
The Theosophical Society in Detroit

Chartered in 1916 as a Branch of the Theosophical Society of America



January 2007

01/05 Canticle to the Cosmos Series

Mara Radzvickas and Marina Sionov

DESTRUCTION AND LOSS (FIFTH IN A SERIES OF 12)

As we will throughout this program year, we are once again beginning the new month with the next video offering in this Brian Swimme series. Mara and Marina have proven exceptionally adept in leading the discussion following the formal viewing. The ever growing audience has demonstrated a great interest and enthusiasm for the subject. You won't want to miss a single viewing, so mark your calendars now for the first Friday of every month from now through June of 2007.

From the Beginning of time, throughout all the galaxies, creativity has required energy that comes from collapse and chaos. By attending to the drama in cosmic birth, we begin to identify creative possibilities that hover in the bitter experiences of life.

01/12 Mysteries of the Kabbalah

Daya Kujansuu

The Kabbalah is a mystical teaching concerning "God's" simultaneous immanence and transcendence, an attempted resolution to the ancient paradox of how the ultimate Being—"that which is not conceivable by thinking" (Isaac the Blind)—nevertheless comes to be known and experienced by the created world. This talk explores the basics of kabbalah and explores the mysterious principles that have been applied to many magical schools. The emphasis will be on the universal truths that have been illustrated in the Kabbalistic writings.

Daya Kujansuu has studied and taught metaphysics for over 25 years. She is past president of the Integral Yoga Institute.

1/19 Powers Latent in Man

David Zimmerman

"Not only is man more than an animal because there is the god in him, but he is more than a god because there is the animal in him. Once force the animal into his rightful place, that of the inferior, and you find yourself in possession of a great force hitherto unsuspected and unknown" Tonight's lecture will explore this grand idea, quoted here from – Through the Gates of Gold.

David Zimmerman is a General Motors executive, a graduate of Claregate College of England and a Vietnam War veteran. A lifelong student of the ageless wisdom teachings, David provides new insights suitable for our time. He is a sought after lecturer and also a producer and generous supporter of educational videos and writings on esoteric subjects throughout the United States, England, Australia and South Africa.

01/26 Practicing Nonviolent Dialogue for Peace

Patricia Lay-Dorsey

After years of activism for peace, Patricia Lay-Dorsey learned that the war within her own heart was as destructive a force as the worldwide wars she so publicly opposed. Her experience in nonviolent dialogue while standing vigil before the White House during 18 steaming days last summer led her to redefine what it means to be a person of peace. In this workshop Patricia will tell her story, invite questions and comments and offer some simple exercises in the practice of nonviolent dialogue.

Patricia Lay Dorsey started her professional life as an MSW clinical social worker. Her path has since taken her into the art world as a multi-media artist; retreat centers as a spirituality/creative retreat director and ultimately to a global refugee shelter as a volunteer art therapist. Her WordArt drawings have appeared in publications across the globe. In 2002 with Kathy Russell, Patricia was co founder of the Raging Grannies of Detroit. Since 1989 she has been a tireless activist for peace. The writings and photographs in her personal blog strongly reflect her deep concern for issues of justice and peace.

Doors open at 7:00 p.m. Lecture begins promptly at 8:00 p.m. From 7:00 to 7:45 is time for socializing, browsing through the bookstore and library and enjoying light refreshments.

February 2007

2/02 Canticle to the Cosmos

A Magical Planet (6th in a series of 12)

Mara Radzickas and Marina Sionov

In all of the wild discoveries of astrophysics, collapsing black holes, exploding galaxies, warped space and time – nothing compares to the wild creativity of our planet. Earth is that cauldron where the heart of a cosmic imagination shows its deeper reaches.

Mara Radzickas recently retired from an advertising career, and is now enjoying a life of travel, study and spiritual pursuits, interspersed with a periodic return to the business world in a consulting capacity.

Marina Sionov is our librarian. She is a registered nurse at Beaumont Hospital, a long time student of spirituality, mysticism, Buddhism, Theosophy, women's mysteries and more. Marina facilitates the monthly Monday night Theosophical study group, which is currently studying Key to Theosophy.

2/09 Confucianism, Then and Now

Winnie Wong

Growing up in British Hong Kong, Winnie Wong was raised by parents who were loyal practitioners of Confucian Ethics. The then British Colony was a melting pot of different races, cultures and religions. From these beginnings, grew her lifelong interest in experiencing and studying the spiritual and religious practices and beliefs of many of the world's great religions, and inter-religious spirituality.

Today she is a Roman Catholic living in West Bloomfield. A retired teacher of English and Theology, she has studied in both Hong Kong and the U.S. Most recently she was commissioned as Spiritual Director in the practice of Ignatian Spirituality. She holds a Bachelor's degree in English and Philosophy, a Master's in Theology and a Graduate Diploma in Education.

2/16 Discovering the Dynamic Divine Self

Robert Taylor

Embark on a metaphysical journey with WMTV5 Show Host, Robert Taylor, and receive life transforming information from the ancient Vedic texts, revealing the true and essential nature of the self with practical techniques for self and god realization.

Robert Taylor is show host of the Grosse Pointe local TV station program, "Out of the Ordinary Into the Extraordinary. His weekly interviews with extraordinary local activists and practitioners have earned him a faithful following among those seeking an alternative to the narrow conventions of the major networks.

2/23 Modern Mandalas

Ben Jones

Modern Mandalas is planned as an interactive exploration of the spectrochromatic graphic art inspired by meditations on the esoteric. As many as 423 colors are used on these canvases to represent emotions and their metaphorical counterparts. As individual pieces, these works represent impressions of specific facets of the nature of existence. As a collection, this art is an abstract representation of the impact of the absolute on the temporal.

Ben Jones is a graphic artist whose work is the direct outgrowth of his personal experiences, reading and research in the esoteric aspects of the world's religions. Ben is a 53 year old spiritual seeker who is currently a second year seminary student at Still Point Zen Buddhist Abbey.

Doors open at 7:00 p.m. Lecture begins promptly at 8:00 p.m. From 7:00 to 7:45 is time for socializing, browsing through the bookstore and library and enjoying light refreshments.



SPECIAL EVENTS, CLASSES AND PROGRAMS

The Flowering Tree Lodge

Debbie Mast is co-leader of the Flowering Tree Lodge in Michigan and the founder of the Women's Hoop, a ceremonial group for women, now in its sixteenth year. Her work is inspired by her vision of women and men working together to re-create the world.

The Flowering Tree Lodge is a teaching lodge of The Sweet Medicine Sun Dance tradition. This tradition was founded in 1250 B.C. by medicine women and men from tribes across the Americas. Calling themselves Twisted Hairs, they braided together *knowledge that works* from every direction on the Wheel of Life. Over time they developed tremendous amounts of knowledge about energy, ceremonial alchemy, healing techniques, communication with nature and controlled dreaming. The Twisted Hairs opened their teachings to non-natives in the 1970's. The local Sweet Medicine community gathers to learn and share together, as they reach for their highest potential.

This group meets at our building several times throughout the year. Extensive information, including fees and charges, introductory meetings and associated study groups is available at www.floweringtreelodge.net. People interested in learning more about the Sweet Medicine tradition are invited to come to monthly open houses held March-September. These include a sweat lodge ceremony.

Pre-registration is required. Contact Debbie Mast (248) 414-5376, for details.

Order of International Co-Freemasonry, Le Droit Humain (Pre-registration required) January 7 and February 25 (Sunday)

Open to both men and women, the focus is on the spiritual aspect of Freemasonry. Rituals, ceremonies, symbols, and myth are used to depict universal truths, and to help members understand where they have come from, who they are now, and where they are going. In this new millennium, the Order has a special contribution to make to both the individual and society. Its openness to women, and its emphasis on basic human rights, tolerance, and understanding for all people and all religious views, make it an important vehicle for men and women to work together in a spirit of equality and mutual respect for the betterment of the world.

Basic qualifications include: at least 21 years old; "free," not bound to a particular set of beliefs, but open to growing and learning; striving to live a life of self-improvement and service.

For information contact Mary Jo Kokochak, 517 (592-9053); email: mjkokochak@aol.com.

January 27 and February 17(Saturday) Evenings, beginning at 7:00 P.M,

David Zimmerman will be conducting monthly Saturday evening classes beginning January 27th. Classes will focus on esoteric subjects for serious students. Dates have been reserved through June, and may well be extended to the end of the year.

January 27 **WHEEL OF REBIRTH***

This lecture goes to the heart of the esoteric basis of reincarnation to reveal the truths of this ancient belief. David elucidates the principles of rebirth and provides convincing arguments for having a positive understanding of this timeless subject.

February 17 **LIFE ON OTHER PLANETS***

Esoteric teachings affirm that there is indeed life throughout the cosmos, even within our own solar system on planets other than the earth. Complex questions arise over the possibility of life having existed on the Moon, Mars and Venus. This lecture will change the way you think about life and the universe, and will provide glimpses of the true destiny of humanity, which is immortality.

(*Subject to change without notice)

A \$5.00 donation is requested at the door. Water and snacks will be supplied.

For further information contact David Zimmerman at (248) 375-0909.

A memorial gathering to honor the life and accomplishments of Robert Zuraw.

Sunday, January 28: 1:00-3:00 pm

On December 12th at the age of 65, Bob Zuraw took leave of his many friends and admirers on Planet Earth. Those who knew him are invited to join together for a memorial service to rejoice in the life of this remarkable, kind man who devoted his life energies to the betterment of the world around him. He was always available to those seeking his advice and assistance. He will be long remembered with great affection and respect.

Ongoing Activities

MONDAYS: 2ND MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH 7:00 PM

KEY TO THEOSOPHY STUDY

This monthly study group is now entering its second year. The question/answer format of this perennial Blavatsky standard is an excellent primer for theosophists at all stages of development. This class that is open to all can be joined at any time due to the stand alone character of the material. If you are interested, please call Marina Sionov at (248) 545-8553 or (248) 545-1961.

TUESDAYS: 7:30 PM TO 9:30 PM

MEMBERS STUDY

Man the Measure of all Things

Gary Contesti and Richard Brooks are jointly facilitating the study of this beautifully descriptive commentary on the Stanzas of Dzyan. Richard's command of the Sanskrit terminology makes short work of the language struggle and Gary's ease in metaphor and poetic expression brings the natural balance to this exciting exploration of man and the cosmos. Members will find this the perfect entry point to any serious study of The Secret Doctrine.

WEDNESDAYS: 7:30 – 9:00 PM SHARP

OPEN DISCUSSION

Don Elwert continues the grand tradition of the Wednesday night open forum with occasional assist from long time seeker and TS member Parke Carrier. Meetings involve a wide ranging exploration of theosophical writings and ideas, with frequent forays into Christian Mysticism, astrology and even shades of Rosicrucian thought. Discussion tends to be lively and informative, and attendees have always offered enthusiastic reviews.

THURSDAYS: MEDITATION CIRCLE

The meditators' support circle emphasizes meditation as a way to be with Spirit and in Spirit. There are no shortcuts or crash courses, no instant mysticism. We sense in stillness with others a great linkage and strengthening. We meet to support each others daily meditation. Simple instructions and much encouragement are also there for anyone just beginning. Typically, we begin with a short reading and several minutes of contemplative music, leading into two thirty minute silences. These are broken by a five interval. Participants may leave during this time or move about quietly in a meditative walk. The ninety minutes together ends with quiet conversation. Please plan to arrive a few minutes early. For information call Ron at (248) 280-4711.

DAYTIME HOURS

WED. THURS. FRI. 12:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.

Relax and browse through our lending library and book store, or visit our new media area on the lower level. Numerous videos and audio tapes are available to enjoy on site. Or browse through the tables of bargain priced used books, including the addition of two new estates.

Surely the perfect place
to spend a winter afternoon!

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

