

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY IN PORTLAND

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A Branch of the Theosophical Society in America 2377 NW Kearney Street
Portland, Oregon 97210

SUNDAY AFTERNOON PUBLIC PROGRAMS – October 2012 - January 2013

Public programs begin promptly at 3:00 P.M. The door is open by 2:00 P.M. for your convenience
Please arrive early so as to avoid disrupting the presentation and others in the audience

Basic Concepts of Theosophy

Group Study. A number of our Sunday programs will be devoted to a basic concept of Theosophy presented in an informal format led by a branch member. As a group, we will study and discuss some of these influential concepts. All levels of interest are welcome.

Tuesday night study group

A study group is being formed to listen to Dr. Stephan Hoeller's audio lectures on Carl Jung's Red Book. Details are set out on the back page of this flyer. There is no charge for this study group, but donations will be appreciated to help cover the cost of presenting this program. Class size is limited, and **registration is required.** To register, please call 503-244-1093.

October 14 **Basic Concepts of Theosophy – INTRODUCTION TO THEOSOPHY – Group Study**

Dedicated to man's eternal search for the Divine, Theosophy could be described as a synthesis of religion, science, and philosophy. It asserts the fundamental unity of all existence and holds that all things, including both forms and consciousness, are evolving. Topics covered will include a discussion of the Theosophical world view and the objects of the Theosophical Society.

October 21 **RENAISSANCE MEDICINE AND ASTROLOGY – *Judith Hill***

Until 1666, Renaissance physicians were required to pass their exams in astrology before obtaining their medical license. Cosmobiology was once an essential and integral part of medical diagnosis, prescription and treatment timing. Renaissance physicians also used their knowledge of planetary timing for the harvesting and concocting of "super" medicines. They also practiced a primitive form of DNA exchange treatments, and other seemingly "magical" practices that are easily explained through knowledge of vibrational resonance. Contrary to modern portrayal, leeches and blood letting were a small part of the itinerary of these doctors, and only prescribed for specific cases. We have thrown out the baby with the bath water, with the result that a significant and useful body of medical insights, tools and remedials has been lost in the the fog of prejudice.

Our speaker, *Judith Hill*, will reveal to us the lost pages of our western medical history in this fascinating and unusual lecture! Judith is an award winning author of several titles, including "*Medical Astrology: a Guide to Planetary Pathology*"; "*The Astrological Body Types*"; and her newly published "*A Wonderbook of True Astrological Case Files*," co-authored with Andrea L. Gerhrz. Her lectures are guaranteed to be fact-filled, fascinating and useful.

October 28

2:00 p.m.

SPIRITUAL ALCHEMY AND THE HISTORICAL TAROT – *Michael S. Howard*

PLEASE NOTE: THIS IS A SPECIAL LONGER PROGRAM running from 2:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m

A comparison of alchemical drawings with the imagery in contemporary forms of the tarot reveals an amazing similarity, as each describes the soul's journey to enlightenment. In this lecture we will compare the 22 major arcana as they looked in the 15th-17th centuries with alchemical imagery of the same time, to reveal similar sequences of spiritual purification. The slides will include rarely seen images from three 15th century manuscripts.

Michael S. Howard, Ph.D. graduated from Reed College and has Ph.D.'s from Cornell University (philosophy) and Pacifica Graduate Institute (clinical psychology). He has taught at the State University of New York at Albany and Portland State University. He is a long-time member of the Queen of Heaven Gnostic Church in Portland, where he gives occasional slide presentations on spiritual themes. He is a "close cooperator" of Trionfi, a tarot history organization based in Germany (trionfi.com), and a member of Le Tarot Associazione Culturale in Italy, for whom he helps on Italian to English translations. Le Tarot recently published an expanded version of his "Tarot and Dionysus" presentation, given to the Society a few years ago, on its website: see <http://www.associazioneletarot.it/page.aspx?id=317&lng=ENG>.

November 4 **Basic Concepts of Theosophy – THE THEOSOPHICAL VIEW OF MAN AND HIS SEVEN FIELDS** – Group Study

Interpenetrating the dense matter of our physical world are other "higher" planes or fields composed of finer grades of matter vibrating at higher frequencies. In the same way, man also has "higher" bodies composed of these finer grades of matter interpenetrating his dense physical body. Today's study group discussion will cover man's seven fields and his vehicles of expression on them.

November 11 **SPIRITUAL CINEMA** – *3 short videos followed by group discussion*

PLEASE JOIN US IN SUPPORTING THE OREGON FOOD BANK! In lieu of donations to the Theosophical Society for today's program, we ask that you bring two cans or boxes of nonperishable food items for donation to the Oregon Food Bank. Please help us feed the hungry in Oregon. Thank you!

Passengers. A subway car in New York, where no one will look anyone else in the eye, is the last place on earth you'd expect a real human connection to take place!

The Face. Based on the traditional Zen story, "The Magic Seed," this fable takes us to far away places while conveying a deep message about honesty and compassion. An old man tells stories to the neighborhood children until his age and health dictate that he must find a replacement storyteller to hold The Face.

The Mantis Parable. An animated masterpiece, the winner of 13 festival awards, this beautiful short takes us straight to the heart with a simple tale of compassion. Even in the insect world, there is a place for unconditional love and the opportunity to learn of our oneness.

November 18 **THE WAR OF THE OLYMPIANS IN THE ILIAD** – *Patricia Fulbright*

Homer's epic poem tells of key events late in the Trojan War, events triggered by Achilles' rage at losing his war prize, the lovely Briseis, and his refusal to fight with the Greeks. Events unfold as a double story: one narrative line follows the conflicts and sufferings of humans engaged in war, while the second story line transports us to Olympus, where we hear Father Zeus' divided family scheme and compete among themselves. The Olympians have taken sides in the war, maneuvering to ensure their favorite warriors win great glory and ultimate victory. This lecture will showcase events depicting the role of the Olympians in the Iliad and will discuss the complex and often mysterious relationship between gods and humans.

Patricia Fulbright has taught classical mythology for many years at Clark College, Vancouver, Washington. She is a lifelong student of classical Greek mythology and philosophy.

November 25 **Library closed for Thanksgiving holiday.**

December 2 **Basic Concepts of Theosophy – KARMA - Group Study**

A study of karma would suggest that nothing happens by chance. Join us for a group discussion of how Theosophy explains karma as the impersonal law of cause and effect in our individual lives as well as at such broader levels as family karma and national karma.

December 23 **Library closed for Christmas Holiday.**

December 30 **Library closed for New Year's Day Holiday.**

January 6 **Basic Concepts of Theosophy - REINCARNATION - Group Study**

Theosophy tells us that reincarnation is the means for the evolution of consciousness, with the ultimate flowering of each individual into a perfected being who graduates from the school of human life. Why don't we remember our past lives? How many past lives have we had? Our group discussion will discuss these and other questions.

January 20 **INTRODUCTION TO THE BHAGAVAD-GITA - Judith Sugg**

and (A two-part presentation)

January 27

The *Gita* is considered one of the most important texts in Hinduism and yoga. It is revered and esteemed as a philosophical and religious text of great depth, beauty, and wisdom. It intrigues us with its story, nested in the great epic, the *Mahabharata*.

Here is what Gandhi (1925) said about this small text: "When disappointment stares me in the face and all alone I see not one ray of light, I go back to the *Bhagavad-gita*. I find a verse here and a verse there and I immediately begin to smile in the midst of overwhelming tragedies, and my life has been full of external tragedies. And if they have left no visible, no indelible scar on me, I owe it all to the teachings of the *Bhagavad-gita*."

In this two-part program, we will look at the major teachings of the *Gita*, discuss its meaning for us today in America, see how it fits within the landscape of Indian philosophical texts, and hear the story that has intrigued readers all over the world. The program will be interactive. If you have a copy of the *Gita* (any translation), please bring it to the program.

Judith Sugg, Ph.D. has been practicing and teaching hatha yoga for 20 years. In her dissertation, she compared the Yoga Sutras and Samkhya Karikas from a psychological perspective. She is a licensed counselor and teaches psychology as an adjunct instructor. She is a long-time member of the Theosophical Society.

This is the end of the first half of this season's programs.

The program for the second half will be distributed in late January.

A contribution of \$5.00 is appreciated. An informal social hour follows all presentations.

Your donations are critical to funding our Sunday public program series.

We turn no one away for lack of funds, yet ask that you be as generous as you can be with your donations. Thank you.

◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ **We welcome book donations.** ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇ ◇

We have new and used books for sale. Please check with our librarian.

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LOCATION:

2377 N.W. Kearney Street, Portland, Oregon 97210
Telephone: 503-223-6861

LIBRARY HOURS:

Fridays 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. (*Beginning September 7, 2012*)
Sundays 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. (*Beginning September 16, 2012*)
(but closed from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. during Sunday public programs)
The library will be closed on Sundays following major holidays.

TUESDAY NIGHT STUDY GROUP

A study group is being formed to listen to Dr. Stephan Hoeller's audio lectures on Carl Jung's *Red Book* on Tuesday nights, September 11 through December 4, 2012, 7:00-9:00 p.m. There is no charge for this study group, but donations will be appreciated to help cover the cost of presenting this program. Class size is limited, and **registration is required**. To register, please call 503-244-1093.

Exploring C.G. Jung's Red Book

- 1. Dr. Hoeller's Exploration of Jung's Red Book Begins: Background and Book I; Chapter I** Book I is entitled "The Way of What is to Come"; its first chapter is introduced by "The Spirit of This Time" and "The Spirit of the Depths" and is entitled "Refinding the Soul". 69 minutes..
- 2. Jung's Red Book, Book I; Chapters II, III, IV, V:** Soul and God; On the service of the Soul; The Desert; Experiences in the Desert; Descent into Hell in the Future. 71 minutes.
- 3. Jung's Red Book, Book I; Chapters VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XI:** Splitting the Spirit; Murder of the Hero; Conception of the God; Mysterium Encounter; Instruction; Resolution. 86 minutes.
- 4. Jung's Red Book, Book II; Chapters I, II, III, IV, V, VI:** The Images of the Erring; The Red One; The Castle in the Forest; One of the Lonely; The Anchorite; Days I and II; Death. 83 minutes.
- 5. Jung's Red Book, Book II; Chapters VII, VIII, IX, X, XI:** Remains of Earlier Temples; First and Second Day; Incantations; The Opening of the Egg. 80 minutes.
- 6. Jung's Red Book, Book II; Chapters XII, XIII, XIV, XV, XVI, XVII:** Hell; The Sacrificial Murder; Divine Folly; The First, Second, Third and Fourth Nights. 79 minutes.
- 7. Jung's Red Book, Book II; Chapters XVIII, XIX, XX, XXI:** The Three Prophecies; The Gift of Magic; The Way of the Cross; The Magician. 79 minutes..
- 8. Jung's Red Book, Conclusion of the final chapter of Book II:** The Return of Salome; Encounter with Satan; The Kabiri; The Royal Son. 91 minutes.
- 9. Jung's Red Book, Scrutinies Part 1:** More teachings of the Soul; Predictions of darkness: Beginning of World War I. Reappearance of Philemon, The Shadowy Woman, Conjunction of the Dead. 84 minutes.
- 10. Jung's Red Book, Scrutinies Part 2:** The first four of the Seven Sermons to the Dead, with commentaries of Philemon. 84 minutes.
- 11. Jung's Red Book, Scrutinies Part 3:** The remaining three sermons of the Seven Sermons to the Dead; Philemon's commentaries and discourse. 58 minutes.
- 12. Conclusion of the Red Book:** How to treat Gods? The identity of Philemon. The mysterious Shade in the Garden. Excerpts from Appendix C. 83 minutes.
- 13. How to Approach and Understand the Red Book:** Dr. Shamdasani advises us to study Jung's essay on the Transcendent Function to approach the Red Book. We will review this important essay in the light of our exploration of the Red Book. A summary of the Red Book's main teachings. 84 minutes.