The Stillness of Reality...

Numbers as realities misbehave. However, there is an ancient and innate sense in people that numbers ought not to misbehave. There is something else, and pure in the abstract notion of number, removed from counting beads, dice, or clouds; and there ought to be a way of talking about numbers without always having the illusions of reality come in and intrude.

Douglas R. Hofstadter,

Godel, Escher, Bach: An Eternal Golden Braid, Vintage