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String Theory

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Il tombe des cordes

“Most of us take for granted that our universe has three spatial dimensions. But this is not so according to string theory, which claims that our universe has many more dimensions than meet the eye – dimensions that are tightly curled into the folded fabric of the cosmos.” This is how Brian Greene, in his book “The Elegant Universe”, introduces us the solution for the struggle between the theories that describe the infinitely small and the infinitely big. The two theories explaining the behaviour of each of these opposing realms, Quantum Physics and Relativity, are conflicting proposals. Postulated independently from each other, soon they followed narrow paths that only made them more and more asunder.

Infinitely small and infinitely big appear to be working under different sets of rules, unconnectedly. They are truly extremes, but they are made from the same elements, the first building the grand scale of the second. A long time ago was first read that what is below is the same of what is above. Now, science comes and writes that these two poles can be linked by a young theory, which in the words of its proponents, was called string theory out of sheer lack of literary elegance.

Both the means and a symbol of the desire of ascension, an instrument of magic, the chain of life that by the hand of Varuna or the whims of Fortuna can dictate life and death; the String is now called upon the grand task of re-linking the most minute particle to the absolute expansion of space.

Cecilia Costa (February 2009)