While not a novel concept in the worlds of art and architecture, when applied outside those realms it is received rather skeptically. When two distinct and separate forces interact (be they objects, words, thoughts, people, concepts, etc.) they synthesize to form a third entity. That of their interaction.

A simple, yet strong, example of this principle is demonstrated in romantic relationships. As two individuals, unique in their backgrounds, upbringing, culture, goals and ideals, chance to cross paths, a connection is begun. If ignored, the two go their separate ways. But if nurtured and developed, this union will become equally important as the two are as individuals. Their relationship becomes a catalyst for each to continually draw on and give to. Thus, the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. (1+1=3)

It is the whole of this “current relation” that demonstrates the ratio between the forces. For each of the two individual forces contributes to the third in different amounts and quantities.

“Of course, no language is made up solely of object words. Concept words were formed by taking an essential portion from two or three or four objects that had some bearing or relationship to the concept. Chinese is image montage.”

Scott Mutter