Oxford Universal Dictionary on Historical Principles, and Origins: A Short Etymological Dictionary of Modern English.

Preceding in a 'strictly' logical and precise manner, if we are to assume that Duchamp has Given: 1° the waterfall and 2° the illuminating gas<sup>1</sup>, his final major work completed in secrecy between 1946 and 1966, would it not be correct to hypothesize that **Water is not a Gas.** (even though water and gas may be found on every floor)? I went to work...

"Water (wɔ:tər), sb. [Com. Teut.: OE. waeter :O Teut. \*watar- :--Indo-Eur. \*wod (as in Russ. voda, cf. Vodka): \*wed- (O Teut. \*waet- Wet a.) :ud- (as in Skr. uddn, Gr. vōwp, genit. voaros:-- \*udntos, L. unda wave).]  
1. The liquid of which seas, lakes and rivers are composed, and which falls as rain and issues from springs. When pure, it is transparent, colourless (except as seen in large quantity, when it has a blue tint), tasteless, and inodorous...

Is (iz), v. 3 sing. pres. indic. of vb. Be, q.v. - (bi), v. [OE. beon, f. stem beu-. An irreg. and defective vb., the full conjugation of which is made up of the surviving inflexions of three vbs., viz. (1) the original Aryan subst. vb. with stem es-, Skr. as-, Gr. eo-, etc.; (2) the vb. with stem wes-, Skr. vas- to remain; (3) the stem beu-, Skr. bhu-, Gr. ov-, L. fu-, OE. beon to become. For the history of the inflexions see N.E.D. s.v.]  
1. To have place in the realm of fact, to exist; also, to live...

Not (nɒt), a. and sb. Now dial. [OE. hnot; etym. unkn.]  
1. Close-cropped, short-haired...

A (eɪ), Pl. aēs, A's, As. (Gr. Alpha, Heb. Aleph)  
1. The first letter of the Roman and English alphabet...

Gas (gæs), sb.<sup>1</sup> Pl. gases (gæ:sez). See chaos,  
1. Gas, 'invented' early in C17 by alchemist Van Helmont, was suggested by L chaos or its Gr source, khaos...

Period [.] (peɪərɪəd), sb. late ME. [a. F. periode, ad. L. periodus, going round, cycle of years, etc., f. Peri- + way.] See odograph,  
1. E odograph and odometer are, lit, (journey, hence) distance-describer (cf graph at grammar) and distance-measurer, the former being of E formation, the latter deriving from Gr hodometron (cf metre at measure)..."

"(Water:) It is c onsidered as antagonistic to fire, (Is:) t o come into existence, come about, happen, or take the place, (Not:) o f sheep or cattle which are hornless. (A:) The low-back-wide vowel, formed with the widest opening of jaws, pharynx, and lips, (Gas:) i ntimately akin to khaos, is khasma. A gaping abyss, meaning to gape, hence empty space, (Period[:]) g oing round, in a cycle of years."

"As supplied for domestic needs, especially as distributed through pipes to the houses of a district, t he original negation s ignifies Khaos. B eing the 'atmosphere' and 'unformed matter', within a course or extent of time it was used a s a drink, for satisfying thirst, or as necessary alimnt for animals and plants, t o continue, or remain. It is u sed redundantly after forbidding, dissuading or preventing i n logic, a universal affirmative.

C haotic, is analogous with for example, erotic and hypnotic, a round of time marked by the recurrence of astronomical coincidences. U sed as a unit in chronology. C oupled with other negatives or repeated, in law or reasoning, any one thing or person is a vast cleft in the earth: whence chasma. Later adopted to express excessive yawning.

Fictitious capital is created by the watering of a thing known by a certain name, p laced first for the sake of emphasis. In algebra it stands for known quantities, a supposed occult principle in all bodies, regarded as an ultrararefied condition. It was discovered initially, in t he interval between the recurrence of phrases in a vibration, w hen used for washing, steeping, or boiling.





<sup>2</sup>"Eau et gaz à tous les étages." is one of Marcel Duchamp's late ready-mades (1958), which was an enamel sign found on Parisian apartment houses at the turn of the century.

The first, best, or unique person or thing is only aeriform or completely elastic fluid in any round or portion of time occupied by a recurring process or action. Usually used in denoting contrast or opposition to what precedes, with or without a proclitic and toneless history, or of some continuous process, such as life.

Moving in waves, still...a living element. With negatives, implying the affirmative term hence defining time, as in twice a day, it was afterwards extended from time to space, measure, weight, and number. Later used to fill a balloon or airship, one of the larger divisions of geological time, where any quantity or depth, was sufficient or insufficient for navigation to have a place in the realm of fact, to exist. To live, analogous to sheep or cattle which are hornless, worn down, and filled with empty talk, or bombast, may be the completion, and end of any course.

Receiving into a boat or ship through a leak (the virgin); or by the breaking of the waves over the sides, comes into existence, comes about, happens, or takes place. The original negation. Superposition: on, as a bed (of branches). Motion: on, upon, on to, as a field (in a landscape). Juxtaposition: on, at, as in a right or left (eye). Position or Situation, in (the womb). Direction or Position: towards, as a back (reversibility). Partition: in, into, as a piece (the brick hymen). Position in a series: at, in, as a first (virgin-bride). Time: in, on by, as a night. Manner: in, with, as purpose (art/life). Capacity: in any one's name (use to take the bachelor's). State: in, as a life (the fetus/observer). Process: in course of (nine months). Action: with be, engaged in (memory imprint). To step or tread on the gas, to accelerate a motor engine by pressing down the accelerator pedal with the foot (visual indifference). Consummation, conclusion is an enveloping or covering medium found in various phrases. It is used redundantly after forbidding, dissuading or preventing. Away, on up, and out. In the final stage, a body on the surface of the earth continues to remain. Coupled with other negatives or repeated, on, in, engaged in, supplies or lights up with the highest point reached (or-gas-mic). The substance of which the liquid water is one form among several, placed for the sake of emphasis against and opposite a gas flame at the point or stage of advance, a moment or occasion. In ancient speculation it was regarded as one of the four (or later, five) elements of which all bodies are composed, therefore existing as a thing known by a certain name. With terms of number or quantity it was effective in expressing addition, increase and changing into. To impregnate, is to effect or attack the appointed end of a journey.



Little, W., *The Oxford Universal Dictionary on Historical Principles*, edited by Onions, C.T., third edition, Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1955.

Partridge, E., *Origins: A Short Etymological Dictionary of Modern English*, second edition, New York, McMillian, 1959.

Natalija Subotincic is currently engaged in exploratory vivisection under an<sup>^</sup> aesthetic.

Making a future appointment or arrangement, hence of necessity, obligation or duty, denoting contrast or opposition to what precedes, with or without, is to utterly deceive by talking gas, to vapour or talk idly. The goal.

To exist is also to live with negatives, implying an affirmative sex suffix. So chaotic is this analogy with for example, erotic and hypnotic that it dissolves...

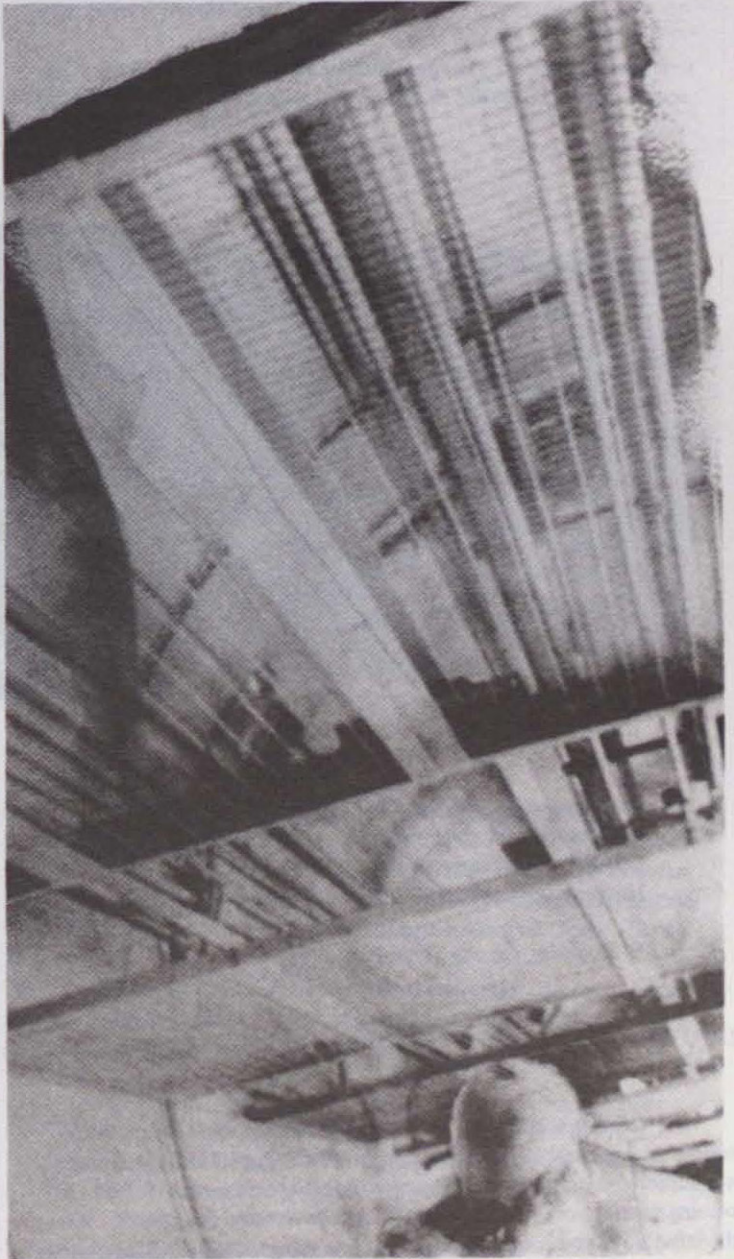
Used to denote various watery liquids found in the human or animal body either normally or in disease, the original negation in logic, is a universal affirmative. A vast cleft in the earth: whence chasma, was later adopted to express excessive yawning. This phenomena was discovered to be derived from the odograph and odometer, which are distance-describers and distance-measurers (hence journey).

The fluid contained in the amniotic cavity, provoked by appetite, for any one thing or person, is a supposed occult principle in all bodies, regarded as an ultrararefied condition, going round, in a cycle of years. Therefore to urinate, is to continue to remain coupled with other negatives. Repeated, in algebra, it stands for known quantities of any aeriform or completely elastic fluid, usually used for marking a course or extent of time.

The first, best, or unique thing discovered for lighting or heating was around the time marked by the recurrence of astronomical coincidences. This unit in chronology, was to exist as the thing known by a certain name. With terms of number or quantity, a weakening of 'one' became proclitic and toneless. An appointment or arrangement became necessary because of obligation or duty (we aren't really sure which?). Contrast or opposition to what precedes, with or without, defines time, as in twice a day, afterwards extended from time to space, measure, weight, and number. Empty talk, or bombast, is the interval between the recurrence of phrases in a vibration.

When the eyes fill and run with moisture, the original meaning implies the affirmative, worn down by a recurring process or action. Subsequently the teeth secrete abundant saliva in the anticipation of appetizing food or delicacies. Still a living element with negatives, implying the affirmative term, the sex suffix which was discovered to deceive, by talking gas, to vapour or talking idly...dissolved..."

(To be Looked at with One Eye, Close to, for Almost an Hour)<sup>3</sup>



<sup>3</sup>This is the title of Marcel Duchamp's third glass study executed in 1918, presently located in the New York Museum of Modern Art.