

THE IMPORTANCE OF ARCHITECTURE - [PART II]

A 'Ghost' Interview with Rudolf Steiner

By John Miles, Portland, Oregon



John Miles is the Director of the Michael Institute for Anthroposophy, the Arts and Waldorf Teacher Training in Portland, Oregon. He has taken more than four classes through Waldorf Schools in Europe and North America and has twice represented schools in their endeavor to raise new buildings. This is a re-worked 'interview' that was written in Canada in 1991 to encourage a Waldorf Community to invest in an anthroposophical building. John apologizes to those who may be offended by the free use of Rudolf Steiner's words,

but the references are given so you can see how many liberties were taken. John is also a member of the Portland Branch Council.

J.M. "Dr Steiner. Last time you were able to throw some light on the underlying forces in architecture, and give us indications as to why it is of supreme importance for the human being to live in organic forms. If I remember rightly you felt our architectural forms should reflect the forms of nature and complete it or complement it so that the whole is imbued with art, with soul content. If that is the case, I believe you implied that the spirit or archetypal forces will be able to work into humanity through this soul or artistic content. So ... what about the human being and our shapes? Are we to be included in the model of nature for the forms of the buildings?"

R.S. "Indeed we may say: Here we have the outer boundary of our physical body, and if we push the inner organization, which has been impressed by the etheric on to the physical body, then architecture arises. All the laws present in the architectural utilization of matter are to be found also in the human body. When we project the specific organization of the human body into the space outside it, then we have architecture. Looking once more at any work on architecture, what can we say to ourselves about it? We can say that here carried into the space outside us, is the interaction between the vertical and horizontal and between the forces that react together, all of which are otherwise to be found in the human physical body."¹

J.M. "The forces of the physical body projected through the skin?"

R.S. "Yes, our buildings are not intended to cut one off from the world. Their walls should live. They should live in a way that corresponds to the truth."²

J.M. "Are you saying that they should be representatives of our personalities? That they should represent the personalities that built them?"

R.S. "That is not so. In our buildings the endeavor must be made to put aside everything of a personal nature, to represent in every

line and every form not what flows from this individual personal nature, but what the spiritual worlds reveal when we try to express world happenings in forms in order that men may be able to feel the meaning and significance of these happenings."³

J.M. "Could you give us an example how you did this in architecture, in the Goetheanum perhaps?"

R.S. "This is possible if we look at the development from the first Goetheanum to the second. As you can see in physical representation today, the second Goetheanum is an angular building. The harmony of support and load is what matters in an angular building. If we now take this over into an organic style of architecture, there will be a revelation in every outward part of its inner nature. For instance the columns, which in the old building reached from the bottom to the top, will have to be transformed so that on the lower floor they develop in such a way that they resemble roots, architecturally conceived, of course. Out of these the columns proper rise in the region of the upper floor, developing into supports for the whole. From the inside these will then bring the roof, which underneath is not horizontal but encloses the space in the way that the dome did, to a completion in its forms. The pillars and the columns will be transformed into pilasters and, at the same time, will express what in the old Goetheanum was expressed by the circular construction."⁴

J.M. "It is evident that the Goetheanum is a most impressive building; its forms do seem to be impregnated with movement."

R.S. "Yes, just look at the forms of the buildings: everywhere the straight line is led over to the curve, balance is sought; everywhere the endeavor is made to melt what has become frozen, so that it may flow again, rest is everywhere created within movement and is then again caused to move. When concrete is used one should be able to see in the transitional forms from sloping faceted roof to wall element the expression of downward pressure. I wanted in the second Goetheanum to achieve also the visual impression that this pressure is caught and held by the portal and window cornices respectively. At the same time I wanted to achieve the inward spiritual impression of a portal which receives one, or of a window which takes light into the inner space. In this way the Goetheanum offers a kind of protection for the person who seeks the spiritual within it. You need to offer the children in the Waldorf Schools a similar protection so that they can develop the soul in harmony with the physical and the spiritual, so that Science, Art and Religion, the reconnection with the spiritual can organically grow."⁵

J.M. "Now there are two paths I would like to follow, the windows and the portal. Would you like to say something about the windows bringing light into inner space, and how this is affected by colors?"

R.S. "We have indeed reached a time in which, if man's living contact with the world is not to atrophy completely, it is essential

that we begin to dive down into the spiritual waves of the natural forces, that is the spiritual forces lying behind nature. We must once more gain the ability not merely to look at colors and apply them here and there as external surfaces but rather to live with them, to experience the inner living force of colors.”⁶

J.M. “How do we do this? Should we use colored glass or should we use paint? I must say it seems to be very difficult to obtain colors that really live from the paints that are available commercially.”

R.S. “An opaque paint on a wall is different from a paint that is

translucent. When we observe translucent color surrounding us we must say: ‘Just as through the color of an opaque painted wall we enter into a relationship with certain beings, so through a translucent shining color on a wall we enter into a relationship with other beings.’ The beings we relate to through the opaque painted wall are in the first instance spread out in space, but have nothing to do with the three kingdoms of nature, the mineral, the plant and the animal kingdoms. But through the translucent colors we enter into a relationship with those beings who are directly occupied with bringing into being the objects of the three natural kingdoms. When translucent red makes a kind of window through which we can look clairvoyantly into the kingdoms of nature, we meet with beings whose work brings out the best forces for the future of our earth existence. They must be there within the kingdoms of nature so that for man inner forces can grow which make him ever more chaste in his blood, in his life of passions. When we regard nature in this way we see the beings who warn us, also in our unconscious, the beings who more than any others challenge us to make progress in the purification of our passions.”⁷

J.M. “Thank you, Dr. Steiner, pedagogically this is of tremendous importance in understanding why we veil our kindergartens in red. Now, can we go back to the portal? You mentioned it previously. I have felt for a long time that the entrance to a building sets the tone for the whole place and is of paramount importance for creating ambience. “

R.S. “That is so. There are some examples from history that can be extremely useful to us here. Now you know that when you have the intention of building a Waldorf School, you are in a certain sense intending to build a temple which is also to be a place of teaching – comparable in the past to the ancient Temples of the Mysteries. Buildings erected to enshrine what men have held most sacred have always been known as Temples ... the life of soul in the different epochs came to expressions in the temple buildings. When with insight and warmth of soul we study these buildings, differences are at once apparent! A very striking example is afforded by the forms of the temples belonging to the second postatlantean epoch of culture, the Persian epoch. Outwardly, at any rate, very little is left of these temples of the ancient Persian epoch, and their form can only be dimly pictured from the Akasha Chronicle. Something reminiscent of their forms did indeed find its way into the later temples of the third epoch, into the Babylonian-Assyrian architecture and above all into the temples of Asia Minor, but only to the extent that the structure of these later buildings was influenced by the conditions obtaining in that region of the Earth. What was the most striking and significant feature of this early art of building? Documentary records have little information to give on the subject. But if, assuming that the investigation of the Akasha Chronicle itself is not possible, we study the buildings of a later epoch, gleaning from them some idea of what the earlier temples in that part of the world may have been, it will dawn upon us that in these very ancient temples everything depended upon the façade, upon the impressions made by the frontage of the temple upon those who approached its portals. A man who made his way through this façade into the interior of the temple would have felt: ‘The façade spoke to me in a secret mysterious language. In the interior of the

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temple I find everything that was striving to express itself in the façade.”⁸

J.M. “Obviously these ancient temples were of great importance in the evolution of the world. What is their importance for human beings today?”

R.S. “What is a temple of Asia Minor in reality? Does its prototype or model exist anywhere else in the world? The following will indicate what this prototype is, and throw light upon the whole subject. Imagine a human being lying on the ground, in the act of raising his body and countenance upright. He raises his body upwards from the ground in order that it may come within the sphere of the down-streaming spiritual forces and be united with them. This image will give you an inkling of the inspiration from which the early temples in Asia Minor were born. All the pillars, capitals and remarkable forms of such temples are a symbolic expression of what we may feel at the sight of a human being raising himself upright – with the movement of his hands, his features, the look on his face and so on. If with the eyes of the spirit we are able to look behind this countenance into the inner man, into the microcosm that is an image of the macrocosm, we should find in as much as the countenance expresses the inner man, that the countenance and the inner man are related in just the same way as the façade or frontage of a temple in Asia Minor was related to its interior. A human being in the act of raising himself upright – that is what the early temple of Asia Minor expresses, not as a copy, but as the underlying motif and all that this motif suggests. The spiritual picture given by Anthroposophy of the physical nature of Man helps us to realize the sense in which such a temple was an expression of the microcosm of Man. Understanding the aspiring human being, therefore, sheds light on that fundamental character of the early Art of Building. Man as a physical being has his spiritual counterpart in those remarkable temples of which only the fragments and debris have survived. This could be pointed out in every detail, down to the winged wheels and the original forms of such designs. ‘THE TEMPLE IS MAN!’ rings across the ages like a clarion call.”⁹

J.M. “How is this related to temples that are still standing, to the Greek temples for instance? How does that help us with our work today?”

R.S. “Yes, passing now to the temples of Greece, we find that they retain the basic principles of many Egyptian temples in that we have to think of the Greek temple as the dwelling place of the Divine-Spiritual. However the outer structure itself indicates a further stage. In its wonderful expression of dynamic power, of inner forces weaving in the forms, it is whole and complete, intrinsically perfect – an infinitude in itself. The Greek God dwells within the temple. In this building with its columns which in themselves reveal their functions as ‘bearers’ capable of supporting what lies upon them, the God is enshrined in something that is whole and perfect in itself; an infinitude is here embodied, within Earth-existence. This is expressed in the whole form and every detail of the building ... I once said that by its very nature, a temple dedicated to Pallas Athene, to Apollo or to Zeus needs no human being near it or inside it; it stands there in its own self-contained, solitary majesty as the dwelling place of



the god. It really is the case that the farther away human beings are from the temple itself, the truer the effect it makes upon us.”¹⁰

J.M. “Thank you very much for returning to us to throw light upon this. One last thing before you go ... have you anything to say about finding the money to pay for such buildings?”

R.S. “Well, of course, there is a great deal to say about money; especially with regard to the threefold social order, but apart from that I would like to say that today many people are offended if the architect sacrifices anything of expediency to the principle of the beautiful, the aesthetic; and one often hears the statement: ‘To build artistically is too expensive.’ People did not always think like that; certainly not in those ages when human souls experienced a kinship with the spiritual world, and as you know it is the task of humanity today to strive for that again.”¹¹

J.M. “Thank you Dr. Steiner. You have been a great help. Perhaps you will agree to another interview on another subject in the future?”

R.S. “We shall see. It is possible. If it is allowed.”

¹ Art in the Light of Mystery Wisdom pp 19/20 Dec 19, 1914 GA275

² The Goetheanum – Biesantz p 29 Dornach June 28th 1914.

³ The Goetheanum – Biesantz p 21 Dornach June 18th 1914.

⁴ The Goetheanum – Biesantz p 76 Dornach January 1st 1924.

⁵ The Goetheanum – Biesantz p 65 Dornach January 1st 1924.

⁶ The Goetheanum – Biesantz p 46 Dornach July 26th 1914

⁷ The Goetheanum – Biesantz p 13 Stuttgart October 15th 1911

⁸ And the Temple becomes Man pp 9/10 December 12th 1911

⁹ And the Temple becomes Man pp 14/15 December 12th 1911

¹⁰ And the Temple becomes Man pp 11/12 December 12th 1911

¹¹ The Arts and their Mission p 17 June 1st 1923 GA276

BRANCH COUNCIL CORNER

PORTLAND BRANCH PHONE DIRECTORY:



Marsha Johnson

We will be printing and providing a comprehensive phone directory with plans to distribute it at the September 23rd Annual Meeting of the Branch (see details elsewhere). Please be sure that Marsha Johnson at Oregon7@aol.com or Ruth Klein at RPKleinz@aol.com have the current up to date info about you and your phone, email, address for this directory! You can call in the information also, to (503) 309 4223 (Marsha's Cell Phone).

ART SUBMISSIONS FOR THE PHONE DIRECTORY: Do you have a piece of art that can be reproduced in black and white to enliven our new Phone Directory? Submissions are welcomed! Children and Adults are invited to send in their original compositions by the end of August 2006 to Marsha Johnson, 4307 NE Brazee, Portland, OR 97213 (photo copy is ok) or send a jpg or gif file to me at Oregon7@aol.com. Digital photos of sculpture, or 3 dimensional art also invited for this purpose! Let your creative forces bloom!

ADVERTISING WITH THE BRANCH: We are seeking business card sized ads for the September Edition of our wonderful newsletter, to be printed into a page, B & W for the printed copies, Full Color for the On-Line Page. Four of the Eight spots have been reserved by wonderful businesses and services, how about you? If you would like a spot, please call Marsha Johnson at 503 309 4223 or email to Oregon7@aol.com.

MEMBER INFO DISCLOSURE: It has come to the Council that several organizations would like our members' personal information, i.e., mailing addresses, phone numbers or email accounts. As a group, we decided that we need to maintain confidentiality with our member lists and information. We took the moment to encourage these organizations to submit an ad or article to our newsletter to allow direct contact for our members, who may then choose to join up. M. Johnson, C. President

COUNCIL OF TRUSTEES ELECTIONS: We will be seeking seven members for new terms to begin in September 2006. If you are interested in running for office on the Council of Trustees, please contact Ruth Klein and leave her a message at (503) 777 3176. So far, these people have decided to run for election: Walter Rice, Tom Klein, Ruth Klein, John Miles, Cheri Munske, Marsha Johnson, Wayne Gosset, and others. Gather your courage and jump in!

INITIATIVES Invited to Report at the Annual Meeting: If you would like to take a few moments to describe your anthroposophical activity or work or group focus at our Annual Meeting, please let Marsha Johnson know as soon as possible by phone 503 309 4223 or email Oregon7@aol.com. So far we have signed up five or six local and regional presenters. September 23, Saturday, 2 to 4 pm at 2606 SE 58th Ave Portland, OR 97206.

INVITATION TO PORTLAND BRANCH MEMBERS

By Jennifer Greene, Blue Hill, Maine
For the Natural Science/Mathematic-Astronomic Section

Over the last few years the U.S. Natural Science/Mathematic-Astronomic Section has held its annual meeting at different Anthroposophical Society Branches around the country. We have had the desire to give back to the Branch something for their, always, warm welcome and generosity. In turn, the Branches have been interested in getting to know us, our work and our questions. To meet the mutual needs, we have put one of our times for reports from Section members on a Saturday evening and opened the meeting for Branch members.

Therefore, we cordially invite all Portland Branch members interested in the development of Goethean/anthroposophical science, especially in the U.S., to our Report Evening on Saturday August 19th at 7:45 PM at Bothmer Hall in Portland. There will be some reports, time for conversation and refreshments afterwards.

Please note that this year's section conference Awakening Capacities through the Formative Forces of the Plant: Observing the Invisible is cross-disciplinary and open to all Class members of any Section. We look forward to meeting you!

If you would like to help with the local welcoming committee or learn more about the Natural Science Section workshops to be held in Portland this August, please contact Patricia Dair 503/236-2205 or healingforces@gmail.com.

TWO NATURAL SCIENCE CONFERENCES IN PORTLAND

By Jennifer Greene, Blue Hill, Maine

You are cordially invited to attend two natural science conferences in Portland in August. The focus of both conferences will be on developing inner capacities "to see" the formative forces that are working through the plant as gestures of form and movement. These reveal the nature of the plant in a deep way so that we can begin to understand the plant's qualities in relationship to healing, to nourishment, to the environment and to man.

The first conference, "Finding the Healing Forces in Plants", August 13th through 15th at the Portland Waldorf School, will focus on schooling observation of the formative forces that give rise to healing qualities. So we will be inner capacity building and developing a method at the same time – through drawing, through conversation, through tone and sound and through observing the environment – "What does this community of plants tell us about the environment?" What is "healing" about a particular plant? The lively dynamic between the observer and the observed helps us to deepen our connection with nature and with ourselves. The process of "coming to know", a process of time will be explored. This conference is open to farmers and gardeners, teachers, practitioners of the medical arts and for anyone wanting to grow into a deeper understanding of

themselves and of the invisible formative forces at work in nature. No previous artistic experience is required! For registration contact Patricia Dair at: healingforces@gmail.com

The second conference, “**Awakening Capacities Through the Formative Forces of the Plant: Observing the Invisible**” is the annual conference of the Natural Science/Mathematics-Astronomy Section of the School of Spiritual Science (NS/M-AS). It is not only open to members of the Science Section but also to members of the Pedagogical, Agricultural, Humanities and Agricultural Sections of the School for Spiritual Science. Anyone who has a passion for plants and for our theme and would like to come to this conference should contact Jannebeth Röell by phone at (503) 249-3807. This conference is open to Blue card holders. We will also be working artistically and through conversation, and through interdisciplinary synergy should gain some insights that will be valuable in our work. For registration please contact Christian Sweningsen at: csweningsen@newsci.org

Rudolf Steiner wanted us to become intimately familiar with the world nearest the physical- the etheric world of formative forces and of life forces. The two conferences above, sponsored by the U.S Natural Science/Mathematics-Astronomy Section, are formed to create the opportunity to work in this deeper way.

These two conferences are drawing people from all over the country. They should be very dynamic. Please join us!

A BIOGRAPHY OF MARSHA JOHNSON

By Diane Rumage, Vancouver, WA

Marsha Johnson spent her childhood in small Northwest coastal towns. She was born in 1955 in Port Angeles, Washington in the northern part of the state facing Victoria, B.C. across the Strait of Juan de Fuca. She has one older brother who now lives in Oregon. Her family and ancestors were all into education in some form or another. Her great grandfather emigrated from Wales and the main thing he brought was a large box of books. Her grandfather was a professor of economics. Her father was a teacher and a superintendent. Her mother was a school psychologist. Her uncles and cousins were superintendents, principals and teachers. They were a family very open to ideas, not closed minded at all.

She remembers vividly the older generation gathered around the table playing Canasta, engaged in laughter and lively discussions and the occasional accusation of cheating, while seated beneath them on the floor the children played and listened.

She wanted to be a boy until about the age of thirteen, playing with a bb gun, not wearing a top to bed in emulation of her dad and brother. When Mother Nature stepped in, she shifted gears and accepted both sides of the coin. She feels this tendency has given her the ability to always feel competent to tackle whatever is placed in front of her.

Her mother converted to Catholicism, and Marsha remembers being sprinkled with holy water, the smoky incense, the ritual of the Mass in Latin, and she really thrived on the sacredness that was a part of the aura in which she grew up. In later years she attended Presbyterian, Episcopalian, Unitarian, though never the Eastern religions, and when she then discovered Anthroposophy,

she felt that though it was not a religion, it fit her religious mood very well. They spent a few years in Seattle while her mom and dad acquired advanced degrees.

At age 13, the family moved to Coos Bay, a small town on the Oregon Pacific coast, though in relation to the neighboring towns it seemed like a booming metropolis. It had a J.C. Penney store where she worked during high school. She was the class Valedictorian. She also won the Danforth award as a senior, given to those with independent, creative thinking. Her social studies teacher in high school was very inspirational and stimulating. Her chemistry teacher was a plumber who taught more chess than chemistry in class.



As an undergraduate Marsha attended Oregon State University and was determined to be anything but a teacher. She was weary of hearing about the bond levies and politics of public school teaching, and wanted to go into medicine. She started to study to be a pharmacist, but her plumber/chess background proved to be her downfall. At age 19 she changed her major to Economics, and also studied art and French, which the heavy science curriculum of pharmacy wouldn't accommodate. She lived for a year alone just south of Paris, France in a university situation, with her mother's enthusiastic support. On school vacations, she hitchhiked all over from Denmark to Greece, from Scotland to Spain, studying the art and architecture and everything that wasn't in Coos Bay. She studied French in high school, and later some German and Russian, and has been attempting Greek. She eventually wants to be able to read Rudolf Steiner in German. At 20, she drove around Coos County during the summer teaching high school dropouts how to write resumes. This was the first hint

of teaching creeping in. She received her BA from OSU in Employment Economics, and was hired by the Oregon government as a CETA administrator under Neil Goldschmidt, and worked for the Bureau of Human Resources in Portland in 1978.

In 1980 she married her current husband, Paul. They had met at OSU, and had their first child, Joshua, in 1982, so she stopped working. They had attended wedding parties of an OSU friend, Mark Hope, before their son was born. They, being rather of the conservative ilk, met the "hippie" bride, Valerie Hope, and didn't quite know what to make of her. She and Valerie were both expecting their first babies in the Spring of 1982, and they became very good friends. Valerie introduced her to Anthroposophy. The toddlers, Nick and Joshua, played together all the time. When they were 2-3 yrs old, Valerie was looking around for a good school for her child, so Marsha accompanied her to the Portland Waldorf School in North Portland. Two more children were born, Nate and Laura.



Always involved in community building and business from her home, she started two community gardens, a vinegar business as Oregon Gourmet Foods Manufacturing Association, she learned to make gnomes from Carmel Weissart, (a Waldorf kindergarten teacher who lived next to her) and she did so for over 10 years in order to pay for Waldorf education. She couldn't afford full schooling at first, so she would send them to Pat and Craig Thom's summer schooling. She considers herself a founder and midwife, helping things to get off the ground, and then moving on. She "engenders entities". She says yes and then discovers how to do something. When she brought Josh to Craig Thom's class at PWS, he asked her to be in charge of making desks for the class. She said yes. Her other children were also able to attend PWS.

She got very involved in study groups and the Michael Group. She has read a lot of Anthroposophy on her own, and sometimes the study group consists of her and the angels in bed at night. It took her a while to understand it and take it in, though she was very driven towards it. "The Kingdom of Childhood" was probably her first book, and she read education books by other authors. She had a friend who helped her start teaching Biology to talented and gifted children in public schools. She taught science for 3 years at Madeleine Catholic School. She started an after school math and chess club for a local elementary school. She ran a 4-H club for 3 years at PWS, and also was a substitute teacher there. She went beyond education and read *Knowledge of the Higher Worlds* in 1995-96 while taking workshops with John Miles and a few folks before he officially called it the Michael Institute. She didn't hear about First Class or the Sections of the School for Spiritual Science or the Anthroposophical Society until some years after that. She was at times the PWS substitute: janitor, receptionist, after school provider, teacher in all grades except first, (which was ironic, since that was the grade she was

then asked to teach full time). She was summer program director for 9 years.

She got a Masters degree in 1997 in Communication Sciences at Portland State University, since the Waldorf tuition was outpacing her vinegar and gnome output. She thought of medical school, but with a big family she couldn't ignore them for that amount of time. She decided if she couldn't focus on the whole body, she'd specialize in audiology. She volunteered at the Portland VA Hospital for a year, so she had to hire an assistant named Robert Adams, a Waldorf kindergarten teacher, to help her with the summer program. He and others wanted to start a west side Waldorf School. In Summer 1997, they both were hired to start Cedarwood Waldorf School. Robert was kindergarten teacher the first year. There weren't enough children for a first grade, so she

worked at audiology for 2 years. She then taught first grade, but she has kept her clinic going all these years. In Cedarwood's 3rd year, they bought the Neighborhood House and moved to its current location. At the end of her 4th grade teaching, major transitions occurred. She says two mantras have guided her during the last 20 years: recognize the spirit in matter and seek spirit vision. And accept personal responsibility, which she says can be like swallowing a watermelon or a hedgehog! Her favorite childhood story was "The Little Engine that Could", with its mantra "I think I can, I think I can" and St Francis' saying "don't be afraid to be a fool for God."

She was on the PWS high school committee for 7 years, and sometimes was the only one on the committee, and would read to the hierarchies in the room. Now, there is a high school. She can persevere! In 2002, during the Holy Nights at Christmastime, she dreamed about a school in the country. In the fall of 2003, she started Shining Star Waldorf School, which goes through grade 4 this fall and has 14 faculty and about 90 students. Accessible Waldorf education was part of the dream, available to all. She has many study groups for the parents. About half her time she teaches and administers the school, the other half she spends at her clinic, now in its 10th year, and may be the only audiologist who uses anthroposophic medicine in her practice involving tinnitus and hyperacusis. The math, frequency, and movement of energy all intrigue her.

She accepted the task of Presidency of the Portland Anthroposophical Branch this spring, is trying to put a branch phone directory together, and took on the task of soliciting advertising for the newsletter. Her children are now all studying away from home: Joshua is completing his Master's in Psychology, and wants to be an FBI agent or a winemaker; Nate is studying hospitality and, with an interest in fiber arts, sewed his girlfriend a skirt; Laura is an art major. Who knows what Marsha will dedicate herself to next?

Portland Anthroposophical Society Calendar - August 2006

Ongoing Events and Study Groups

African Drumming

Starting September 6th, 2006, Wednesdays 7:00 - 8:30 pm at Cedarwood school for adults, (also appropriate for 6th graders and up). 3030 SW 2nd Avenue, Portland. We'll be playing traditional Malinke (West African) rhythms on djembe and dunduns. Drums are provided. \$12 drop-in fee, or buy 6 lessons for \$60. Marion Van Namen (503) 956-4046.

Portland Waldorf School Community Choir

Starting September 8th, 2006, Fridays 8:45 - 10:00 am, 2300 SE Harrison Street, Milwaukie. Werbeck warm ups and singing songs throughout the seasons and around the world. Marion Van Namen (503) 956-4046.

Anthroposophia Study Group

Call for meeting times to Valerie Hope 503 775-0778.

Anthroposophical Medicine Study Group

Once a month Monday 7-8:30 PM at the clinic, please contact John Takacs by e-mail at docstakacs@comcast.net or Kevin Kane at drkev@involved.com.

Anthroposophical Psychology Study Group

Open to new members with a counseling or psychology degree. Meets once a month on the evening of the 4th Tuesday, at Bothmer Hall. For information contact Amy Thomas at gnohemaven@msn.com.

Biodynamic Agriculture

Reading "Introduction to Culture and Horticulture". First and third Sunday at 5:30 PM with pot luck, held at the Parker's 5720 SE Harney Dr. Contact Sharon Parker at sharon.parker@providence.org or (503) 777-9086.

Eurythmy

Training offered by Portland Eurythmy on weekends and evenings. Please contact Natasha Moss at 503 233-0663.

Karmic Relationships

Working through Rudolf Steiner's Karmic Relationships Cycle of lectures. Call James Lee for information 503 249-3804.

Life Beyond Death

Reading the collection of Steiner's lectures. Call Cheri Munske 503 772-2632.

Mystery Dramas, with Warm-Up Speech-Formation Exercises

Wednesdays 7:00-9:00 p.m. Call Diane Ramage at 360 241-7854.

Waldorf Education and Teacher Training

Lectures and courses conducted throughout the year by the Michael Institute. Contact John Miles at 503/774-4946.

johncmiles@usa.net

Occult Physiology

A weekly study group meets Tuesdays, 7:30-9:00 PM. A series of eight lectures given in Prague between 20 and 28 March, 1911. In *An Occult Physiology*, Rudolf Steiner represents the human organism as much more than conventional medical science would even consider. He describes it in form and function, and in its very evolution, as the expression of activities of soul and spirit, both human and super-human. Contact Diane Ramage at 360 241-7854 for information.

Deepening Our Experience with the Six Basic Exercises

Saturday 9:00-10:00 AM

August 12-September 9-October 7 at 3135 NE 17th Avenue, contact Jannebeth Röell at 503-249-3807. Please call to confirm the activity close to the date.

Upcoming Events

AUGUST 12-14

Eurythmy Workshops

Eurythmy workshops for beginning and advanced students with Michael Leber at the Portland Waldorf School. For schedule and information call Natasha at 503-233-0663 or e-mail her at nmoss@easystreet.com

AUGUST 13 - 15

Finding the Healing Forces in Plants: Awakening Inner Capacities

Sunday 7 PM to Tuesday at 6:30 PM

Portland Waldorf School, 2300 SE Harrison Milwaukie, OR 97222

You are cordially invited to this three day workshop to awaken an ability to see the healing forces in plants. We will cultivate a dialogue with Nature through discovery of the invisible forces and language of form, rhythm, movement and color. Internationally known lecturer and teacher Jannebeth Roell will lead Reading the Gestures of Form through drawing, conversation, music and nature observations. Our guides will also include Katheryn Casternovia, biodynamic consultant and president of the Oregon Biodynamic Group, anthroposophic music therapist Marion Van Namen, and Waldorf science teacher and Camphill coworker Elizabeth Howe with members of the Natural Science Section of the School of Spiritual Science, the workshop's sponsor. Delicious biodynamic meals included. All interested in Nature and healing are warmly welcomed. Please inquire about scholarship and reduced fees for students. For information, contact Patricia Dair at healingforces@gmail.com or 503 236-2205.

Tuesday AUGUST 15

Performance of Poetry in Buchenwald

8PM at Portland Waldorf School, 2300 SE Harrison Milwaukie, OR 97222. A story by Jacques Lusseyran performed dramatically with puppets, eurythmy and acting. Donations at the door. Contact Natasha Moss at 503 233-0663.

AUGUST 16-26, 2006

Spacial Dynamics Course

Mechanicville, NY, contact johntakacsdo@hotmail.com

Thursday AUGUST 17**First Class of the School of Spiritual Science**

A special event in collaboration with the Natural Science Section. Reading of Lesson 13 at 8:15 PM, 3135 NE 17th Ave, Portland 97212. Blue card required. Contact Jannebeth Röell 503 249-3807.

AUGUST 17- 20**Awakening Capacities through the Formative Forces of Plants: Observing the Invisible**

3135 NE 17th Ave, Portland 9721.

Thursday 4 PM through Sunday Lunch

Members of the First Class of the School of Spiritual Science are welcome to attend this workshop being held by the Natural Science/Mathematics-Astronomy Section. This is to help build capacities for metamorphic thinking that is needed for understanding the streaming aspect of life and the fluid creativity of the archetype. The work with the plant will be based on the book by Dick van Romunde, *About Formative Forces in Plants*, translated by Jannebeth Roell and James Lee that brings a fresh impulse to science. The mood that Jannebeth creates through drawing, observation and conversation will help us to become effective listeners of the plant's "story" that is being told. If you wish to attend, inquire at csweningsen@newsci.org.

Friday AUGUST 18**First Class of the School of Spiritual Science**

A special event in collaboration with the Natural Science Section. Free rendering of Lesson 13 at 8:15 PM, 3135 NE 17th Ave, Portland 9721. Blue card required. Contact Jannebeth Röell 503/249-3807.

AUGUST 18-19, 2006**Benjamin Franklin and the Modern World**

A conference in celebration of his life and impulses with Virginia Sease. Rudolf Steiner College, 916-961-8727 or rsc@steinercollege.edu

Saturday AUGUST 19**Natural Science Section Report Evening**

7.45 PM Bothmer Hall, 5909 SE Division. The members of the Natural Science Section invite Portland Branch members and friends who are interested in Goethean science for a conversation. For information call Patricia Dair 503-236-2205

Monday AUGUST 21**Anthroposophy as a Service to the Gods**

7 to 9 PM, Bothmer Hall, 5909 SE Division. Conversation with Linda Connell and MariJo Rogers

Please mark your calendar for this opportunity to meet with Linda Connell, Council Member and our regional representative to the Anthroposophical Society in America, and MariJo Rogers, General Secretary of the Anthroposophical Society in America. For more information, please contact Marsha Johnson at oregon7@aol.com or Patricia Dair at 503-236-2205 or patriciadair@comcast.net if you'd like to help with this event.

Wednesday AUGUST 23**From the Bathroom to the Balkans**

Lecture at 7:00 PM by Kim Payne about teasing, terrorism and the culture of disrespect. Limited child care available. Portland Waldorf School, 2300 SE Harrison Street, Milwaukie. Contact the school at 503 654-2200.

AUGUST 27-31**Foundation Conference for Teacher Training and Anthroposophy**

This is an ideal introduction to Anthroposophy or Waldorf Education for all adults, at PWS. Contact John Miles at 503 774-4946. johncmiles@usa.net.

SEPTEMBER 7-28**Micha-el Institute**

9/7 "Human Biography"; 9/14 "The Three Ages of Childhood"; 9/21 "The Waldorf Curriculum and the consciousness of children"; 9/28 "Working with the Temperaments". Contact John Miles by phone at 503 774-4946 or by e-mail at johncmiles@usa.net.

Saturday SEPTEMBER 23**Portland Branch Annual General Meeting**

The Portland Branch AGM will take place Saturday, September 23, 2:00 to 4:00 pm at 2606 SE 58th Ave Portland, OR 97206. More on this event in the next issue.

SEPTEMBER 22-24**Removing the Blindfold: A Path toward Reconnecting with the World of Nature.**

This weekend will explore a path toward reconnecting with the world of nature through ceremony, Goethean observation, artistic activity and conversation. The weekend highlight will be a float rafting trip on the Squamish River in British Columbia, a traditional waterway used by the Squamish First Nation people. Contact Leslie Fish, 604 986-8036 or e-mail fish01@shaw.ca.

Friday-Sunday OCTOBER 13-15, 2006**Spirit in Practice - Annual General Meeting 2006**

Virginia Sease is the keynote speaker bringing results of her work around the biography of Ben Franklin. MariJo Rogers will speak about the Archetype of the Anthroposophical Society using the three calls to Practice found in the Foundation Stone Meditation. Cornelius Pietzner and Coleman Lyles will speak about the relationship of the many anthroposophical initiatives and the Anthroposophical Society. Many workshops are planned, including Mystery Dramas, Foundation Stone Meditation, Calendar of the Soul, Building Anthroposophy, Work at the Goetheanum, Anthroposophical Businesses, School for Spiritual Science, and more. Several meals are included with the conference.

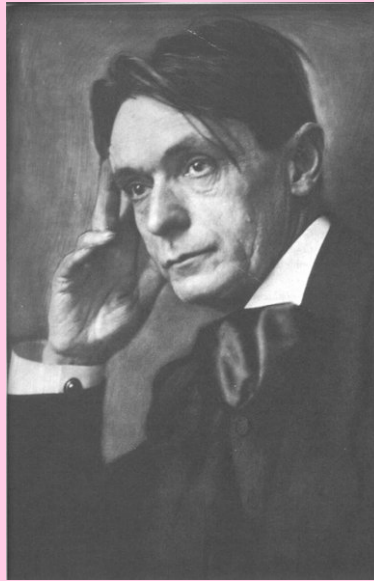
Friday OCTOBER 27, 28 and 29**FOUNDATION STONE MEDITATION WEEKEND**

Bothmer Hall in Portland, Oregon 5915 SE Division
Friday, 7:00 PM. All are welcome to the opening and introductory session at 7pm featuring presentations by Dorothea Mier and Jannebeth Röell. \$10.00 contribution. (open to the public). Saturday & Sunday Morning. Dorothea Mier will work with eurythmists on Rudolf Steiner's indications for the presentation of the Foundation Stone Meditation in eurythmy (eurythmists only.) For information contact Don Marquiss 503 235 8957 or donmarq@easystreet.com.

NOVEMBER 1-5, 2006**The Movement in R. Steiner's Six Subsidiary Exercises**

Jaimen McMillan will present an approach to these subsidiary exercises that imbues them with the life that they were meant to have. Applying exercises from the discipline of Spacial Dynamics we will explore these six steps. This course promises to bring your meditative life into movement. For information e-mail to sdadmission@earthlink.net.

MONDAY AUGUST 21ST



7 pm at Bothmer Hall
SE 59th and Division

***"ANTHROPOSOPHY
AS A SERVICE TO THE GODS
FOLLOWED BY CONVERSATION"***

AN EVENING WITH LINDA CONNELL AND MARIJO ROGERS

Linda Connell is the Western Regional Council representative on the General Council of the Anthroposophical Society in America. She is visiting us from Glendale, California, where she lives with her husband Philip Mees.

MariJo Rogers is the National General Secretary of the Anthroposophical Society in America and a former Waldorf High School teacher. She currently manages a world-wide program of training and awareness for a high technology firm out of its Social Responsibility group in Sacramento, California.

Please bring your favorite cookies to share....
Linda enjoys Homemade Cookies with Conversation!

The Branch will provide iced tea!

THIS WILL BE A WONDERFUL EVENING.....PLEASE COME!

Finding the Healing Forces in Plants

Awakening Inner Capacities

August 13-15, 2006

Join us to discover the hidden qualities in plants: the invisible forces and the language of the living story they tell in form, rhythm, movement and color.

This workshop is for all those interested in nature and healing: teachers, students, parents, therapists, doctors and healers, scientists, botanists and those working on the land. All are welcome, beginners and sages.

Location: Portland Waldorf School,
2300 SE Harrison St, Milwaukie, OR 97222

Times: Workshop begins Sunday, August 13
at 7 pm and ends Tuesday, August 15 at 6:15 pm

Cost: \$215, or \$179 if a deposit of any amount
is paid before August 1.

Fee includes biodynamic/organic lunches
and snacks, course materials. Inquiries about
scholarships for students and those in finan-
cial need welcome

To learn more contact Patricia Dair
503-236-2205 or healingforces@gmail.com

Workshop Leaders

Reading the Gestures of Form

Jannebeth Roell, RN, BFA, art therapist

Making Formative Forces Audible.

with Marion Van Namen, music therapist, cellist
and African drummer.

Reading the Landscape

Katheryn Casternovia, Biodynamic agriculturist and
landscape designer.

Finding the being of a plant

Elizabeth Howe, Physics teacher from the Santa Cruz
Waldorf School

Finding the Healing Forces in Plants

Awakening Inner Capacities

Portland Oregon - August 13 to 15, 2006

There was a child went forth every day;
And the first object he look'd upon, that object he became;
And that object became part of him for the day, or a certain part of the day, or
for many years, or stretching cycles of years

Walt Whitman, *Leaves of Grass*

The visible world is part of the invisible world,
which taken together form the whole Universe.

Rudolf Steiner,
Man as Symphony of the Creative World

August 3, 2006

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your interest in the *Finding the Healing Forces in Plants* workshop! We would like to introduce you to our event and the presenters, and welcome your participation.

By learning to “see” the formative forces working in plants, we awaken new capacities within. This adds insight to our working knowledge of the plant and its gifts for healing. Through methodical work, confidence grows in the ability to have a glimpse of the inner workings of Nature.

To foster this, we will convene a two and a half day workshop on August 13 at the Portland Waldorf School near Portland, Oregon. Registration is from 6 to 7 PM, and the opening session is from 7 to 9 PM that evening. The conference concludes on Tuesday, August 15 at 6:15 PM. A detailed conference schedule is included with this letter.

Finding the Healing Forces in Plants is being sponsored by the Natural Science - Mathematics/Astronomy Section of the School of Spiritual Science of the Anthroposophical Society of America. The mission of the Section is to encourage and nurture a science that fosters the awakening of inner capacities, to see the wholeness of Nature and the human being in relationship to the cosmos and to the earth.

What work will we be doing in this conference?

The main body of the conference will be direct work with plants, schooling our skills in observation, perceiving the “invisible” and understanding the formative forces that have worked upon the plant, giving it its healing qualities. Jannebeth Röell will lead us into the heart of the plant through drawing, observation and conversation.

Supporting this work of discovery will be an experience of “music shaping form” -- participants will learn to hear the spaces between tones and feel the rhythm between stillness and movement. Marion van Namen will lead this.

Then, we will take our work outside and ask the question “What can the plants we see tell us about the environment they are in? What are the subtle ways of Nature’s working?” Kathryn Casternovia will help us awaken *inner* ecological capacities.

Who are the presenters?

Jannebeth Röell is a painting therapist who works with the active anthroposophic medical therapeutic circle in Portland. She is an RN who pioneered anthroposophical nursing in this country with three other colleagues. In her quest to understand why specific plant oils are used for certain therapeutic baths, she took up a direct study of the plants and how healing properties manifest as gesture, in relationship to the way they work. This led her to the work of Dick van Romunde and his Goethean approach to science. She found Romunde’s book so pertinent that she and her husband, James Lee, translated it from the Dutch into English. Since this time she has held acclaimed workshops on plant studies. She works not out of theory but practically and experientially. In addition to her nursing degree, Jannebeth holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Art Center College of Design in Pasadena, California.

Elizabeth Howe, a member of the Camphill Community in Great Britain and in the U.S. for the past 25 years, teaches physics at the Santa Cruz Waldorf School. She studied physics and mathematics at Imperial College in London and attended the Waldorf High School Science Teacher Training at Wynstones Waldorf Teacher Training Center in England. Elizabeth has led plant observation studies within the Camphill Community for many years, based upon Dr. Margaret Colquhoun’s book, *New Eyes for Plants- A Workbook for Drawing and Observing Plants*.

Kathryn Casternovia is president of the Oregon Biodynamic Prep-making Group that makes and evaluates the preparations and their use. She is a Demeter garden and farm inspector. In her spare time Kathryn unfolds her artistic capacities through oil and watercolor painting of landscape, adding insight to her understanding of the underlying natural forces. She is the founder of Elemental Landscape Designs, Inc., working closely with clients to help them understand their environments as they become co-designers.

Marion van Namen was born and raised in the Netherlands. Her adventurous spirit brought her to the U.S. in her early twenties. She has a Master's of Science degree in Industrial Administration from Carnegie Mellon University. Her career in business brought her to such diverse places as Amsterdam, New York, Tanzania and to Microsoft. In the Pacific Northwest she met Rudolf Steiner's work and this reawakened her childhood dream of a career in music. She returned to the Netherlands to study anthroposophic music therapy. Marion currently has a private practice in music therapy in Portland, teaches music at the local Waldorf Schools and gives private lessons in cello and African drumming.

Suggested reading and materials:

The following is a selection of books that support the approach and subject matter we will be working on and that may be of interest to you:

- 1) *About Formative Forces in Plants*, Dick van Romunde, translated from Dutch into English by Jannebeth Röell and edited by James Lee; a primary text for this event.
- 2) *Perceiving Plants: Experiencing Elemental Beings*, Dick van Romunde.
- 3) *The Wholeness of Nature*, Henri Bortoft, Anthroposophic Press.
- 4) *Learning to Experience the Etheric World*, Baruch Urieli, Temple Lodge Press.
- 5) *Goethe’s Scientific Consciousness*, Henri Bortoft.

6) *Nature's Open Secret*, Rudolf Steiner, Anthroposophic Press.

These books can be had from:

Rudolf Steiner College Bookstore

<http://www.steinercollege.org/newbookstore/bookstore.html> (916-961-8729)

Sunbridge Bookstore <http://www.sunbridge.edu/bookstore/index.htm> (845-425-0983)

Steiner Storehouse <http://www.steinerstorehouse.com/> (800-360-0220).

If you have your own water-soluble pencils, we encourage you to bring them. Do bring a portable camp chair for our outdoor observation sessions, if this is convenient for you.

Logistics:

The airport in Portland is **PDX**, the Portland International Airport, about 14 miles from downtown. The **Portland Waldorf School** is located in Milwaukie, southeast of downtown Portland, on the east side of the Willamette River.

For directions to Portland Waldorf School, go to: www.portlandwaldorfschool.org

Portland Waldorf School

2300 SE Harrison
Milwaukie, OR 97222-7527

From the North: Driving south on I-5, take exit 300B toward OMSI/US-26 E?Oregon City. Take ramp toward Oregon City, then take the ramp toward US 26 and stay straight. Turn left onto Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd/OR 99E and drive south. Past Sellwood, you will enter Milwaukie. Turn left onto SE Harrison Street at the light. Our school is the large brick building ahead of you. Park in lot on the right side of the property.

From the South: Driving north on I-5, take exit 288 onto I-205. Then take exit 13 onto OR-213 toward 82nd Ave/OR-224/Milwaukie. Take OR-224 W toward Milwaukie. Turn left onto SE Monroe Street. Cross the RR tracks and turn right into our parking lot.

From SW Portland: Take the Sellwood Bridge over the Willamette River and stay on Tacoma, till it meets 99E. Drive south past Sellwood and turn left onto SE Harrison Street, which is a light. Our school is the large brick building ahead of you. Park in the lot on the right side of the property.

To get from Portland Airport to the school there are several options. MAX light rail transit runs frequently into the city center (in the direction of Hillsboro) to connect with public buses. Taxi cabs cost about \$35 each way. Car rental takes place at the airport in the parking garage structure, a short walk from the terminal doors. The trip from the airport to PWS by car takes 30 to 40 minutes. Radio Cab is a good company; to book: 503-227-1212 or www.radiocab.net. You may ask for a non-smoking cab.

Lodging:

We can assist with hotel recommendations or place you with a local host in a private home. The summer books early, so please don't wait to make housing arrangements for your stay:

1) There are many **motel options** in the area but few within immediate walking distance of the school. Try an online search for <http://portland.citysearch.com> and pop in the address: 3030 SW 2nd Ave, Portland, OR 97205 to see your choices.

The **Mark Spencer Hotel** is located just a short walk from Powell's Bookstore and is in a nice area for walking to cafes and restaurants, with good access to public transportation. If you book soon, the Mark Spencer offers a promotional rate of \$94 - \$104 per night; contact them at 503-224-3293 or www.markspencer.com Please note: to obtain a discount, go to their website and select *Reservations*, then select *Group or Promotion*; then enter the word "Best" for the *Group Number* and "Rate" for the *Password*. Indicate the date of your visit and they will show the best prices by room type and amenities.

Portland's **International Youth Hostels** have several locations that can be booked in advance. They have private as well as dormitory rooms: www.hiayh.org/ or 503-241-2783 and 503-236-3380

2) There are many **rooms in private homes** offered by local Anthroposophic Society Branch members for conference participants. Arrangements can be made if you give us sufficient advance notice. We are usually able to place many people with local hosts in Portland. It is suggested that a contribution between \$25 and \$37 per night be offered to the hosts. There are also accommodations for those in need of financial assistance. Some homes belong to workshop participants, and so transport can be arranged.

Fees:

The fee for the conference is **\$215**. This includes biodynamic/organic snacks, two lunches, and drawing materials. Inquiries about scholarships for students and for those in financial need are welcomed, although funds are limited at this date.

Please send registration form and payment to:

Patricia Dair, 223 SE 62nd Ave., Portland, OR 97215

Make checks payable to the Natural Science Section

If you have questions, do not hesitate to contact us. Patricia's phone number is: 503-236-2205. E-mail is: healingforces@gmail.com

We are very pleased to be able to bring this conference to you and look forward to your participation.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Greene jgreene@waterresearch.org
For the Steering Committee, Natural Science-Mathematics/Astronomy Section

Elizabeth Howe elizabeth@camphillca.org
Christian Sweningsen christian@newsci.org
Guy Agoston guy@astonlaser.com
Cathy Sims O'Neil simsoneil@sprintmail.com

Finding the Healing Forces in Plants

Awakening Inner Capacities

A Workshop Sponsored by the Natural Science/Mathematics-Astronomy Section

Sunday Evening, 13th August to Tuesday Evening, August 15th, 2006

Portland Waldorf High School, 2300 SE Harrison, Milwaukie, Oregon 97222

Sunday, August 13th

- 6:00 – 7:00 Registration in the High School
You may park in the Monroe or Harrison Street lots
- 7:00 – 7:30 Welcome and Overview of Workshop
- 7:30 – 9:00 Introduction to the Theme *Jannebeth Roell*

Monday, August 14th

- 8:00 – 10:00 Reading the Gestures of Form *Jannebeth Roell*
-- Plant observation and drawing
- 10:00- 10:30 Snack Break
- 10:30 – 12:30 Reading the Landscape *Kathryn Casternovia*
-- Outdoor observations
- 12:30-2:00 Picnic Lunch
- 2:00 –3:15 Reading the Landscape *Kathryn Casternovia*
--Outdoor observations
Please bring a portable camp stool if you have one
- 3:15 –3:45 Snack Break
- 3:45 – 5:45 Reading the Gestures of Form *Jannebeth Roell*
-- Plant observation and drawing
- 1:45 – 2:45 The Formative Forces of Tone *Marion Van Namen*
--Music
- 6:30 – 8:00 Dinner on your own
- 8:15-9:30 Finding the Being of a Plant *Elizabeth Howe*
-- Talk and conversation

Tuesday, August 15th

8:00 – 10:00	Reading the Gestures of Form -- Plant observation and drawing	<i>Jannebeth Roell</i>
10:00- 10:30	Snack Break	
10:30 – 12:30	Reading the Landscape -- Outdoor observations	<i>Kathryn Casternovia</i>
12:30-1:45	Lunch at PWS	
1:45 – 2:45	The Formative Forces of Tone --Music	<i>Marion Van Namen</i>
2:45 –3:15	Snack Break	
3:15 – 5:15	Reading the Gestures of Form -- Plant observation and drawing	<i>Jannebeth Roell</i>
5:15—6:15	Closing Conversation	

Please note that you are also invited to a post-workshop social evening:

8:00-9:00 Poetry in Buchenwald, a theater performance for participants and families