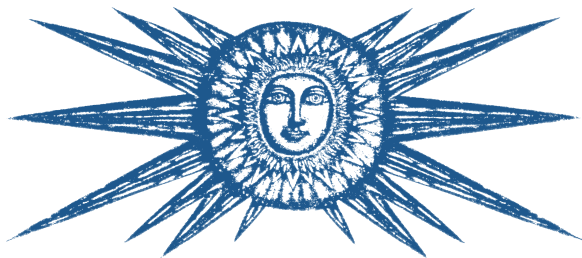


TEMENOS ACADEMY

PATRON HRH THE PRINCE OF WALES



SUMMER TERM

2018

The Temenos Academy

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SUMMER TERM 2018 *19 April – 10 July*

Office closed 28 May – 1 June

The Temenos Academy (a Company Limited by Guarantee No. 2994834) is a Registered Charity (No. 1043015) which offers education in philosophy and the arts in the light of the sacred traditions of East and West

www.temenosacademy.org

The Temenos Academy is pleased to announce its Programme for the Summer Term 2018. The addresses of the venues and instructions for booking appear on page 2.

Students in full-time education may attend lectures for free and should bring their student card with them. If using the booking form they must include their student card number.

The programme includes lectures by Jules Cashford, Professor Joscelyn Godwin, M. R. Ry. Ravi Kandamath, Dr Jeremy Naydler, Richard Ramsbotham, Dr Martin Shaw and a poetry reading by John F. Deane and James Harpur.

The fourth annual Temenos Academy Young Scholars meeting will be a two-day conference on 12–13 May held at the American College, Leuven, in collaboration with the Saint Damien Community.

The Reading Essential Texts seminars continue from last term and are Shakespeare's *Love's Labour's Lost* with Dr Joseph Milne and Plato's *Republic* with Valentin Gerlier. In addition, there will be a single seminar on the poetry of Thomas Traherne with Hilary Davies on 19 April.

For information about becoming a Member of the Temenos Academy please see page 3.

The Venues

The American College
Naamsestraat 100
3000 Leuven
Belgium

The Essex Unitarian Church
112 Palace Gardens Terrace
London W8 4RT
Nearest Underground *Notting Hill Gate*

The Lincoln Centre
18 Lincoln's Inn Fields
London WC2A 3ED
Nearest Underground *Holborn*

The Royal Asiatic Society
14 Stephenson Way
London NW1 2HD
Nearest Underground *Euston / Euston Square*

The School of Economic Science
11 Mandeville Place
London W1U 3AJ
Nearest Underground *Bond Street*

Booking

PLEASE BOOK IN ADVANCE by post using the booking form or by telephone and email but PLEASE INFORM US IF YOU NO LONGER REQUIRE YOUR RESERVATION.

Please note that a seminar course may be cancelled if there are insufficient bookings.

Membership

Please support the Temenos Academy by becoming a Member or Friend. On joining, new Members or Friends are sent the current issue of the *Temenos Academy Review*, and three other publications, *Lighting a Candle – Kathleen Raine and Temenos*, a collection of tributes to Kathleen Raine which also includes many examples of her own writing on the purpose and aims of Temenos, *Ten Basic Principles That Inspire the Work of Temenos* by John Carey and *A Human Approach to World Peace, the 2004 L M Singhvi-Temenos Lecture* by His Holiness The Dalai Lama. The other Member or Friend benefits are:

- the concessionary admission rate to lectures and seminars
- free copies of all new Temenos Academy publications as they are issued

To join, please complete the Membership section of the Booking Form at the back of this programme.

Thank you!

Mailing List

To join the free postal mailing list, and/or the free monthly email newsletter list, please complete and return the name and address section of the Booking Form, or contact us by email or telephone. The information you provide will be securely stored, never disclosed to anyone else without your permission, and deleted when you request it.

Administration

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Email temenosacademy@myfastmail.com

Media Archive

The Temenos Academy website includes a freely available archive of audio and video recordings of lectures, and the full texts of seventy articles from the *Temenos Academy Review*. Please refer to:

http://www.temenosacademy.org/temenos_audio_archive.html

Temenos Academy Review and Temenos Academy Papers

The Temenos Academy publishes an annual journal, the *Temenos Academy Review*, the successor to *Temenos* (founded by Keith Critchlow, Brian Keeble, Kathleen Raine and Philip Sherrard), published in thirteen issues between 1981 and 1992. The *Review* contains papers given at the Academy and new work, including translations, poetry, art and reviews. The editors are John Carey, James Harpur and Valentin Gerlier.

The current issue of the *Review*, no. 20, may be ordered using the Booking Form; a list of its contents appears on page 26.

Thirty-nine Temenos Academy Papers have been published. They are usually single lectures or lecture series that have been given as part of the Academy's programme. The most recent to appear is *Temenos – An Index 1981–1992*.

A Publications Catalogue – a descriptive list of all Temenos publications – can be viewed on the Temenos Academy website.

http://www.temenosacademy.org/temenos_journal.html

Temenos Academy Young Scholars

The Temenos Academy Young Scholars are an informal grouping of young students who are attracted to the Temenos Academy's approach to learning *from*, and not merely *about*, the great religious and philosophical traditions.

The Young Scholars organise Study Days of which there have so far been three:

Cosmos – the Order of Things and Our Place in the World (2015)

Finding Common Ground: Exploring Unifying Principles in Poetry, Geometry, Philosophy and Music (2016)

Making A Good Society (2017)

The 2018 Young Scholars Day, **Religious Thought in Today's World**, will be held over the weekend of 12–13 May in Leuven, Belgium. Please see page 17 for more information.

The Study Days include talks by keynote speakers and contributions from the Young Scholars themselves and are entirely free of charge.

Temenos Academy Young Scholars is open to anyone aged 18–35 years who wishes to take part in the Study Days. Young Scholars may on request receive the Temenos Academy termly programme or monthly email newsletter, and/or join as ordinary Members of Temenos by making a donation (see page 3).

Additionally, and for those interested, Young Scholars may propose and submit an *original* paper on a topic of their choice written in a way that emulates the first five of the 'Ten Basic Principles that inspire the work of Temenos'. The subject may be drawn from the Humanities in general – art, philosophy, poetry, religion. For guidance look at the work of the numerous contributors to the *Temenos Academy Review* over the last 18 years. The essay should be at least 2,000 words in length. Essays will be appraised by the Temenos Academy Academic Board or a Temenos Academy Fellow and if accepted the author will be entitled to Membership of the Academy and a free subscription to the *Temenos Academy*

Review until the age of 35. Some Young Scholars' essays may be read on the website; those of exceptional merit will be considered for publication in the *Review*.

For further information and an essay application form please refer to

http://www.temenosacademy.org/temenos_young_scholars.html

or contact the Administrators

Foundation Course in the Perennial Philosophy

A Two Year Part-Time Diploma Course

The purpose of the course is to introduce students to the universal tradition that is our spiritual heritage, through direct engagement with key texts of philosophy, poetry and mysticism. By exploring perennial teachings, which for centuries have renewed and sustained our culture, it offers a vital counterbalance to prevailing assumptions and values. The expertise of the tutors is devoted to providing the most direct encounter possible with the teachings themselves, which, springing from the love of wisdom and the quest for truth, open up infinite riches for study and contemplation. The authors and texts studied will be: in the first year, Plato and Plotinus, Dante's *Divine Comedy*, St Bernard of Clairvaux and Meister Eckhart; in the second year, the Upanishads and *Bhagavad Gita*, Lao Tzu, Chuang Tzu and the *Huai Nan Tzu*, Ibn 'Arabi, and Attar's *The Conference of the Birds*.

The course is divided into six modules, or three per year, with weekly meetings in Central London led by the module tutor on Tuesday evenings from 7–9pm. Students will be expected to read approximately 30–40 pages of text each week. Tuition will be conducted by lectures and guided discussions of the content of the previous week's reading. *Applicants must be aged 18 or over.*

The next Part 2 commences in October 2018.

Please contact Emma Clark, the Registrar, for further information

Email temenosacademy@myfastmail.com

http://www.temenosacademy.org/temenos_foundation_course.html

Thetis Blacker Temenos Batik Scholarship

The Thetis Blacker Temenos Batik Scholarship is an award made in memory of the artist Thetis Blacker to further the study of the art of batik. The award is administered by the Temenos Academy in association with the Batik Guild, a UK-based non-profit organization, which exists to encourage a wider appreciation and understanding of batik as a centuries-old craft which continues to meet the needs of creative artists working today. Thetis Blacker was a member of the Batik Guild. More information about its work can be found on its website <http://www.batikguild.org.uk>

The award, which is made every 2 years, is open to members of the Batik Guild, and other batik artists. The next award will be made in 2019.

THETIS BLACKER (1927–2006) made a notable contribution to Temenos as an artist and lecturer. Her work was first featured in *Temenos 4*, and her ‘Phoenix Egg’, designed specially for the journal, appeared on the covers of issues 6–9. During her life-time she was regarded as the pre-eminent batik artist in the West. Her brilliantly colourful and masterfully executed dye paintings were commissioned for and exhibited in cathedrals and churches in the United Kingdom, Europe and the United States. She was also a writer and the author of *A Pilgrimage of Dreams* (1973), an account of her own vivid dreams.

As a Churchill Fellow, Thetis Blacker studied the craft of batik in South East Asia. The purpose of the Thetis Blacker Temenos Batik Scholarship is primarily, but not exclusively, to support overseas research, study and travel in the field of batik creation.

*BLUE BUTTERFLIES’
EYED WINGS...*

BLUE butterflies’ eyed wings,
Eyed buzzard high in blue sky,
Mountain isles blue veiled
In fleeting shade of fleeting cloud,
Of these I am the I.

KATHLEEN RAINE

From *The Collected Poems of Kathleen Raine*
(Ipswich: Golgonooza Press, 2000)

Reading Essential Texts and the Art of Study

One of the principal aims of the Temenos Academy is to rediscover the art of study. It is commonly thought that learning is simply the acquisition of facts, of committing information to memory or, in the arts, making a critical judgement. But this conception of learning leaves out of account its true purpose, which is to come to a new level of understanding and a new order of being.

Here the Temenos Academy Reading Essential Texts seminars have a special place. In them we are engaged in exploring seminal texts which embody the finest thought, reflection and insight of mankind. Works that bear the spiritual and cultural inheritance of mankind require a special quality of study which can penetrate their essence and engage directly with the source of wisdom from whence they came. This special quality of study aims at learning from these works, not simply about them.

Therefore, the first aim of study in these seminars is to apprehend and understand texts accurately. This is the first discipline of learning. The simple discipline of accurate reading is necessary because it brings precision to the mind and opens the way to deeper reading. Without this initial precision, no deeper understanding is possible, because no contact is made with the inner order and working of the text. The mind remains outside the world of the text.

This precise and accurate reading is greatly facilitated by carefully reading aloud. Language is a spoken medium and the printed word comes fully alive and reveals all its subtleties only when spoken. Until a text begins to render up its own inherent meaning, until it begins to speak directly to us, it will only call to mind associative ideas and opinions – meanings imposed upon the text from outside. All too easily this can pass for interpretation.

Ideally, a seminar is an exploration between students in a common search for new understanding and insight. The seminar leader has the task of focussing and guiding the study towards this object. Working together in harmony is the second discipline of learning. A seminar works at its finest when it works with one mind.

Unity of purpose and unity of mind go together and create a propitious atmosphere for study. This unity arises quite naturally through the love of the work being studied and through the common quest for understanding. In true study the heart and the reason work together. Through love of a great work the heart embraces its fineness and beauty, and this fineness and beauty is an aspect of its truth, while through careful exploration the intellect discerns its wisdom. Love moves naturally to the essence of the text, while intellect naturally discerns its parts, coherence and implications. These two actions of heart and intellect are mutually reciprocal and sustain one another. Together they lead to deeper engagement with the text, and open the way to insight.

When this deeper engagement is established significant questions spontaneously emerge from the text, and these are the appropriate questions to pursue. Such questions always illuminate the text being studied. These questions lead, in turn, to a contemplative reading in which the text comes alive and its meaning becomes actually present in itself; this contemplative reading represents a higher order reading than 'critical' or 'comparative' readings.

Given this process of full engagement with the text being studied, of learning directly from the text, scholarship then finds its natural place. Learning and research may then be called upon to facilitate penetration of the text. This is the rightful place for previously acquired knowledge. Temenos seminars are not concerned with disputations between different schools of thought about the work being studied. These are matters for lectures or private study. Yet seminars ought to lay the foundations for good scholarship. For it is only through a deeper reading of the text being studied that useful and pertinent scholarly questions arise.

In summary, true study arises by three stages: accurate reading, reflective engagement, and contemplative insight.

DR JOSEPH MILNE

The study of key texts in small seminar groups

Love's Labour's Lost

by WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Leader Dr Joseph Milne

Text the Arden edition

25 April – 27 June

Wednesdays, 10 weekly sessions

Time 3 – 4.30pm (please arrive promptly)

Venue The School of Economic Science

Three young men dedicate themselves to a life of study and contemplation in the hope of winning honour and fame. Leaving behind all worldly desires, they forget the power of love, and that love is the great teacher of the life of honour and virtue. And so their plans are undermined when each falls in love, and their true education begins. This most delightful early play gives us a glimpse of Shakespeare's philosophy of transformative love, developed in the later comedies as heroic and sacrificial love. Continues from last term.

JOSEPH MILNE has made a significant contribution to the Temenos Academy by giving numerous lectures and seminars over the past 26 years. He is a trustee of The Eckhart Society and of the Henry George Foundation of Great Britain, and editor of the Foundation's journal *Land & Liberty*; he is also a Fellow of the Temenos Academy and author of the Temenos Academy Papers *The Ground of Being – Foundations of Christian Mysticism, Metaphysics and the Cosmic Order* and *The Mystical Cosmos*.

Course cost

£100 or £75 Members of the Temenos Academy/
Concessions.

Those attending must be aged 18 or over.

The study of key texts in small seminar groups

The Poetry of Thomas Traherne

Leader Hilary Davies

Texts *Thomas Traherne – Poetry & Prose* ed. Denise Inge
(ISBN 978 0281054688)

19 April

Time 7 – 9pm (please arrive promptly)

Venue The Essex Unitarian Church (The Library)

In this seminar we will examine how the 17th century poet Thomas Traherne understood the relationship between man and his God, between the Creator and the created world. Through a close reading of chosen poetic texts, we will explore the way he spoke about the natural world; childhood; sin and redemption; the microcosm of man and the macrocosm of the universe; and visionary experience.

HILARY DAVIES read French and German at Oxford. She was Head of the Modern Languages Department at St Paul's Girls' School, London for nineteen years. From 2012–16 she was Royal Literary Fund Fellow at King's College, London. Hilary won an Eric Gregory award in 1983, was First prize-winner in the Cheltenham Literature Festival poetry competition in 1987, has been a Hawthornden Fellow, and was Chairman of the Poetry Society of Great Britain 1992–3. She co-founded the poetry magazine *ARGO* and was its co-editor between 1978 and 1990. She reviews regularly for the *Times Literary Supplement*, *The Tablet* and other literary publications. Hilary Davies is the author of five collections of poetry, the most recent being *Exile and the Kingdom* (Enitharmon, 2016).

Cost

£8 or £6 Members of the Temenos Academy/
Concessions.

Those attending must be aged 18 or over.

The study of key texts in small seminar groups

The Republic

by PLATO

Leader Valentin Gerlier

Text Translation by Joe Sachs

Focus Publishing, ISBN 978-1585102617

30 April – 25 June

Mondays, 9 weekly sessions, including bank holidays

Time 6.45 – 8.15pm (please arrive promptly)

Venue London SW10; full address on booking

A dialogue devoted to the founding of ‘a just city in speech’, the *Republic* is a universal work, somehow familiar yet deeply mysterious, an exploration of the human condition through the fundamental question of the relationship between soul, *polis*, and cosmos. But the *Republic* is also an inexhaustible literary treasure, at once poetic and philosophical, humorous and tragic, playful and mythic. These text seminars will study the *Republic* as an adventure into philosophy, a way of approaching the deep and enduring questions of life through Socrates’ teaching: a mode of enquiry that can guide us to the edge of wonder, where philosophy begins. Continues from last term.

Those attending are asked to obtain their own copies of the recommended text.

VALENTIN GERLIER is a teacher, novelist and musician. He is currently engaged in doctoral research on Shakespeare and the Language of Grace at the University of Cambridge.

Course cost

£68 or £54 Members of the Temenos Academy/
Concessions.

Those attending must be aged 18 or over.

Limited to a maximum of 10 participants.

Spirit and Nature

Small Gods: An Earth That Thinks in Myth

DR MARTIN SHAW

Tuesday 8 May

In the chair Dr Leonard Lewisohn

Venue The Royal Asiatic Society

Doors open at 6.30pm

Lecture begins promptly at 7pm

Concludes 8.30pm

We hear it everywhere these days: time for a new story – some enthusiastic sweep of narrative that becomes, overnight, the myth of our times. A container for all this ecological trouble, this peak-oil business, this malaise of numbness that seems to shroud even the most privileged. A new story. Just the one. That simple. Painless. Everything solved. Lovely and neat.

The speaker will suggest that the stories we need turned up, right on time, about five thousand years ago. But they're not simple, neat, or painless. That this urge for a new story is the tourniquet for a less articulated desire: to behold the earth actually speaking through words again, more than some shiny, new, never-considered thought. That we won't get a story worth hearing until we witness a culture broken open by its own consequence.

Storytellers weren't always cosy figures, dumping allegories into children's mouths; they were edge characters, prophetic emissaries. They had more in common with magicians, as loose with the tongue of a wolf as with a twinkly fireside anecdote.

So the stories are here, but *are we*?

Martin Shaw doesn't think we have the stories but that the stories have us. They charge vividly through our betrayals, illicit passions, triumphs, and generosity. Psyche is not neatly contained in our chest as we scuttle between appointments; we dwell within psyche: gregarious, up close, chaotic, astonishing, sometimes tragic, often magical.

In this lecture Martin Shaw will speak of mythology as the heart of ecology, as romanticism, as activism. Using

myth, poetics and philosophy he will invoke the crucial need for story to be at the very centre of any discussion concerning the times we live in.

MARTIN SHAW is a mythologist, writer and teacher of wilderness rites-of-passage. He founded the Oral Tradition course at Stanford University, and has contributed to Desmond Tutu's leadership programme at Templeton College, Oxford. His books include the 'Myhteller' trilogy, *A Branch from the Lightning Tree*, *Snowy Tower* and *Scatterlings*. Robert Bly has described him as 'a true master, one of the very greatest storytellers we have.'

Admission

£8 or £5 Members of the Temenos Academy/Concessions
Full-time students with student ID card FREE

*The Saint Damien Community and
The Temenos Academy Young Scholars Conference*

Religious Thought in Today's World

Saturday 12 – Sunday 13 May

In the chair Aristel Škrbić

Venue American College, Leuven, Belgium

Saturday 9am – 6pm

Sunday 9am – 5pm

Keynote speakers

PROFESSOR WILLIAM DESMOND (IRELAND)

DR JOHN ALONSO DICK (USA)

VALENTIN GERLIER (UK)

DR JOSEPH MILNE (UK)

The conference will bring together interdisciplinary approaches from theology and philosophy to reflect on the place of religious thought in an increasingly secular world. From mysticism to ethics, from sacred poetry to metaphysics, the overarching aim of the conference is to present a vision that affirms the unique contribution of sacred thought to the world.

The conference is open to anyone aged 18–35.

Admission is free, breakfast and lunch will be provided.

Booking

Please register in advance using the form on the Temenos Academy website

<http://www.temenosacademy.org/2018-Young-Scholars-Flyer.pdf>

Accommodation

Please contact the organiser Aristel Škrbić for details of accommodation, which will be either in student shared accommodation or in youth hostels, hotels etc. around Leuven

aristel.skrbic@student.kuleuven.be

**‘There is, Within Our Lives,
An Exact Mystery’
The Inner Biography of Vernon Watkins**
RICHARD RAMSBOTHAM

Wednesday 23 May

In the chair Grevel Lindop

Venue The Royal Asiatic Society

Doors open at 6.30pm

Lecture begins promptly at 7pm

Concludes 8.30pm

Vernon Watkins remains one of the great riddles of twentieth century poetry. Although for those who have experienced his work there is no doubt about his poetic and spiritual stature (Kathleen Raine called him ‘the greatest lyric poet of my generation’), in the mainstream cultural and literary world there is almost complete silence about him. This *silence*, however, can itself become a doorway not only to his poetry but also to a greater spiritual presence than we are ordinarily aware of. When we further explore Vernon Watkins’s inner biography, he is increasingly revealed both as one of the great poets and as one of the great spiritual witnesses of his time.

This lecture will explore all this, as well as offering an experience of certain aspects of Watkins’s inner biography through the performance of some of his poetry.

RICHARD RAMSBOTHAM is a writer, performer and theatre director. He has taught at Warsaw University and Emerson College. Among his performances have been ‘William Blake’s *Milton*’ and ‘I am Andrej Belyj’. He has also directed Rudolf Steiner’s Mystery Dramas. He has completed the first volume (unpublished) of a two-part biography of Vernon Watkins. He is the author of *Who Wrote Bacon?* (2004) and the editor of *New Selected Poems of Vernon Watkins* (Carcenet, 2006).

Admission

£8 or £5 Members of the Temenos Academy/Concessions
Full-time students with student ID card FREE

Seeking Reality – Tantrics, Jains, Brahmins, Buddhists and Vedic Hindus in South India

M. R. RY. RAVI KANDAMATH

Wednesday 13 June

In the chair Dr Stephen Cross

Venue The Royal Asiatic Society

Doors open at 6.30pm

Lecture begins promptly at 7pm

Concludes 8.30pm

How did Hinduism manage to survive the test of time? In this lecture, we will trace the history and heritage of Hinduism as embodied in the different systems of thought, belief and practice in the temples of the southernmost part of the Indian sub-continent where ancient rituals of worship have withstood the onslaught of newer cults, religious beliefs, systems of philosophy, empires and material progress from the dawn of reflection until the present day.

The continuity of spiritual insight through *rishis* ('seers') is the true genius of the Indian religion. The object of the search is an awareness of the spiritual meaning of existence, which was found to be, in *Shivam* (goodness), in *Advaitam* (oneness, the truth of the perfect union in yoga). The *Gurus* (teachers) of India taught that one must never cease from *Karma* (action) but perform *Karma* in accordance with *Dharma* (cosmic law), in the presence of the Eternal, with the pure knowledge of the spiritual meaning of existence.

That supreme one, above all distinctions and without any tinge of material qualities, endowed with immense, multifarious and unlimited potencies gives birth to and brings into being the material modes of nature in the beginning, dispenses the inherent needs of all those with names & forms and in whom the world dissolves at the end, may that supreme one endow us with a pure intellect to unite us to one another with wisdom, the wisdom of goodness!

Śvetāśvatara Upaniṣad 4.1 (c. 5th century BCE)
Based on Rabindranath Tagore's translation

M. R. RY. RAVI KANDAMATH LL B, FRAS, belongs to a former ruling family of Southern India in the lineage of the Thachudaya Kaimals of Travancore. Deriving an ancient heritage inherited from the Tantric, Vedic, Jain, Buddhist and modern Hindu schools of thought, the Thachudaya Kaimal is considered to be the visible representation of the presiding deity of the Koodalmanickam Temple in Kerala. A lawyer and former public servant, he is a keen student of Sanskrit literature and has contributed to numerous publications on artistic, historical, literary, political and social topics.

Admission

£8 or £5 Members of the Temenos Academy/Concessions
Full-time students with student ID card FREE

The Harmony of the Spheres, in Theory and Practice

PROFESSOR JOSCELYN GODWIN

Thursday 28 June

In the chair Ian Skelly

Venue The Royal Asiatic Society

Doors open at 6.30pm

Lecture begins promptly at 7pm

Concludes 8.30pm

That the heavenly bodies make something akin to harmony has been an inspiration to mythographers and a stimulus to scientific speculation since ancient times. It is at the heart of the Pythagorean tradition, and of the medieval philosophy of music. Much later, composers have taken up the challenge of representing or evoking that harmony. Musical examples from several centuries will show how they have gone about it, and what intentions and philosophies underlie their work.

JOSCELYN GODWIN was educated as a chorister at Christ Church Cathedral School, Oxford, then at Radley College (Music Scholar), and Magdalene College, Cambridge (Music Scholar, BA, Mus. B and MA). After moving to the United States he gained a PhD in Musicology from Cornell University, taught at Cleveland State University and, from 1971, in Colgate University Music Department, where he is Emeritus Professor of Music. A prolific author, editor and translator his books include *Robert Fludd: Hermetic Philosopher and Surveyor of Two Worlds*, *Harmonies of Heaven and Earth* and *Atlantis and the Cycles of Time: Prophecies, Traditions and Occult Revelations*. He is a Fellow of the Temenos Academy.

Admission

£8 or £5 Members of the Temenos Academy/Concessions

Full-time students with student ID card FREE

Living in the Shadow of the Machine: The Computer and Human Consciousness

DR JEREMY NAYDLER

Wednesday 4 July

In the chair Daniel Docherty

Venue The Royal Asiatic Society

Doors open at 6.30pm

Lecture begins promptly at 7pm

Concludes 8.30pm

Why is it that the computer has assumed a position of such predominance in our culture? What processes in human consciousness have produced the situation we now find ourselves in, with contemporary life so deeply reliant upon, and so deeply interwoven with, electronic technologies? And what philosophical and spiritual significance does our increasing dependence on electronic technologies have, both for our relationship to Nature and for our human future?

None of these questions can be answered easily or simply, for the computer was the product of a long historical development, which culminated in the emergence of modern secular consciousness. The first mechanical calculators were invented at precisely the moment when the materialistic worldview of modern science began to replace the traditional spiritual worldview, which had been sustained throughout the medieval period. As an icon of the new consciousness, the computer presents a profound challenge to us all, for it asks us ever more urgently: what does it mean to be human, and what, if anything, distinguishes us from machines?

JEREMY NAYDLER is a Fellow of the Temenos Academy and teaches the Dante module on the Temenos Foundation Course in the Perennial Philosophy. His most recent book is *In the Shadow of the Machine: the Prehistory of the Computer and the Evolution of Consciousness*.

Admission

£8 or £5 Members of the Temenos Academy/Concessions

Full-time students with student ID card FREE

Spirit and Nature

The Return of Gaia

JULES CASHFORD

Monday 9 July

In the chair Dr Jeremy Naydler

Venue The Lincoln Centre

Doors open at 6.15pm

Lecture begins promptly at 6.45pm

Concludes 8pm

Gaia was the Ancient Greek Goddess Earth who was worshipped over two and a half thousand years ago as ‘Mother of all, the oldest one, the foundation’ (*Homeric Hymn to Gaia*). Yet, as though in answer to the crisis of our time, her name, and the memory of a sacred animate Earth, seems to have come back into the western sensibility in the last forty years, and since then to have acquired an autonomous life of its own, becoming a symbol of a new relationship to the universe. We will explore the ‘Return of Gaia’ through Owen Barfield’s work on the three stages of the evolution of consciousness: from what he calls ‘Original Participation,’ through 2000 years of withdrawal of participation, to ‘Final Participation’ – the present, with its opportunity to reunite the two earlier stages in a new form through the Imagination.

JULES CASHFORD studied Philosophy at St Andrews and Literature at Cambridge, before training as a Jungian Analyst. She now writes and lectures on Myth and Imagination. She is the author of *The Moon: Symbol of Transformation*, *Gaia: From Story of Origin to Universe Story*, *The Mysteries of Osiris*, and translator of *The Homeric Hymns*. She is a member of the International Association of Analytical Psychology (IAAP), a trustee of the Gaia Foundation, and a Fellow of the Temenos Academy.

Admission

£8 or £5 Members of the Temenos Academy/Concessions

Full-time students with student ID card FREE

Poetry Reading: Pilgrims of the Soul

JOHN F. DEANE & JAMES HARPUR

Tuesday 10 July

In the chair Hilary Davies

Venue The Lincoln Centre

Doors open at 6.15pm

Reading begins promptly at 6.45pm

Concludes 8pm

In a rare visit from Ireland, John F. Deane and James Harpur, two of the country's finest faith/spiritual poets, will launch their two new books, published by Carcanet Press. In *Dear Pilgrims* John F. Deane describes actual pilgrimages as the poet moves through England (especially East Anglia), Israel and Palestine, disclosing a 'new testament' that revises the Christian faith through the eyes of an unknown female disciple of Christ. Elsewhere he develops an adaptation of the Middle English poem *Pearl*, and offers a sequence of sonnets that presents a challenging view of Christ, a kind of fifth Gospel.

James Harpur's *The White Silhouette* explores the numinous in poems that range from a snowy pilgrimage from West Cork to Dorset and the Perseids' meteor shower to Russian icons, Puritan iconoclasm and the extraordinary sacred art of the Book of Kells. The title poem is a 'compelling spiritual memoir' (*TLS*) set in the spiritual landscapes of Wiltshire, Tipperary, and Patmos.

JOHN F. DEANE is founder of Poetry Ireland, *Poetry Ireland Review* and Dedalus Press. He is a member of Aosdána, the Irish academy of the arts, and lives in Dublin.

JAMES HARPUR read English at Trinity College, Cambridge, and is poetry editor of the *Temenos Academy Review*. He is a member of Aosdána and lives in West Cork.

Admission free

Raimon Panikkar Centenary

The centenary of the birth of Raimon Panikkar falls in 2018. Panikkar was a Roman Catholic priest, theologian, scholar and author who had a particular interest in inter-religious dialogue. He was born in Spain, of a Spanish Catholic mother and an Indian Hindu father. He was ordained a priest in 1946. In 1954 he visited India for the first time. There he met and befriended Henri Le Saux (also known as Swami Abhishiktananda) and Murray and Mary Rogers, founders of the Jyotiniketan Ashram. Subsequently, through teaching, scholarship and practice as a priest, Panikkar devoted his life to inter-faith dialogue, inter-cultural understanding, and to exploring how Christianity should evolve in the 21st century. Illness prevented him from speaking at Temenos but his work was published in *Temenos Academy Review*. He died in 2010.

There will be events around the world to mark the centenary – in France, Italy, India, Latin America, Spain and the United States.

Blessed Simplicity and Harmonious Complexity: The Prophetic Vision of Raimon Panikkar, a celebration of the life and work of Raimon Panikkar, will be held at Magdalene College, Cambridge (Benson Hall) on 11 April, from 4–7.30pm. There will be contributions by Dr Rowan Williams, Master of Magdalene, and Professor Mario Aguilar, Professor of Divinity at the University of St Andrews, among others.

<https://www.magd.cam.ac.uk/events/raimon-panikkar>

The event is free to attend. Please contact clarissa.balaszkeskul@gmail.com to book tickets.

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Acknowledgement of Divinity

Love of Wisdom, as the essential
basis of civilization

Spiritual vision as the life-breath of civilization

Maintenance of the revered traditions
of mankind

Understanding of tradition as
continual renewal

The provision of teaching by the best
teachers available in their disciplines and of
publications which set the highest standard
in both content and design

Mindfulness that the purpose of teaching
is to enable students to apply in their own lives
that which they learn

To make Temenos known to all those
who may benefit from its work

Reminding ourselves and those we teach
to look up and not down

Governance of the Temenos Academy itself
in the light of the above principles

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