He's absolutely brilliant, and indeed I just invited him to be the American on a panel with me at DLD in Munich with the two leading German cultural journalists. While he's still a very good friend, I had to stop representing him because he's become seriously religious, culturally very far right. He still had serious medical issues and needs to travel with someone. Worth talking to? Absolutely.

To know what's up with him, you need to know about the bombing. Here's a 1-minute trailer from a German feature movie
http://www.edge.org/3rd_culture/bios/brockman_DasNetz.html

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--- Recent, with video. I got this event together when Ballmer and Microsoft began taking credit for Cloud Computing, which was Gelernter's idea. ...

The central idea we were working on was this idea of de-localized information — information for which I didn't care what computer it was stored on. It didn't depend on any particular computer. I didn't know the identities of other computers in the ensemble that I was working on. I just knew myself and the cybersphere, or sometimes we called it the tuplesphere, or just a bunch of information floating around. We used the analogy — we talked about helium balloons. We used a million ways to try and explain this idea.

LORD OF THE CLOUD
John Markoff and Clay Shirky talk to David Gelernter
An Edge Roundtable
http://www.edge.org/3rd_culture/gelernter09/gelernter09_index.html

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---Possibly the most lively EDGE event ever...

THE SECOND COMING — A MANIFESTO [2001]
http://www.edge.org/3rd_culture/gelernter/gelernter_index.html

INTRODUCTION

David Gelernter .....
"...prophesied the rise of the World Wide Web. He understood the idea half a decade before it happened." (John Markoff)

"...is a treasure in the world of computer science...the most articulate and thoughtful of the great living practitioners" (Jaron Lanier)

"...is one of the pioneers in getting many computers to work together and cooperate on solving a single problem, which is the future of computing." (Danny Hillis)

"...is one of the most brilliant and visionary computer scientists of our time." (Bill Joy)

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--- from my book "Digerati"

Chapter 11

THE CONSERVATIVE
David Gelernter
http://www.edge.org/documents/digerati/Gelernter.html

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