

from Karl Marx (1818-1883)

SPECIES BEING

- **Every species is defined by its method of survival, the way it makes “a living.”**
- Humans create/produce (through work or labor) the world in which they live; we are inherently and necessarily productive. [*Recall the characteristics of human nature.*]
- Humans are self-conscious (reflexive) and therefore they observe that world. [*This is the socio-cultural world that simultaneously contains, constrains, and enables us.*]
- The world we make shapes and defines the maker; the product defines/expresses the producer and his/her relationship with others.
- Humans are inherently socially dependent and collectively oriented (altruistic). [*Capitalism inherently distorts these human qualities.*]