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JULIO CORTAZAR AND THE VARIOUS INTERPRETATIONS OF QUANTUM THEORY

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El artículo revisa las distintas interpretaciones de la Teoría Cuántica y establece relaciones con algunos cuentos de Julio Cortázar.

(This article examines the various interpretations of the Quantum Theory and establishes connections with works by Julio Cortázar.)

"Do you really believe that the moon exists only when you look at it?" Einstein to Pais.¹ (1950)

"We now know that the moon is demonstrably not there when nobody looks." N. David Mermin.² (1986)

■ 1. INTERPRETATIONS OF QUANTUM THEORY

The quantum notion that there is an inherent uncertainty in observing anything brings about certain philosophical problems regarding the nature of the universe. One is presented with the idea that it is not possible to say that such and such is the case, but only that there are certain probabilities that such is the case, or such is, or... etc. A subatomic particle is not located here or there but has a location characterized by a "probability wave." Hence, particles sometimes behave like particles and sometimes like waves. It seems this duality is required in order to explain observed phenomena.

1. Pais, A., "Einstein and the Quantum theory," *Review of Modern Physics* 31 No. 4, 1959.

2. Ibid., private communication 1992.

3. Mermin, N. David, "Can you help your team insight by watching <TV> IQ 100 Experimental Metaphysics from Einstein, Podolsky and Rosen," in *Philosophical Consequences of Quantum Theory: Reflections on Bell's Theorem, Chasing, I.T., and Mc Martin, E.*, Eds., Univ. of Notre Dame Press, Notre Dame 1986: 38-59.

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