

# art of memory

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 04 Apr 1998

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Matthew Freestone — 04 Apr 1998, 12:32

From: Michael Straight <straight at email.unc.edu>

Weer's house also recalls the old (medieval?) technique of memory by constructing a mental "castle" and, in the mind's eye, placing each thing or event you want to remember in a seperate room of your castle, using images to represent what you want to remember.

The techniques of artificial memory are much older than the middle ages. In fact, Simonides, in the Soldier books, was one of the great practitioners of the art in classical times. Frances Yates' book "The Art of Memory" is a fascinating history of the subject. It crops up in John Crowley's "AEgypt", and "Little, Big" too.

Best,

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