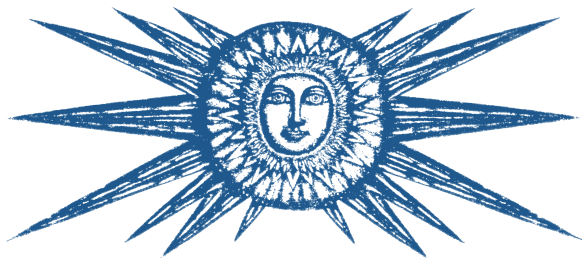


TEMENOS ACADEMY

PATRON HRH THE PRINCE OF WALES



SUMMER TERM

2019

# The Temenos Academy

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## *Patron*

His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales

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Dr Kathleen Raine CBE

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## *Chair*

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Ms Emma Clark

Mrs Julia Cleave

Ms Hilary Davies

Mr Valentin Gerlier

Mr Jack Herbert

Professor Grevel Lindop

Dr Joseph Milne

Dr Jeremy Naydler

SUMMER TERM 2019 29 April – 12 July

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](http://www.temenosacademy.org)

The Temenos Academy is pleased to announce its Programme for the Summer Term 2019. The addresses of the venues and instructions for booking appear on page 2.

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

The Summer Term Programme includes two day-meetings. The Fourth John Michell Symposium 'The Geometer's Breakfast' is on Saturday 22 June and the speakers are Julia Cleave, Professor Joscelyn Godwin (from the USA), Gary Lachman, Professor Michael Schneider (from the USA) and Adam Tetlow. 'The Learning of the Imagination: Wisdom Traditions and Sacred Vision' is on Wednesday 3 July at the Lampeter campus of the University of Wales Trinity Saint David; the speakers are Hilary Davies, Howard Hull, Professor Grevel Lindop and Dr Joseph Milne.

The other lecturers this term are Dr Juan Acevedo; Dr Stephen Blackwood, a scholar of Boethius from the USA; Valentin Gerlier; Dr Henrietta Leyser; Professor Andrew Louth; Dr M. N. Nandakumara; Dr Alison Roberts.

The Reading Essential Texts seminars studying Shakespeare's *King Lear* with Dr Joseph Milne, and The Gospel of John with Valentin Gerlier, continue.

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

## The Venues

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The Art Workers' Guild

6 Queen Square

London WC1N 3AT

Nearest Underground *Russell Square*

The Royal Asiatic Society

14 Stephenson Way

London NW1 2HD

Nearest Underground *Euston Square*

The School of Economic Science

11 Mandeville Place

London W1U 3AJ

Nearest Underground *Bond Street*

University of Wales Trinity Saint David

Founder's Library

Lampeter Campus

Lampeter

Ceredigion SA48 7ED

## Booking

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**PLEASE BOOK IN ADVANCE by post using the booking form or by telephone or 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

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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 & Privacy Policy

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If you wish to join the free postal mailing list, and/or subscribe to the free monthly email newsletter you must give your consent, either by signing and dating the name and address section of the Booking Form and returning it to us, or by making your request by email or letter.

The information you provide will be securely stored, never disclosed to anyone else without your permission, and deleted when you request it. Our Privacy Policy is published on the Temenos Academy website under 'Newsletter Subscription'. Please refer to [https://www.temenosacademy.org/temenos\\_newsletter.html](https://www.temenosacademy.org/temenos_newsletter.html)

## Administration

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Stephen & Genevieve Overy

The Temenos Academy

P O Box 203, Ashford, Kent TN25 5ZT

*Telephone* 01233 813663

*Email* [temenosacademy@myfastmail.com](mailto:temenosacademy@myfastmail.com)

## Media Archive

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

[https://www.temenosacademy.org/temenos\\_media\\_archive.html](https://www.temenosacademy.org/temenos_media_archive.html)

## *Temenos Academy Review* and Temenos Academy Papers

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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 and available digitally on our website. 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 2018 issue of the *Review*, no. 21, may be ordered using the Booking Form; a list of its contents appears on page 29.

Forty-three 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 are *The Lost Vision of Nature* by Joseph Milne and *The Perennial Philosophy and the Recovery of a Theophanic View of Nature* by Jeremy Naydler.

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

[https://www.temenosacademy.org/temenos\\_journal.html](https://www.temenosacademy.org/temenos_journal.html)

## Temenos Academy Young Scholars

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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 or Conferences of which there have been six so far:

**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)

**Religious Thought in Today's World** (2018)

**The Gift of Language** (2018)

**'Deep roots are not reached by the frost':**

**The Inklings and the Western Tradition** (2019)

The next Young Scholars Day will be held in Cambridge in October.

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, 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. Essays of exceptional merit will be considered for publication in the *Review*.

*For further information and an essay application form please refer to*

<https://www.temenosacademy.org>

*or contact the Administrators*



# Foundation Course in the Perennial Philosophy

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## 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 al-'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 1 commences in October 2019.

Please contact Emma Clark, the Registrar, for further information

*Email* [temenosacademy@myfastmail.com](mailto:temenosacademy@myfastmail.com)

[http://www.temenosacademy.org/temenos\\_foundationcourse.html](http://www.temenosacademy.org/temenos_foundationcourse.html)

## Thetis Blacker Temenos Batik Scholarship

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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 <https://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 winner of the 2019 award is Seyram Agbleze for a project on traditional batik dyeing in West Africa.**

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 for the journal, appeared on the covers of issues 6–9. In 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.

## SUMMER GARDEN

Now, now and now  
Northern sky over me,  
Sun filtering through  
Grey summer haze,  
Swifts feeding high,  
Two by two  
Looping and diving,  
Their new throats utter  
Remembered voices.  
In this old garden  
Flowers bloom on  
That my mother grew  
And her mother before,  
Sweet-williams and pansies,  
The little white rose  
The Jacobites wore.  
Southernwood  
And scent of briar  
Spread on the evening  
Memory of joy  
That is always new.  
Those sweet fore-mothers  
Lived in this place  
That has no ending,  
These flowers were theirs,  
This northern summer,  
These swifts that fly  
In fair weather high  
In the delicate air.

Was their July  
Milder than mine,  
Their sky purer  
Than over me now  
As history darkens?  
Were their hearts lighter,  
Being innocent  
Of what was to come  
In the world I know?  
Or is it I  
Who for them see  
This ageless beauty  
Made anew  
Because they hoped  
For such a day  
As I live now,  
Because they gave,  
Life after life,  
The words of song  
To a secret joy  
That in them grew?

KATHLEEN RAINE

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

## New publications

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**JOSEPH MILNE**

### **The Lost Vision of Nature**

Temenos Academy Papers 41

48 pages

ISBN 978 1 9164818 0 0 *paper*

Price £8

**JEREMY NAYDLER**

### **The Perennial Philosophy and the Recovery of a Theophanic View of Nature**

Temenos Academy Papers 43

21 pages

ISBN 978 1 9164818 3 1 *paper*

Price £6

Prices include postage in the United Kingdom.  
Please order using the Booking Form.

## Reading Essential Texts and the Art of Study

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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

***King Lear***

by WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

*Leader* Dr Joseph Milne

*Text* the Arden edition

**1 May – 10 July**

Wednesdays, 10 weekly sessions, **no meeting 3 July**

*Time* 3 – 4.30pm (please arrive promptly)

*Venue* The School of Economic Science

Continuing from last term.

JOSEPH MILNE is a Fellow of the Temenos Academy and a member of its Academic Board.

**Course cost**

£100 or £75 Members of the Temenos Academy/  
Concessions; £40 full-time students and Temenos  
Academy Young Scholars.

*Those attending must be aged 18 or over.*



The study of key texts in small seminar groups

## **The Gospel of John**

*Leader* Valentin Gerlier

*Texts* The King James Version and *The New Testament: A Translation* by David Bentley Hart (Yale University Press, 2018). The first text is required and the second recommended reading.

### **29 April – 1 July**

Mondays, 10 weekly sessions, including bank holidays

*Time* 6.45 – 8.15pm (please arrive promptly)

*Venue* London NW3; full address on booking

Continuing from last term.

*Those attending are asked to bring their own copies of the required 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. A member of the Temenos Academy Academic Board, he teaches the ‘Metaphysics’ module of the Foundation Course in the Perennial Philosophy.

### **Course cost**

£75 or £60 Members of the Temenos Academy/  
Concessions.

*Those attending must be aged 18 or over.*

Limited to a maximum of 10 participants.

# Hathor's Alchemy: The Ancient Egyptian Roots of the Hermetic Art

DR ALISON ROBERTS

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**Wednesday 8 May**

*In the chair* Julia Cleave

*Venue* The Royal Asiatic Society

Doors open at 6.30pm

Lecture begins promptly at 7pm

Concludes 8.30pm

When teaching how to accomplish spiritual unification in the *Masnavi*, Jalaluddin Rumi advises ‘Try alchemy. Change copper into gold’ (*Masnavi* 1 3894). Surprisingly, he refers here, not to the Sulphur–Mercury theory, which is generally understood to be the basis of alchemy, but to transforming copper, the metal of the love goddess Venus – or Hathor in her Egyptian guise. Indeed, in Book 2 of the *Masnavi*, Rumi hints at his alchemical lineage, for he devotes a whole section to Dhu’l Nun al-Misri, the ninth century Egyptian Sufi and alchemist from Akhmim/Panopolis, revered by Sufis as the transmitter of the Egyptian secrets. What is little known, however, is Akhmim’s long tradition of transforming copper, which not only inspired the fourth century alchemists, Zosimus of Panopolis and his *soror mystica* Theosebia, but also re-emerged in Western treatises like *Aurora consurgens*, *Donum Dei*, and the *Rosarium philosophorum* through an Islamic transmission. Alchemists, including Zosimus, have always said their ‘science’ came from the Egyptian temples, but when re-expressed in their new idiom, and as a revelation of Hermes, its ‘Egyptianness’ became increasingly obscured.

ALISON ROBERTS studied ancient Egyptian and Akkadian at Oxford University where she received her doctorate in 1984. This talk is based on her recent book *Hathor's Alchemy: The Ancient Egyptian Roots of the Hermetic Art* (2019).

## **Admission**

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

Full-time students with student ID card FREE

# Bulgakov and Russian Sophiology

PROFESSOR ANDREW LOUTH

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**Wednesday 15 May**

*In the chair* Dr Joseph Milne

*Venue* The Royal Asiatic Society

Doors open at 6.30pm

Lecture begins promptly at 7pm

Concludes 8.30pm

Father Sergii Bulgakov (1871–1944), widely regarded as one of the most important Orthodox theologians/thinkers of the twentieth century, was a controversial figure. The controversy largely revolved round his developments of Russian speculation about Sophia, the Wisdom of God, for which he suffered ecclesiastical censure. Such speculation about Sophia has various roots: apart from the figure of Sophia in the Wisdom Literature of the Christian Bible, and use of this made by the so-called ‘gnostics’ of the second century of the Christian millennium, reflection on Sophia played a striking role in the ‘mystical’ or ‘esoteric’ undercurrent that accompanied the ‘mainline’ tradition of post-Renaissance philosophy and had a profound influence on German idealism, while Russian defenders of Sophia pointed to elements in the liturgical tradition of the Russian Orthodox Church. Reflection about Sophia was, for Bulgakov, not just a speculative matter, but was bound up with his rediscovery, after a period as an atheist Marxist, of his ancestral faith, which entailed a deep sense of the sacredness of the world of nature. Part of Bulgakov’s importance lies in his sensitivity to traditions in Western thought in the post-medieval period, often regarded as alien to traditional Christian belief, this without, however, any weakening of his own attachment to a firmly Orthodox faith.

Educated at Cambridge and Edinburgh, ANDREW LOUTH read mathematics and then theology. For forty years, he taught in universities at Oxford, London, and Durham, and is mostly known as a patristic scholar. After retirement in 2010, he spent some years with

the newly founded Amsterdam Centre for Orthodox Theology at Vrije Universiteit; out of that experience he wrote more explicitly as an Orthodox theologian, having been received into the Orthodox Church in 1989, and ordained as a priest of the Russian Orthodox Church (Diocese of Sourozh, Moscow Patriarchate) in 2003. He has written many books, including *The Origins of the Christian Mystical Tradition* (1981, new edition 2007), *Denys the Areopagite* (1989), *St John Damascene: Tradition and Originality in Byzantine Theology* (2002), and more recently *Modern Orthodox Thinkers: from the Philokalia to the present* (2015).

### **Admission**

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

# The Mystery and the Mysticism of Christina of Markyate (c.1096–c.1160)

DR HENRIETTA LEYSER

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## Monday 20 May

*In the chair* Hilary Davies

*Venue* The Royal Asiatic Society

Doors open at 6.30pm

Lecture begins promptly at 7pm

Concludes 8.30pm

The twelfth-century recluse Christina was prioress of Markyate, near St Albans. Determined to devote her life to God and to remain a virgin, Christina repulses the sexual advances of the bishop of Durham. In revenge he arranges her betrothal to a young nobleman, but Christina steadfastly refuses to consummate the marriage and defies her parents' cruel coercion. Sustained by visions, she finds refuge with the hermit Roger, and lives concealed at Markyate for four years, enduring terrible physical and emotional torment. Although Christina is supported by the abbot of St Albans, she never achieves the recognition that he intended for her. In her talk Henrietta Leyser will examine the deep-seated reluctance to accord Christina a place among medieval English mystics.

HENRIETTA LEYSER is an emeritus Fellow of St Peter's College, Oxford. Her publications include *Hermits and the New Monasticism* (1984) and *Medieval Women: a social history of women in England 450–1500* (1995). With Samuel Fanous she has both edited a collection of essays entitled *Christina of Markyate, A Twelfth Century Holy Woman* (2005) and produced a revised translation of the Oxford World's Classics *Life of Christina of Markyate* (2008). She has also contributed a chapter to eds Samuel Fanous and Vincent Gillespie, *The Cambridge Companion to Medieval English Mysticism* (2011).

## Admission

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

# Alphanumeric Cosmology: The Grammar and Arithmetic of the Cosmos

DR JUAN ACEVEDO

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## Monday 10 June

*In the chair* Emma Clark

*Venue* The Royal Asiatic Society

Doors open at 6.30pm

Lecture begins promptly at 7pm

Concludes 8.30pm

The civilizations that grew around the Mediterranean in the early Middle Ages had as one of their basic shared doctrines the idea that physical reality is ultimately made of letters, or rather letter-numbers, hence that the world is a book, or a proportional, harmonic composition. This talk will explore the origins and variations of this idea in Pythagorean doctrines, and its changing faces through cultures and languages, including Hebrew and Arabic, and Jewish, Christian, and Islamic sources. We will see how this key concept of the letter-element is fundamental for a metaphysical understanding of creation through language, of magic, prayer, and even our own contemporary science.

JUAN ACEVEDO studied Classics and Biblical Hebrew in his native Venezuela, where he is a published poet and essayist. His lifelong interest in the language of the birds, and years of experience as a typesetter came to fruition in a doctoral thesis for the Warburg Institute, 'The Idea of the Letter-Elements (Stoicheia) in Grammar and Cosmology: From Ancient Roots to Medieval Systems'. Juan has worked for many years as director of the Matheson Trust for Comparative Religion.

## Admission

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

Full-time students with student ID card FREE

# Recollection and Self-Possession: Finding the Still Centre Amidst Time and Change

DR STEPHEN BLACKWOOD

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## Wednesday 19 June

*In the chair* Dr Jeremy Naydler

*Venue* The Art Workers' Guild

Doors open at 6.30pm

Lecture begins promptly at 7pm

Concludes 8.30pm

Boethius' *Consolation of Philosophy*, written in the twilight of the ancient world by a man soon to face execution, urgently explores the question of whether and how we can attain stability and self-knowledge amidst injustice, misfortune, distraction, and the movement of time.

DR STEPHEN BLACKWOOD is President of Ralston College, Savannah, USA and a Member of the Cambridge Centre for the Study of Platonism. His writings and lectures include studies of the seminal figures of Western culture – Plato, Boethius and Dante among others. His *The Consolation of Boethius as Poetic Liturgy* is published by Oxford University Press (2015).

## Admission

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

Full-time students with student ID card FREE

# The Geometer's Breakfast

## The Fourth John Michell Symposium

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**Saturday 22 June**

*In the chair* Christine Rhone

*Venue* The Art Workers' Guild

Doors open 9.45 for 10am

Concludes 5pm

**Julia Cleave** The Shakespeare Authorship Question

**Joscelyn Godwin** The Philosophy of Charles Fort

**Gary Lachman** John Michell in the Stream of the Sixties

**Michael Schneider** The New Jerusalem Diagram & the  
Geometer's Breakfast

**Adam Tetlow** A Harmonic Universe: Ancient Metrology,  
Geometry and the Quadrivium

The visionary writings of John Michell emerged in the stream of the sixties with *View Over Atlantis*, his revival of Alfred Watkin's work on landscape alignments and his decoding of the cosmic dimensions of Stonehenge. Obsessed with the perennial beauty of geometry and number, and the mystery of the unexplained, he took great delight in challenging received ideas. The humorous title of his watercolour, 'The Geometer's Breakfast', may suggest the variety of subject matter in this Symposium.

JULIA CLEAVE is an independent scholar, a Fellow of the Temenos Academy and a member of its Academic Board.

JOSCELYN GODWIN is an author and translator, Professor of Music Emeritus at Colgate University, New York, and a Fellow of the Temenos Academy.

GARY LACHMAN is a former musician and band member of 'Blondie' and author of books including *Lost Knowledge of the Imagination* (2017).

MICHAEL SCHNEIDER is Senior Adjunct Professor at California College of the Arts and author of *A Beginner's Guide to Constructing the Universe* (1995).

ADAM TETLOW is a geometer and teacher, and author of *Celtic Pattern* (2013).



## **Admission**

£55 or £50 Members of the Temenos Academy/  
Concessions

A limited number of advance tickets at £25 will be  
available to full-time students with student ID.

Includes tea/coffee breaks but not lunch.

**Please book in advance.**

There will be an extra geometry workshop, **Drawing  
the Cosmological Circle: A Practical Workshop**,  
with Michael Schneider and Adam Tetlow on Sunday  
23 June, 11am – 3pm. Booking via Leon Conrad:  
[leon@lifeloreinstitute.com](mailto:leon@lifeloreinstitute.com)

# Sanskrit as a Sacred Language

DR M. N. NANDAKUMARA

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**Wednesday 26 June**

*In the chair* Vinod Tailor

*Venue* The Royal Asiatic Society

Doors open at 6.30pm

Lecture begins promptly at 7pm

Concludes 8.30pm

Sanskrit is an Indian classical language whose history stretches back over three thousand years. For much of that time, Sanskrit has been the primary vehicle of intellectual, literary, and religious expression in India. The earliest Sanskrit is Vedic, the language of the *Vedas*. These are religious texts with poetic and philosophical elements, which over time became the authoritative, revealed literature of Brahmanical Hinduism. Most Hindu religious literature, and the heroic epics the *Mahābhārata* and the *Rāmāyana*, are written in Sanskrit.

DR M. N. NANDAKUMARA belongs to a family of Vedic scholars from Mattur, Karnataka. He was educated at the University of Mysore (MA, 1975) and the School of Oriental and African Studies, London (PhD, 1983), and has been Executive Director of the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, London, the largest Indian arts organisation outside of India, since 1995. A distinguished teacher of Sanskrit, he is Chairman of the UK Sanskrit Association. He is also one of the leading Hindu priests in the UK. He is the recipient of numerous awards for services to Indian art, culture and education.

## **Admission**

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

Full-time students with student ID card FREE

*The Harmony Institute, in partnership with the  
Temenos Academy*

## **The Learning of the Imagination: Wisdom Traditions and Sacred Vision**

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As part of the Harmony Institute and University of Wales Trinity Saint David's conference this July, Temenos is offering a day of talks introducing some key themes and thinkers of the 'learning of the Imagination'. We hope to create a 'temenos', a sacred space, to encourage the exchange of ideas about the values we have inherited and which we wish to pass on to future generations.

### **Wednesday 3 July**

*Venue* The Founder's Library, UWTSU Lampeter

Campus, Ceredigion

Registration 10am

Concludes 5pm

### *Speakers*

#### **Hilary Davies** Sacred Vision and the Landscape

This lecture will examine how three different poets, David Jones, Gerard Manley Hopkins and Dylan Thomas, have been inspired by the Welsh landscape to open up the visionary world of the Imagination through their poetry. They raise questions about how we are embedded in past landscapes, how present landscapes offer us spiritual dimensions, and what stewardship we owe for the future.

#### **Howard Hull** Storming into Beauty: Ruskin, Turner and the Ethics of the Dust

Ruskin coined the term 'heartsight' to describe J.M.W. Turner's vision of 'vital beauty'. Beauty in Ruskin's book was a life-giving force, an agency in which affection and kindness create a sustaining ecology for all amid the atomising chaos of an otherwise brutal world. Ruskin expanded his reading of Turner's painterly techniques to embrace a wider law of life which he called the Law of Help. For Turner the primary medium was light, for Ruskin it was the earth, but for both the human heart

provided the central fire for everything, animating nature and mankind for good or bad according to the values and spirit it embodied.

**Professor Grevel Lindop** W.B. Yeats and the Poet's Quest for Vision

**Dr Joseph Milne** Cosmic Harmony and the Sacred City

This lecture will draw upon ancient myths and philosophy to show the enduring relation between the divine order of the cosmos and human life.

HILARY DAVIES is a poet, translator, essayist and critic. The author of four collections of poetry, including her latest, *Exile and the Kingdom* (Enitharmon, 2016), she has won an Eric Gregory Award, been a Hawthornden Fellow and served as Chair of the Poetry Society of Great Britain. She is currently a Royal Literary Fund Fellow at the British Library. She reviews regularly for the *Times Literary Supplement*, *PN Review*, *The Tablet* and the *Temenos Academy Review*.

HOWARD HULL is Director of Brantwood, John Ruskin's former home in the Lake District, where he has lived with his wife, Pamela, since 1996. He is a Ruskin scholar and passionate advocate of his legacy.

GREVEL LINDOP was formerly Professor of English at Manchester University. He has published seven collections of poems as well as travel books and biographies, most recently of the poet, novelist, theologian and 'Inkling' Charles Williams. He is currently writing a book on the spiritual life and poetry of W.B. Yeats. He is a Fellow of the Temenos Academy and chair of its Academic Board.

JOSEPH MILNE is an Honorary Lecturer at the University of Kent where he taught on the MA course in Mysticism and Religious Experience until his retirement in 2013. He is the editor of *Land and Liberty*, the journal of the Henry George Foundation, and the author of several Temenos Academy Papers, including *The Lost Vision of Nature* (2018). He is a Fellow of the Temenos Academy and a member of its Academic Board.

THE HARMONY INSTITUTE continues the work of the Harmony Initiative, a collaboration between the University of Wales Trinity Saint David's Sophia Centre for the Study of Cosmology and Culture, and the Institute of Sustainable Practice, Innovation and Resource Effectiveness. The inspiration for the Harmony Initiative is *Harmony: A New Way of Looking at Our World* (2010) written by HRH The Prince of Wales, the University's Chancellor, Tony Juniper and Ian Skelly. Its aim is to take forward the conversation on sustainability and what we as individuals and communities can do to live in harmony with the natural environment. It holds public outreach events and runs related courses at the University.

### **Admission**

Admission is free. Tea/coffee and lunch will be provided.

### **Booking**

Space is strictly limited. You may reserve a place by contacting the Temenos Academy.

A booking form will be available on the UWTSD website soon; the website gives information about the UWTSD campus in Lampeter and how to travel there.

<https://www.uwtsd.ac.uk/lampeter/>

# Love, Desire and Sacrifice in the Gospel of John

VALENTIN GERLIER

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## Wednesday 10 July

*In the chair* Freddie Sayers

*Venue* The Royal Asiatic Society

Doors open at 6.30pm

Lecture begins promptly at 7pm

Concludes 8.30pm

Already from its metaphysical prologue, the Gospel of John appears to be a mysterious text, alternating profound spiritual revelation with strange, unsettling tales of conflicts and rejection, and culminating in the story of an unjust death that paradoxically redeems all things. Alongside this perplexing narrative, however, the Gospel also weaves symbols, sayings and stories together to unite the contemplative life with the active.

Drawing on parallels between the Gospel of John and the Platonic Tradition, this lecture explores how the Gospel represents the transformative aspects of love by redirecting human desire into genuine love of the divine, a love which offers vision and understanding and awakens wisdom in the face of a foolish and conflicted world. This transformative love that the Gospel portrays culminates in a central revelation of Divine love for the world which paradoxically overturns the logic of sacrifice *and* transforms it into something new. In the Gospel, the words 'I AM' spoken by Jesus coincide with this transformative and sacrificial love: for John, 'to be' can only mean 'to love'.

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. A member of the Temenos Academy Academic Board, he teaches the 'Metaphysics' module of the Foundation Course in the Perennial Philosophy.

## Admission

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

Full-time students with student ID card FREE

## Temenos Academy Review 21

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*Edited by* John Carey, Valentin Gerlier and James Harpur

HRH The Prince of Wales *Harmony and the Land*

Peter Abbs *Paul: My Brother*

Wendell Berry *The Great Interruption: The Story of a Famous Story of Old Port William and How it Ceased to be Told (1935–1978)*

Daniela Boccassini *Earthly Paradise: Dante's Initiatory Rite of Passage*

Stephen Cross *'Thou Half-dead Angel': Jacob Boehme and the Mysteries of the Will*

Colin Duriez *C.S. Lewis: The 'Imaginative Man', the Self and the Other*

Andrew Frisardi *A Divine Gift: Inspiration in Dante*

Joscelyn Godwin *Music as Esoteric Practice*

Rahul Gupta *The Island of the Mighty: Prose Synopsis of an Arthurian Epic*

Belinda Hunt *Monika Beisner's Illuminations for the Divine Comedy of Dante*

Grevel Lindop *'Not by the Dark but by Dazzle': The Poetry of Norman Nicholson*

Joseph Milne *The Call of Justice*

Kathleen Raine *Letters to Stephen Critchley and The Roots of My Poetry*

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# Ten Basic Principles that inspire the work of Temenos

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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

Cover motif by Cecil Collins