

Contributor Abstracts

Speakers

Alena Adamkova - Cosmic Consciousness: the living experience of Helena Roerich through her notebooks.

The Notebooks of Helena Roerich, written between 1923-1955, reflect the history of the Roerichs' spiritual experience and conversations with the Masters.

The Roerichs were persuaded by the Teacher to master Astrology as well. When disciples' life is subject to subtle matters and fiery levels, knowing astrological laws becomes extremely vital, changing one's perception. Stars set the pace for changes, but the people implement them.

"Merging with cosmic rhythm is the basis of all transcendental comprehensions."

Only enlarged consciousness can understand the phenomena of exploring other planets, or flights in the subtle bodies to distant worlds.

The Cosmological Records revealed to Helena Roerich, talk about future Sciences: Astrochemistry and Astrophysics will show the growth of evolution in all the kingdoms of Nature; Astrophysiology will reveal the effect of spatial bodies on internal secretions in the human body.

"Foundation of the Institute for the study of still hidden properties of man in connection with Cosmic influences will be the first stone of the Temple of the One Religion."

Detailed description of Helena Roerich's own experience of interacting with the spatial fire, attunement to rays and energies of different Masters, undertaking powerful fiery transmutation, resulting in reorganization of her body, provide us an invaluable insight.

Willy Augustat - The Spreading of Agni Yoga in Europe

The older generation among us will certainly be aware that the handover of the Teachings with the spiritual knowledge for the Era of Aquarius: AGNI YOGA was realized during a highly political, completely chaotic period during cultural destructions on all levels – just during the short break between World Wars I and II. Nevertheless, HELENA IVANOVNA ROERICH made sure that all AGNI YOGA Books were made available in Russian language before World War II. When the war started in 1939, the further spreading of the Teachings was totally prevented; however, after the war end also the Roerich Museum in New York continued its efforts in spreading the Teaching to the English Speaking territories.

Until 1980, all of the books could be published, only "BROTHERHOOD" II (the "SUPERMUNDANE") was finally published in German language in 1999/2000. The SPIRALE-publishing house is distributor of the physical AGNI YOGA literature (and pertaining letters and books by HIR etc.) plus Leobrand's works until today.

Marina Bernardi - From Planetary Consciousness towards Cosmic Consciousness: what kind of evolution?

We are in front of a journey: the one from human consciousness towards cosmic consciousness. Not by chance the main word in the title of this conference is CONSCIOUSNESS: as this journey can only be done in the inner space of our consciousness.

Therefore it becomes fundamental that we let go of all those elements which don't have anything to do with the journey that we intend to live, so that we can focus on the inner space in which only the real changes and shifts can happen.

Two main attributes of consciousness are expansion and awareness: therefore moving towards the cosmos implies the gradual expansion of our limited personal field of interest and attention so that we can extend it to gradually include the whole humanity and the planet. In the Planet Within conference we tried to welcome in our consciousness all what is part of the life on our world. Now it is the turn of expanding even more our inner journey and to tend towards the cosmos.



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Is it a too ambitious goal? I don't think so, as every great adventure starts from a small initial step, which is that that we will take together in the next days. What is important is that we take it with humility, sense of right proportions and in joy and lightness.

Julia Budnikova, Alexej Bondarenko - The arrival of Living Ethics in Russia

The books of the Teaching of Living Ethics arrived in Russia almost immediately after the start of their creation. In 1924 Elena Roerich's cousin, Stepan Mitussov, received the first book of the series, *Leaves of Morya's Garden - Call*. In the years 1920-1930, a small study circle was formed around Mitussov, which can be considered the first group of Living Ethics in Russia. The artists of the group Amaravella often came from Moscow to this group. They considered themselves to be spiritual students of Nikolaj Roerich and they studied the Teaching.

The second powerful wave of the "coming" of Living Ethics in Russia is linked to the arrival of a large number of Russian emigrants from China in 1949, among whom there were members of Roerich's groups of followers in Harbin and Shanghai. They laid the foundations of many Roerich societies in the Soviet Union.

Finally, the most important "wave" is linked to the return to Russia of Juri (George) Roerich and to the frequent visits to the USSR by Svetoslav Roerich in the sixties-eighties of the twentieth century.

Giuseppe Campanella - Cosmic consciousness: a cornerstone towards the spiritual unity of Humanity

What is cosmic consciousness and why attain it? If we consider what is written in Agni Yoga, we understand that it is difficult to become familiar with cosmic consciousness. In Agni Yoga it is stated that it does not mean to know how the Cosmos is done, that is what astronomers investigate, although this knowledge is certainly useful. Cosmic consciousness means to become aware that we human beings are destined to be citizens of the Universe, that is to enlarge the common feeling to be citizens of our Planet.

But why to attain and acquire such a consciousness? Why is it a cause that will have an extraordinary effect on human life? We are striving to improve our inter-personal, social and international relationship on a horizontal, earthly plane. This will not be sufficient, although it can help. To get a conclusive result towards such a goal, the Hierarchy – in particular Master Morya – shows that the winning tool consists in attaining the cosmic consciousness. Then, the spiritual unity of Humanity will be achieved.

Mikhail Chiriatchev - India in the life of the Roerichs: the stage of creating a new spiritually driven cosmic science

In 1928 the famous Central-Asian expedition of the Roerichs was finished. It is well-known that this expedition was quite fruitful and the idea of synthesis threaded from the very conception of the expedition to its outcome. This idea illuminated and spiritualized the activity of the Himalayan Research Institute "Urusvati" that was founded by the Roerichs in India.

All members of the Roerich family possessed qualities of scientific and artistic synthesis, which were revealed in their versatile creative work. Coordination of these qualities allowed them to create a new type of an institute of integrated studies. This very institute opened a new way for scientific methodology based on the cosmic evolution principles presented in the Teaching of Living Ethics.

The presentation describes the main scientific achievements of each of the members of the unique Roerich family in India and important stages in the activity of the entire Institute "Urusvati", as well as outlines the prospects and conceptual bases of its revival.

Marzia De Alexandris - Urusvati: The Planet of the Mother

You, who determine the destinies of nations! Enter the laboratories, climb into the observatories... You will realize the inseparability of the fate of human evolution from the cosmic processes. (AY 131)

Heaven is the seat of all order and measure, where all causes originate. The reference of the stars and the motions of planets give life to cycles, the conscious engines of infinite life. If we observe and know them, we can look to the future, just as the daily and annual cycles allow us to project ourselves into the short time to come and design our activities.

Following the injunction of the Master, we therefore rise to the observatories and under His guidance we discover the cyclical event that more than any other marks, together with the



precession motion, the unprecedented era that is foretold to us: the arrival of the planet of the Mother, the already appeared comet that will soon return to “settle in our solar system as a permanent member ... in the form of a wonderful planet “. (H.R., letter dated 12.6.1948). Following some clues we will also measure ourselves in some “exercise of foresight”, but beyond these childish attempts, a certainty burns vigorously in the heart of every disciple.

If we are waiting for Christ, we must also wait for the Mother, “because the spirit understanding is linked with the Mother of the World.” (LMG II, 138)

Joleen Dianne DuBois – The Cosmic Magnet: An Introduction

The Cosmic Magnet is the center of the Universe. Through its impulses and sphere of influence, it gives us a way in which we can manifest Heaven on Earth: The Cosmic Magnet is a contact point for us between Heaven and Earth. It is located in the Fiery World and surrounds the constellation of Orion.

The Cosmic Magnet is a twofold force: it draws us toward unfoldment, refinement, and self-perfectment, and the enhancement of its power is consistent with its purity and refinement.

The Cosmic Magnet has a definite purpose to be accomplished within a certain time frame. Its influence is sensed by our consciousness. The more conscious, the more illumined a person is, the more sensitive that person is to its direction.

The Cosmic Magnet is called Christ's Force, or the Force of Love, but this powerful Force has to have a focus on different planes of consciousness to be realized on Earth. Those whose souls are awakened and functioning in the higher mind, or who have constructed the Antahkarana Bridge, will be the vanguards in building the Temple of Humanity, and thereby manifesting Heaven on Earth.

Here is a point for us to consider: the Temple of Humanity will be built with the fire of the Cosmic Magnet. It will be those who have undergone the process of soul unfoldment, refinement, and perfectment who will carry the energy of Cosmic Willpower into the construction of the Temple. The centers, the chakras, of these builders will "flamingly reflect the will of the Cosmic Magnet to unite the higher planes with our planet. Some believe wearing the stone moldavite will accelerate that process. Helena Roerich explained that "The Stone, being near you, will assimilate your rhythm and, via the constellation of Orion, will reinforce the link in a way that the Temple is destined to be constructed."

The energy rhythm of the Stone itself is the rhythm of the Cosmic Magnet or the Heart of our Universe. Helena Roerich's energies were in tune with the rhythms of the Cosmic Magnet.

Marco Guzzi - Towards a new consciousness

It is increasingly evident that humanity is arrived at a decisive crossroads between self-destruction and radical renewal. In fact, in every area, from culture to politics, from health to telecommunications, we experience limit points, and almost apocalyptic ultimatums.

It is also becoming increasingly clear that we continue to use the same ways of thinking, no longer being able to face the ultimate challenges we must face.

That is, we are called to profoundly expand our consciousness, to question the very mindset itself, and the structure of the ego, which has so far dominated in each of us and in planetary history.

This is the time, truly propitious and extraordinary, in which the human being can further understand what are the steps, and the methodologies, that can constantly move him from the ego-centered setting of his own consciousness, towards increasingly free and enlightened states.

The yearning for a more unified consciousness, and therefore for the unity of the whole, is affecting ever more numerous masses of people. We could say that the mystical drive towards a cosmic-spiritual mind is becoming a necessity for the whole human species, the sign of an evolutionary leap that is more and more clearly indispensable.

Manju Kak – She who leads: the elevating and expanding function of the feminine principle

The earth is a precious vessel entrusted to humankind.

As its custodians and trustees we bear the responsibility to keep it safe through the turbulent waters of our violent times. It symbolizes 'life' as we know it, and also 'life' that we do not perceive but know exists as a never ending never beginning reality of all times through space.

The worship of the feminine principle, the Mother Goddess, as the peaceful preserver and nurturer of life is a cardinal belief in all cultures and philosophies, ancient and modern. She symbolises the various forces of nature (macrocosm) in the microcosm of woman hood. In India this feminine principle is expounded through 'Shakti' venerated in her 9 symbolic avatars, Durga, Kali, etc.

'She who leads' symbolizes the fundamental energy that keeps the Universe churning. Nurturing this energy, channelizing it towards a correct course of action is the responsibility and task entrusted to the human race to keep the earth safe. By harnessing this 'fire energy' and strictly directing it through the practice of the life affirming philosophy of Agni Yoga (Helena Roerich: Living Ethics) , we elevate and expand our consciousness to encompass cosmic reality and in doing so our narrow world view rooted in ego changes.

Through this understanding we can appreciate, imbibe and live in accordance to the cosmic laws (expounded in Living Ethics). This leads to spiritual transformation of life and an expansion of our consciousness and the keeping of high moral standards.

Isabelle Kueng - Free-Will, Independent Action and the Mission of Humanity in the cosmos

After an introduction on Roberto Assagioli's high esteem of the paintings by Nicholas Roerich evoking 1) the mystery of the East, 2) the spiritual life of humanity and 3) the Signs of the New Era, I will present a little known text where he outlines for his students working on the path of altruism A) the diagnosis of the world situation in 1969 (similar to the present in 2020), B) the means that can remedy the situation through appropriate inner action and outer cooperation, provided humanity applies these respecting free-will, and C) specific factors to take into due consideration so as to meet with success rather than disaster when applying these remedies!

I will draw a parallel between the Agni Yoga Teachings as a source of illuminating inspiration, and Assagioli's indications in his authority of both a medical doctor, specialized in nervous diseases and education, to empower those willing, to renew their instinct of intrinsic harmony (that orchestrates Life) so as to address constructively and beneficially the planetary challenges where social matters, economic situations and the worlds of traditions are inextricably interdependent! This of course naturally leads to hint, but only hint, at how these two approaches may apply to the 17 Goals identified in 2015 by the United Nations: "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development". A topic other speakers will probably address with their expertise and knowledge thereof. I will therefore focus my conclusion on a philosophical note, evoking the relation between the 3 Fires (friction, solar, electrical) and the Cosmic Magnet, for understanding this vivifies our inner fire to cooperate in line with evolution...

Dot Maver - Agni Yoga in America as we cross the Threshold into the New Era

As we celebrate and honor 100 years of Agni Yoga, in this session we will take a look at the arrival of the Roerichs to America, through to present, and the opportunity we face now as an international community. We begin when they were met by New York Times journalist Frances Grant in 1920 as Nicholas Roerich would present the first large exhibition of a Russian artist in America. That was 100 years ago. We will consider how the Master of Arts Institute developed in New York City, and later the Nicholas Roerich Museum, while at the same time the Agni Yoga Society and work with the Banner of Peace was anchoring through the New York center. And the journey continues.

Agni Yoga offers us an opportunity to be a culture of living ethics, setting out beautifully and with clarity the why, the what, and clues as to the how, to make the culture of living ethics our living reality in the next 100 years, with the help of this extraordinary body of wisdom. In 2020 we have crossed a threshold into the New Era and we have an exquisite opportunity to acknowledge our past, be conscious in the present, heal and let go of the past, and come together through the Heart as an international community as we joyfully discover Humanity's role with and within Cosmos. We will look ahead another 100 years as we ask the question, what will have been anchored by 2120 as we realize through the heart the unification of the world.

Hartmut Müller and Leili Khosravi - Interscalar Cosmology on the Supremacy of the Spirit in the Cosmos

Today's cosmology is a prisoner of its highly speculative theories, in which the cosmos appears as chaotic multitudes of galaxies where numerous black holes appear and dark matter manages the distribution of the celestial bodies. On the contrary, in Interscalar Cosmology we can admire the supremacy of order given by numbers.

A halo of mystery has always surrounded the numbers. What are they? Where they come from? On the one hand, they appear created by the human intellect, on the other the same intellect cannot manipulate numbers, for example, make a prime number divisible or draw a square that has the same area as a circle.

Modern science considers measurement as sacred; in fact, it makes everything comparable. Measurement highlights the quantity that is the only universal characteristic. The units of quantity are numbers. A deeper research finds that numbers are universal symbols that form all structures and determine the behavior of all processes in the universe. Thus, numbers make obvious the omnipotence of consciousness and its cosmic origin. So can we consider that the numbers are divine?

We will discover Euler's number, a true divine number. Thanks to its internal harmony, Euler's number gives stability. Stability to the whole universe, from subatomic to galactic scales incorporating the human being and all the kingdoms of nature.

In interscalar cosmology, consciousness is the creator of the atom, the cell and the organisms, of the Sun, the planets and the Galaxy and makes the Universe alive.

Carlos Rosado - A glimpse at the Divine Mansion

When we ask our heart about the plentiful path of Agni Yoga, we realise that we truly are that fiery path of which only the Heart can suggest some hints. Our twelve petalled bowl of amrita is open to the cosmic dust of the stars and we feel amazed with the subtle living perception of the music of the Beauty and the Ineffable. It's very abundant our dialogue with that Child who reveals the simplicity of the Harmony throughout the visible and invisible Heaven. Common fiery ideas and words are filled with the greatness of infinity or with the life of galactic supermundane spheres deeply sowed within ourselves, century after century, by the Mysteries of the Ages. We have chosen to cooperate with the Masters of Wisdom, it's 'our' Truth from within. We need nothing more. What comes last? Maybe the charm of fantasy, which is truthful Life, or... only Love... If we could apply all our power to love, we would always be successful. I love Thee, O Lord!

Wendy Thompson - Heart Communion: Agni Yoga's approach of direct communion through the heart within the Cosmos

A myriad of yogas have been formulated throughout the centuries for Humanity's unfolding evolution. The new yoga, Agni Yoga, the Yoga of Synthesis, represents a radical shift from its antecedents. Rather than working with processes from the "outside in", it works with direct communion or union through identification with the whole. Embedded within Agni Yoga is the knowing that Fire is the all embracing principle that permeates the whole of life. At the heart of the seed of spirit throughout the Universe is Fire. The fire at the heart of Humanity's spirit is the same fire at the Heart of Cosmos.

Agni Yoga's new approach of direct communion is wrought into manifestation in the furnace of experience through the heart. This approach restores Humanity to its true identity and new equilibrium of living simultaneously in the three worlds – Fiery, Subtle and Manifest – within the Cosmos. The heart is the great unifier of the worlds.

This session will set the context for, and then explore together as a group, in meditation, the new approach of direct communion through the heart. As we unite in our hearts across the apparent divides of distance and worlds, we have the opportunity to experience more profoundly the unification of the worlds and the intimacy of Humanity's relationship within the Infinite chain of Being that is Cosmos.

Estela Tustanovsky - Agni Yoga in South America

When I was first invited by the CLE to this Agni Yoga Conference and the theme suggested, the image that came to me was New York as a center and many arrows departing from there to the South, to South America passing through Central America.

After a while the image changed due many arrows departed from the East, from places beyond the Atlantic. And after that the image changed again becoming fire arrows reflecting the fire of the space. Walking to our meeting next October the arrows are reaching their destiny.

And about this we will share, the way these arrows have crossed over America and over the Atlantic, the events and people they met in their way and the seeds that they spread in each place. How these seeds have evolved and what is their situation now a day. How these places and people were connected and how are they now connected and working together.

Preparing this presentation is as introducing into the heart of AY related with the way this Teaching was permeating the whole America as a fiery river flowing to the ocean, creating its own way according with the characteristics of the places through which it flows, it runs.

We will sail together through this river next October.

"I have set down the foundation of Agni Yoga in four directions, like the pistil of a flower." (AY, final paragraph)

Mintze van der Velde – Electricity in the Universe and in Man

In this talk we will try to build a bridge between two worlds of thought: science and philosophy. Till the 16th century science and philosophy were strongly interwoven, but thereafter their paths separated. In this framework philosophy is approached from the point of view of the Ageless Wisdom, including Theosophy, Anthroposophy and Agni Yoga. Although science is searching for a “unified theory of everything” due to its segmented approach it runs into severe problems: gravity cannot be unified with the other forces of nature.

In this talk we will take electricity as the starting point to build that bridge. In the Ageless Wisdom Electricity is known as or related to Fohat or ultimately Fire. In essence Electricity is a mystery and science only knows of its effects – and quite well: think of our electric light, computers, phones, the Internet, etc. Cosmology, from a scientific point of view, is based on gravity as the dominant force in the universe. The current cosmology assumes that the universe started with the Big Bang – which is a consequence of the equations of Einstein’s general relativity theory. Due to more and more sophisticated observations this approach has led to concepts like black holes, dark matter and dark energy to the point that now only 4% is normal matter and 96% is thought to be dark matter/dark energy.

The 1970 Nobel laureate Hannes Alfvén developed a cosmology based on electricity as the driving force, leading to a universe filled with electric ‘plasma’, the “plasma or electric universe”. In such a universe there is no need for black holes, dark matter and dark energy. The basic structures are spherical cells and spirals – which is exactly what our modern telescopes reveal us in ever greater detail. An electric universe is also never static, but always dynamic. A revolutionary experiment, SAFIRE in Canada, simulating the atmosphere of the Sun on a laboratory scale, fully supports the electric universe approach. The results of SAFIRE suggest that the Sun behaves as an electrical plasma phenomenon rather than a nuclear bomb. It also suggests that so-called “free energy” may be a reality.

What does this imply for man and humanity? In an electric universe “there are no isolated islands” – everything is interconnected by the electromagnetic forces. And this on all scales: in the



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universe, in the solar system as well as on a human scale – even within one human being and within the atom. The Ageless Wisdom has always maintained this idea and thus in this electric universe approach science and the Ageless Wisdom are touching common ground. Although the concepts discussed are profound and mind blowing, we will use very simple language and the only thing required to understand this talk is: an open mind.

Workshops

Alena Adamkova - "Himalayan Dreams"

"All the great symbols, all heroes, seem to be brought close to the Himalayas as if to the highest altar, where the human spirit comes closest to divinity. Are the shining stars not nearer, when you are in the Himalayas? Are not the treasures of the earth evident in the Himalayas?..." Nicholas Roerich

Nicholas and Helena Roerich emphasized many times in their inspired work, that the Himalayan range with its high summits represents a condensate of psychic energy, exalting and elevating human spirit to the cosmic dimensions.

Himalayas are not only capturing every human dream of ascending, as we see in the long story of human "conquest" of those living giants! Himalayas also hold many special and sacred places, like Mount Kailash-the great Bell; the Wesak valley and, nearer to our quest, the Samadhi of Helena and Nicholas, the first one in Kalimpong facing Kanchenjunga, the Mountain of Five Treasures; the second one, in front of Mount M. in the Kullu valley, where their spirit is still anchored.

This workshop aims to facilitate through visual suggestions and the bond with Agni Yoga and Roerichs' touches - an attunement of the consciousness with the vibrations of the high Mountains, hosting the Masters, the Ashrams, the gates and passages to Shamballa and the Cosmos, thus activating the direct knowledge in the hearts of the participants.



Michael Lindfield - "Lucifer, it's time to rekindle your light!" (On Eastern Crossroads)

The theme of the workshop is the figure of Lucifer who represents well, with his brightness and his fall, the path from Cosmic to Terrestrial Consciousness. This is a path that can be travelled in both directions, as legends about him tell us .

When Lucifer separated from Cosmic Consciousness, he fell. It is interesting to think that perhaps we all carry inside a particle of this fall from our birth. But even a particle of Light is within us, as well as the temptation to bind us too tightly to Earth and matter. By telling the story of Lucifer following the Teaching of Agni Yoga, we can talk about the need to sacralize the Earth by becoming full of Cosmic Consciousness.

Franco Anesi - "Etruscan Discipline"

This workshop will be an experience of immersion and knowledge of the culture of the Etruscans, a civilization that has characterized the life of the territory of the Italian peninsula for more than a thousand years, between 1,700 and 700 BC. The Etruscans came from the East, and followed their celestial indications and alignments in their movements, trying to be in a stable relationship of correspondence with the Milky Way. The Principle of Correspondence between Heaven and Earth represented for the Etruscans the indispensable condition and rule for a prosperous life and in harmony with Nature and its laws. The relationship with Heaven did not lead the Etruscans to any form of mysticism, it was instead a "spiritual science" based on exact and upright relationships between microcosm and macrocosm: the Stars to which they referred as guides were directly the "divine entities" capable of illuminating and directing what was done on earth. The town planning of Etruria itself divided the territory into 16 partitions, each marked by a city, partitions directly corresponding to 16 stars and constellations of reference in the Sky. The Milky Way was none other than the Great Mother who moved in the Sky, and the two stars Capella and Vega (Cath and Vetisl for the Etruscans) marked the boundaries of the celestial world which also became the boundaries of the earthly world. The divination of the Etruscans was an exact science, capable of establishing the correct act of foundation, development and life of every earthly work, were it a city, a migration, a relationship to be established with other peoples. This culture developed by threads and by layers, with an order based on thistles and earthly decumans as a mirror of the thistles and celestial decumans: and it is Heaven itself that has been distributed to protect the corresponding piece of territory, through acts of targeted assignment and aware. We will enter this world together as an opportunity to expand our consciousness beyond the boundaries of history and archeology, rediscovering the subtle traces of a "celestial town-and landscape-planning" forgotten and no longer recognized, yet alive and powerful, which united the higher peaks of development of ancient civilizations, from the Indian to the Egyptian, from the Chinese to the Babylonian, to find their absolute topicality and necessity in our days.