

May 15, 2002 Wednesday 9:53 AM

Thank you for your letter. You ask me for my feelings about the current gold rush towards Pilates. About the usurpers, poachers, and interlopers on lands that I have long cherished. Will moves through the masses, foolish opportunists still wave red flags to promote the market bull. I feel it is going to get much worse.

Acknowledging the current disembowelment of Pilates is one thing. Assuming what Joseph Pilates had in mind is another.

Pilates has always been sought and taught across a spectrum of ability in the teacher.

It is not up for you to make standards, rather, it is up to you to turn on the lights in all the new arrivals. Help them illuminate the purity of the ideal in their own way rather than defining the ideal for them.

Pilates will never lose its magic. Pilates will always be pursued.

Industries regulate to create and protect income streams.

It is not “them” who has shown up uninvited, it’s “us”.

“Aren't you concerned about the future validity and integrity of Pilates if it is not regulated to some degree?”

No, I'm not. The validity and integrity of Pilates exists without any regulation at all. Regulation is protectionism. My view of Pilates doesn't need to be protected.

“I may not continue to grow in Pilates if I did not have goals set for me by an organization of Joseph Pilates disciples who believe in keeping the Method as he developed it.”

Man, that is such a leap. Your focus seems to be on preserving the aristocratic heritage of content, whereas my focus is on ideological heritage of subject.

“organization of Joseph Pilates disciples who believe in keeping the Method as he developed it”—let them teach, let them share what they know.

I choose to live outside the box aristocracy as the basis of Pilates authority. Now if you can wrap your head around that one, what's left? Anarchy or ideal.

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Plus, in my travels, I've seen that Pilates is already a thin veneer for many a cash machine.

Form a dead poet's society, meet and make myth, discover fact, find sensation. Resonate your truth.