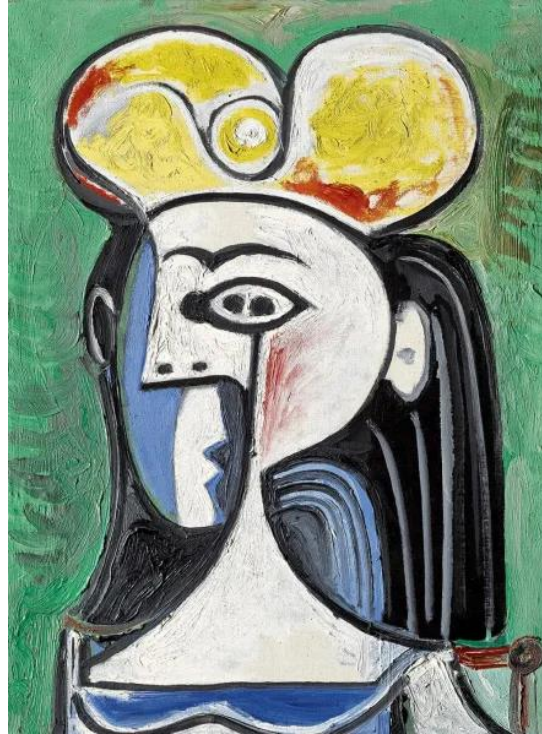


PARSHAT VAYAKHEL-PEKUDEI
EXODUS 35:1-40:38
HAFTARAH EZEKIEL 45:16-46:18
23 ADAR 5783/16 MARCH 2023



Buste de Femme Assise
Pablo Picasso (1962)

WINGS OF IMAGINATION

1. Let all among you who are skilled (תְּכַמְּ־לֵב) come and make all that God has commanded... (Exodus 35:10)

2. One whose heart is wise (תְּכַמְּ־לֵב) receives commands..." (Proverbs 10:8)

Wisdom (תְּכַמְּ־לֵב) has built her house/She has hewn her seven pillars/She has prepared her feast/Mixed the wine/And also set the table (*shulchanah*). (Proverbs 9:1-2)

3. If I were asked to name the chief benefit of the house, I should say: the house shelters day-dreaming, the house protects the dreamer, the house allows one to dream in peace. (Gaston Bachelard, *The Poetics of Space*)

4. We always think of the imagination as the faculty that forms images. On the contrary, it deforms what we perceive; it is, above all, the faculty that frees us from immediate images and changes them. If there is no change, or unexpected fusion of images, there is no imagination; there is no imaginative act. If the image that is present does not make us think of one that is absent, if an image does not determine an abundance – an explosion – of unusual images, then there is no imagination...A stable and completely realized image clips the wings of the imagination...Thanks to the imaginary, imagination is essentially open and elusive. It is the human psyche's experience of openness and novelty. More than any other power, it is what distinguishes the human psyche... (Gaston Bachelard, *Air and Dreams*)

5. When the Holy Blessed One commanded Moses, "Make Me a Mishkan," God should have just put up four poles and spread out the Mishkan over them! We must therefore infer that the Holy Blessed One showed Moses on high red fire, green fire, black fire and white fire, and said to him: "Set it up according to the manner of it that you were shown on the mountain" (Exodus 26:30). (Midrash, Bamidbar Rabbah 12:10)