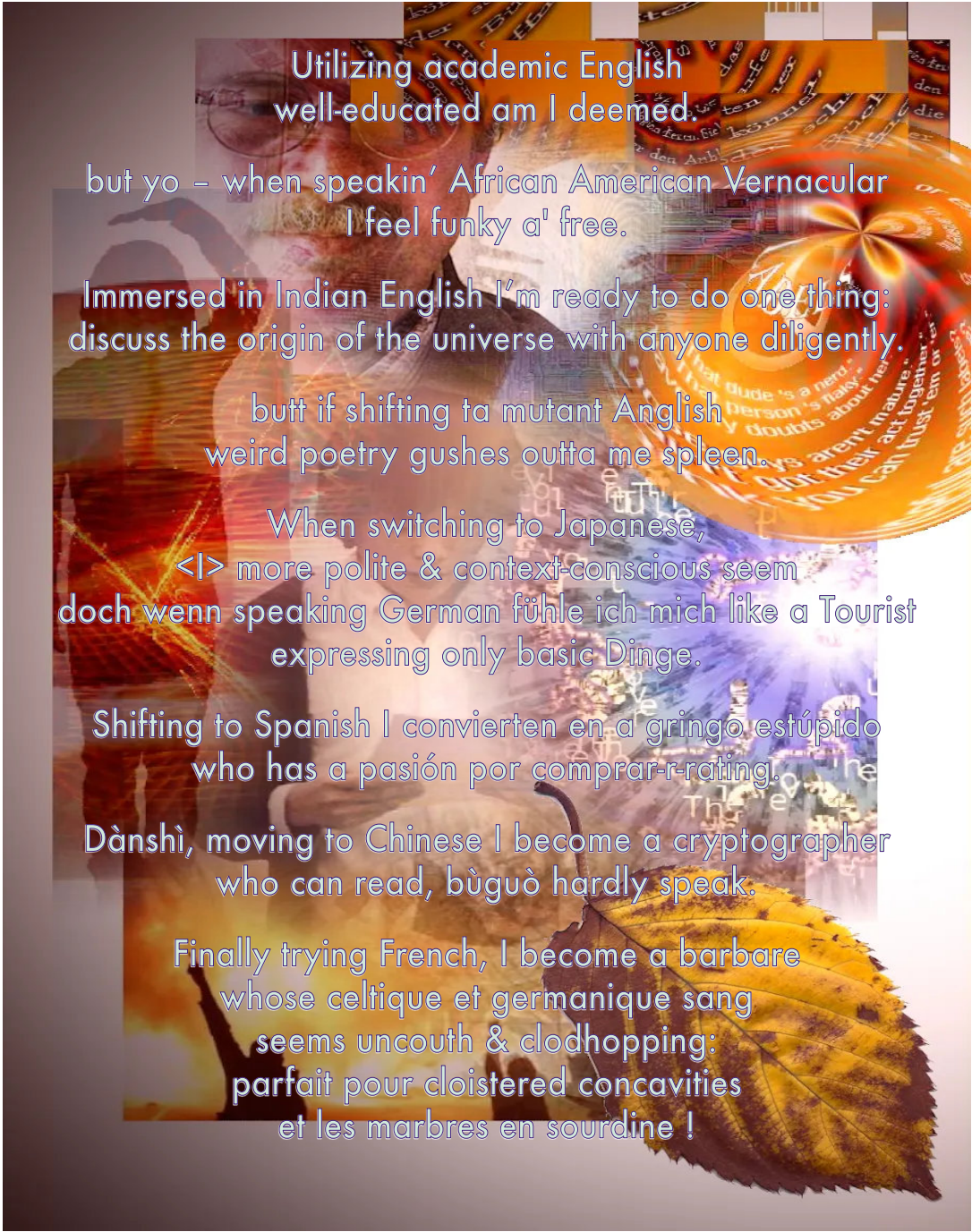


LINGUISTIC IDENTITIES :

Some reflections about language & consciousness



Utilizing academic English
well-educated am I deemed.

but yo – when speakin' African American Vernacular
I feel funky a' free.

Immersed in Indian English I'm ready to do one thing:
discuss the origin of the universe with anyone diligently

but if shifting to mutant English
weird poetry gushes outta me spleen.

When switching to Japanese,
<I> more polite & context-conscious seem
doch wenn speaking German fühle ich mich like a Tourist
expressing only basic Dinge.

Shifting to Spanish I convierten en a gringo estúpido
who has a pasión por comprar-rating.

Dànshì, moving to Chinese I become a cryptographer
who can read, bùguò hardly speak.

Finally trying French, I become a barbare
whose celtique et germanique sang
seems uncouth & clodhopping:
parfait pour cloistered concavities
et les marbres en sourdine !

- T Newfields

Beg.: 2016 Xin-Táiběi ☆ Fin.: 2023 Shizuoka