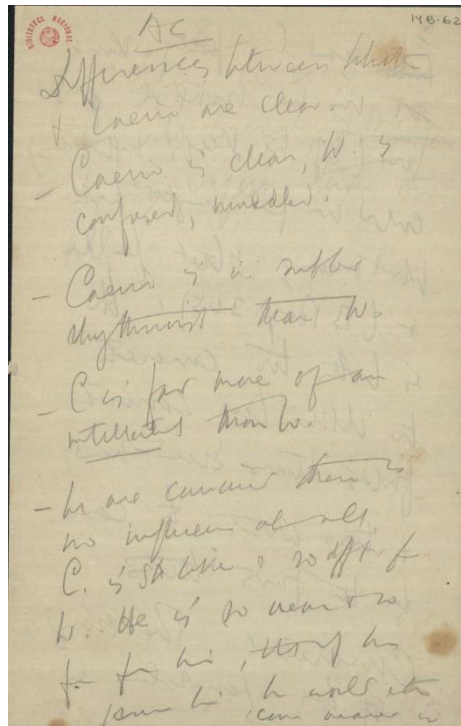


BNP/E3, 14B - 62^o

Transcrição

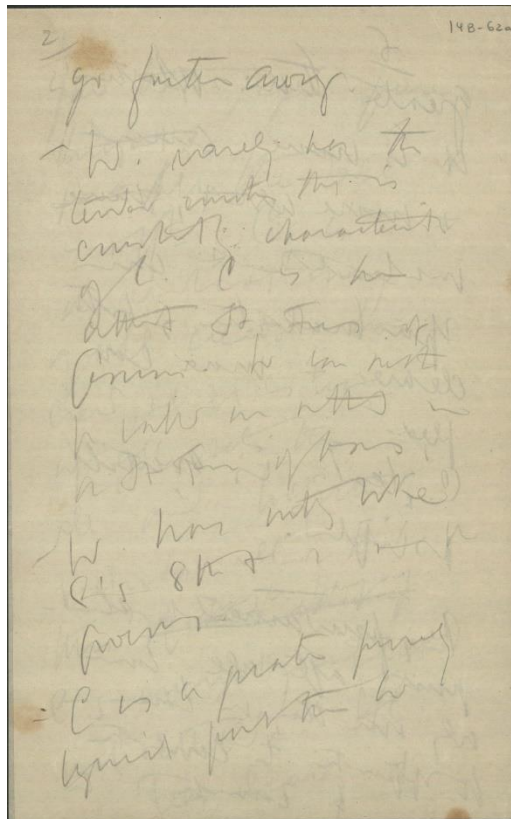


Alberto Caeiro

Differences between Whitman and Caeiro are clear:

- Caeiro is clear, Whitman is confused, muddled.
- Caeiro is a subtler rhythmist than Whitman.
- Caeiro is far more of an *intellectual* than Whitman.
- We are convinced there is no influence at all.

Caeiro is so like and so different from Whitman. He is so near and so far from him, that if he became him, he would either come nearer or



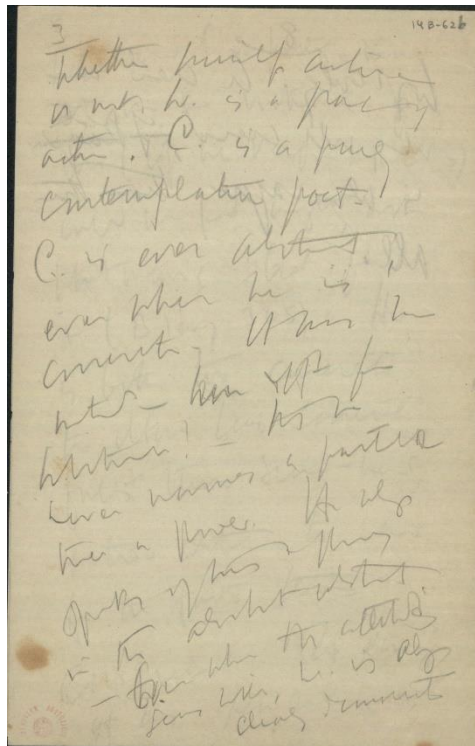
go further away.

- Whitman rarely has the tender emotion that is constantly characteristic of Caeiro. Caeiro is an atheist Saint Francis of Assisi. Whitman can neither be called an atheist nor a Saint Francis of Assisi.

- Whitman has unity like Caeiro's 8th and 10th poems.

- Caeiro is a greater purely lyrical poet than Whitman.

BNP/E3, 14B - 62b^r

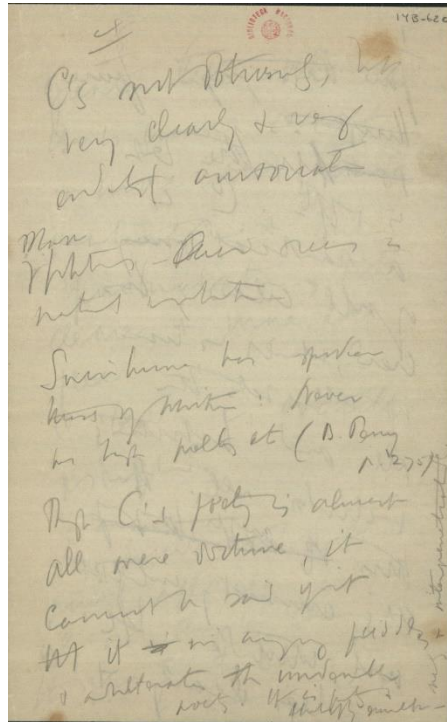


Transcrição

Whether himself active or not, Whitman is a poet of action. Caeiro is a purely contemplative poet. Caeiro is ever abstract, even when he is concrete. It has been noted - how different from Whitman! - that he never names a particular tree or flower. He always speaks of trees and flowers in the absolute abstract.

- Even when the attitudes seem alike, Whitman is always clearly democratic.

BNP/E3, 14B - 62c^r



Transcrição

Caeiro's not obtrusively, but very clearly and very evidently aristocratic.

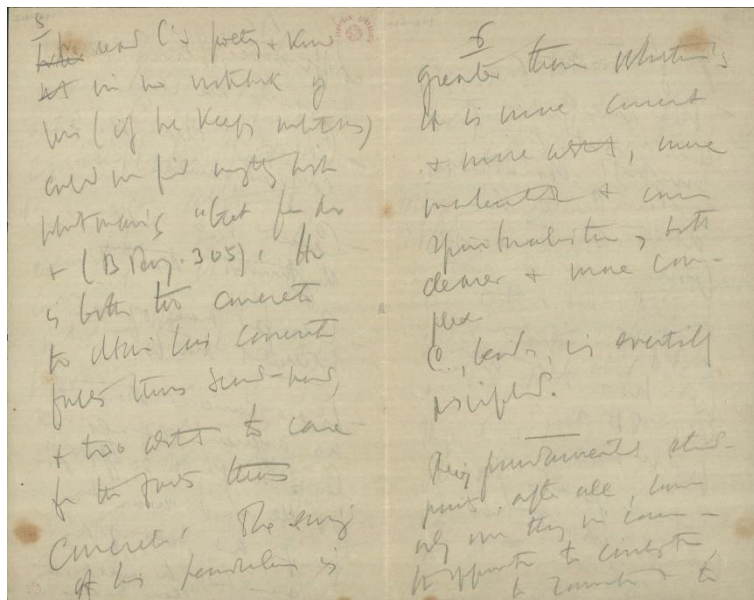
Blake Whitman - Caeiro seems a natural evolution.

Swinburne has spoken thus of Whitman: Never was high poetry etc (Bliss Perry p. 275).

Though Caeiro's poetry is almost all mere doctrine, it cannot be said of it that it ~~is~~ in anyway fuddles and adulterates the undeniable poetry. It is poetry and philosophy simultaneously and interpenetrated.

BNP/E3, 14B - 62v-62a

Transcrição

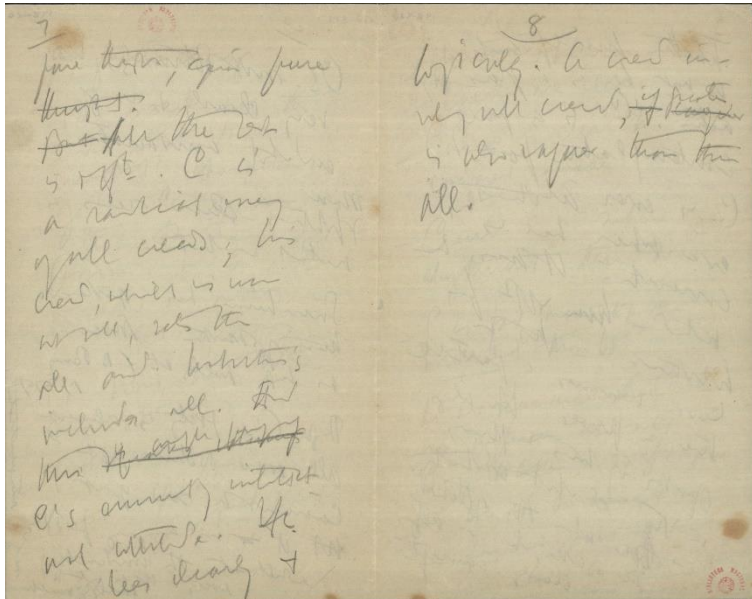


When We read Caeiro's poetry and know ~~not~~ in no notebook of his (if he keeps note-books) could we find anything like Whitman's "Get from Mr. etc" (Bliss Perry. 305). He is both too concrete to obtain his concrete facts thus second-hand, and too abstract to care for the facts thus concrete. The swing of his pendulum is greater than Whitman's. It is more concrete and more abstract, more materialistic and more spiritualistic, both clearer and more complex.

Caeiro, besides, is essentially disciplined.

Their fundamental standpoints, after all, have only one thing in common - the opposition to civilization, to concrete and to

BNP/E3, 14B - 62b^v-62c^v



Transcrição

pure thought, quã pure thought. ~~But~~ All the rest is different. Caeiro is a radical enemy of all creeds; his creed, which is none at all, sets them all aside. Whitman's includes all. And this ~~speaks~~ is ample proof of Caeiro's eminently intellectual attitude. He sees clearly and logically. A creed involving all creeds, ~~if vaguer~~ if greater is also vaguer than them all.

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