

ENCOUNTERING ANTHROPOSOPHIA

THE QUEST FOR A LIVING EXPERIENCE OF THE BEING OF ANTHROPOSOPHY IN THE HUMAN HEART

Sunbridge College, New York ~ April 17th – 19th
Sacramento, California ~ April 24th – 26th

Adriana Koulias ~ Frank Chester ~ Kelly Connor ~ Daniel Bittleston



'Anthroposophia in the World' group will be offering two conferences in April 2009, centered on answering a timely question:

How can Anthroposophists today, encounter Anthroposophia as a living being and what is the importance of such an encounter for the individual, for the Anthroposophical Society, and for the world?

At the founding of the General Anthroposophical Society in Dornach on December 25 1923, Rudolf Steiner spoke of the importance of a living relationship with Anthroposophia, pointing out that it is vital that the heart of every Anthroposophist should be 'enlivened through and through by Anthroposophia'. In Esoteric terms, this enlivening of the heart relates directly to a real supersensible encounter with the being of Anthroposophia which eventually leads to the creation of a 'true community of human beings for Anthroposophia.' She is thus linked to the path of each individual Anthroposophist and through the individual, to the path of the Anthroposophical Society itself and through Anthroposophical society to the world at large.

What does it mean to have an encounter with a spiritual being?

Rudolf Steiner tells us that spiritual experiences run counter to similar processes in the physical world. Here on earth, when we meet people, we see them, speak to them, and exchange ideas then we come to know the persons in question, whom we may grow to love. In the spiritual world, the opposite is true, if we wish to know a being, firstly we must develop a knowledge of that being and when this knowledge grows to a deep love and devotion, it connects us with the being in question, whom we feel at first only in our thoughts and feelings. It is only after this connection has become deeply woven and recognized in us that we perceive the being as a separate spiritual individuality, a living being. This encounter occurs through the development of 'Moral imaginations' and 'Moral intuitions', which are latent forces of the heart.

How do we develop these heart forces?

Rudolf Steiner gave us the pathway of knowledge (study, meditation and practice), which through our love and devotion, develops these heart forces, can enable us to fashion the heart into a spiritual organ. This teaching, which he called Anthroposophy, is therefore, not only the pathway to our own personal development, but also to an encounter with our supersensible teacher, Anthroposophia, herself.

The conference has set itself the task of exploring, through lectures, artistic performances and workshops the ways that we as Anthroposophists can encounter Anthroposophia as a real and true expression of our own inner striving. It will also seek to work daily with the rhythms of the Foundation Stone Meditation, whose content was an inspiration from the being of Anthroposophia, received by Rudolf Steiner directly from out of the fire of the first Goetheanum. We will strive for an understanding of how we can, through this meditation, follow the 'good star', to develop an organ of light and warmth that enables a communion with Christ; and how it is through this individual work that we can become co-workers with Anthroposophia, in the creation of a true Michaelic community, whose task will be to direct the goodness of Christ in our hearts outwards, not only to the world, but also to the macrocosm, in a united, harmonious, sacrificial offering.

Three keynote speakers will offer the results of their spiritual endeavors fructified by Anthroposophia: Frank Chester, artist, sculptor and geometrician, will share the fruits of his discovery of the sacred geometry of the human heart and its future development; Kelly Connor, lecturer and author of 'To Cause a Death' will share her research into the forces of love and compassion necessary for developing a lawful understanding of the threshold of death and for developing a relationship with those who have crossed; and Adriana Koulias, Author and Lecturer will share her research on the Human/Supersensible Being of Anthroposophia, her nature, her tasks, and how she guides us in our daily lives towards a 'conversation of the heart' with Christ.

The planning committee will be sending out a reading list to enable a familiarization with the theme, as well as lecture information, leading up to the time of the conference. A copy of the Foundation Stone Meditation will be made available for those who would like to join us in working with its rhythms prior to the conference.

The planning committee extends a warm and heartfelt welcome to all who would like to join us in our quest to better understand the Being of Anthroposophia. Please contact us if you have any enquiries: dottie@anthroposophia.org (323.251.4450)