
The Theosophical Society in Detroit

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



November 2006

11/03 **Canticle to the Cosmos Series**

Mara Radzwickas and Marina Sionov

FEAST OF CONSCIOUSNESS (THIRD IN A SERIES OF 12)

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

The Milky Way galaxy gave birth to exploding stars, which brought about a planet with molten lava, which became living flesh and singing humans. Consciousness is as intrinsic to the universe as the gravitational dynamic.

11/10 **Soap Bubbles and Geometry**

Mike Mongan

A DEMONSTRATION OF GEOMETRIC INTERACTIONS

Soap films have amazing properties. They demonstrate basic concepts in mathematics, physics, chemistry and biology. They are able to directly solve problems that are difficult or impossible with computers. Join us in exploring the amazing interaction between soap films and geometry. Learn why they make colors, and what they have in common with electrical resistors and compound interest rates.

Mike Mongan is a design engineer, whose fascination with geometry has become a compelling avocation. He regularly gives demonstrations for math and science teachers on the educational uses of soap bubbles. His website, www.m2solids.com offers a series of his articles on geometry and science free to the public. His "Unit of the Universe" series explores time, space, matter and energy with paper circles and cellophane tape.

11/17 **Public Like a Frog**

Gary Contesti

In 1994 Jean Houston gave a three day presentation at our National Headquarters. based on one of her mystery school series books, *Public Like a Frog*, which focuses on the inner lives of three great Americans. Gary's talk will concentrate on one of them, Helen Keller, whose personal triumph over physical handicaps have made her one of America's most admired women.

Gary Contesti has been a member of the Theosophical Society for over 30 years and has served as President, Vice President and Treasurer. He is currently Vice President of Detroit Lodge and leads the Tuesday members' study of Man, the Measure of all Things.

11/24 **Recent Paintings by Howard Weingarten**

Howard Weingarten

A SLIDE PRESENTATION OF RECENT PAINTINGS BY THIS LONG TIME FRIEND OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY IN DETROIT

The history of art is the history of ideas, even competing ideas. True art is created from the artist's passion to discover the spirit within the form, with the final understanding that love, death and transfiguration are the great themes of life, and consequently, of all great art.

Howard Weingarten is a long time student of Theosophy, Anthroposophy and the Arcane School. His formal training at Cass Tech, Wayne University and the Center for Creative Studies, helped set the stage for the fine artist he has become. Howard was recently Artist in Residence for Farmington Hills. His exhibits in various galleries around town have brought him significant recognition as one of the Detroit area's most promising artists.

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

December 2006

12/01 **Canticle to the Cosmos Video Series**

Mara Radzvickas and Marina Sionov

The powers of the universe sweep the Earth around the Sun, swirl the winds around the planet, awaken the intelligence rooted in genetic codes. In this program we identify and reflect upon the inherent meaning of these primal powers.

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

Marina Sionov is our librarian and facilitates the monthly Monday night Theosophical study group, which is currently studying Key to Theosophy.

12/08 **A Quaker Perspective on Peace (Nonviolence)**

Michael Kelly

When it was time to hold the annual Pointes for Peace vigil in remembrance of the events of September 11th, Mike suggested we turn back to a far different September 11th and the example set by the world's best known exemplar for non-violent action, Mohandas Gandhi who on September 11, 1906 first publicly enunciated his satyagraha program for peacemaking as a spiritual quest, as distinct from being a solely political strategy. Tonight's talk will recall some of the wisdom propounded by Gandhi and others who have shared this vision through the ages. As part of the evening we will participate in a process of reciting and reflecting on the words of many of the great teachers and doers of peace.

Mike Kelly is a retired clinical psychologist. As Director of Treatment for a large chemical dependency treatment facility he has long been impressed by the powerful role that opening to spiritual reality can have in bringing about transformation in the lives of individuals. His concern for peace and justice issues has also led him to see that a similar transformation is essential for the building of a humane society. He and his wife, Carmen, a biochemist, try to contribute a little of their time and resources in seeking the ideas and actions that show the greatest promise of transforming our war torn planet into the world envisioned by the great figures of all our great religious traditions. As self described Catholic Quakers they seek meaningful discourse and interaction within a full range of religious, ethnic and socially diverse gatherings, hoping that the small seeds of compassion and understanding, so freely offered, will play a significant part in healing the wounds currently inflicted on the public psyche."

12/15 **Becoming Sacred Humans**

Debbie Mast, RN MSN

Indigenous people from many traditions speak of this time as an opportunity for humans to reach our full potential- to become Sacred Humans who have learned how to care for Grandmother Earth and all her children. We will examine the Rainbow Bridge prophecies of the Sweet Medicine SunDance and other tribal traditions; learn the principles of becoming sacred humans, and make prayer feathers to align with the Earth.

Debbie has been a qualified Sweet Medicine Sundance instructor for 15 years. She incorporates wisdom from both western medicine and shamanic traditions in her international work. She is co-leader of the Flowering Tree Lodge in Michigan and the founder of the Women's Hoop, a ceremonial group for women now in its 16th year. Her work is inspired by her vision of women and men working together to co-create the world.

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

MEMBERS' WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION..... TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2006..... 7:00-9:30 PM

Winter gathering for TS members, family and friends. Potluck vegetarian supper, gratitude ceremony, and blessing tree. For friendship circle, bring something you enjoy sharing for the winter holidays- a poem, prayer, story or song.

WORLD HEALING DAY SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2006..... 3:00-4:00 PM

Readings and silent meditation for world healing and peace. Light refreshments. All are welcome.

This is a yearly event in which people use their concentrated thought power to help generate energy for peace.

Coinciding with group meditations throughout the world, we meet to help heal the sense of separation among human beings and to release light, love, and spiritual energy. Refreshments will be served after the mediation.

HOLIDAY CLOSING: FRIDAY EVENINGS, DECEMBER 22 & 29

PUBLIC PROGRAMS RESUME FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 2007

We wish you a new year of peace and happiness!

Words of Wisdom



The whole course of Evolution is the raising up unto ever higher standards of self-expression, of the spiritual grandeur within, of all the entities and beings which form the hierarchical hosts of the Boundless Universe. Everything helps everything else; nothing and no entity lives unto itself alone; every entity and everything is but a part of another entity still more grand, still more sublime.' (HPBM 148)

We find nature repeating herself everywhere, although such repetition of course is not merely a running in the same old ruts on each recurrence of the cyclic activity; for each recurrence is of course the expression of a modification, more or less great, of what has preceded. Day succeeds night, winter succeeds summer, the planets circulate around the suns in regular and periodical courses; and these are but familiar examples of cyclical activity. Cycles in nature show the time periods of periodic recurrence along and in which any evolving entity or thing expresses the energies and powers which are itself, so that cycles and evolution are like the two sides of a coin . . . ; but back of this apparently double but actually single process always lie profound karmic causes.' (OG 32-3) [Helena Petrovna Blavatsky](#)



Sundays at the Movies



Doors open at 1:30 PM. Movie will start at 2:00 PM.
Discussion after the movies until 5:00 PM

November 26. *What Dreams May Come* (1998)

starring Robin Williams

Doctor Chris Neilson (Robin Williams) meets his true soul mate Annie, marries her and has two children. The children die in a car accident and Chris dies four years later. In heaven, he is guided by friendly guardian angel Albert through the afterlife, and is reunited with his children and dog. When he finds out his wife has committed suicide he desperately searches for her spirit, journeying through Heaven and Hell along the way.

December 10. *Somewhere In Time* (1980)

Starring Christopher Reeves

Young writer Richard Collier is met on the opening night of his first play by an old lady who begs him to "Come back to me". Mystified, he tries to find out about her, and learns that she is a famous stage actress from the early 1900s, Elise McKenna. Becoming more and more obsessed with her, he manages, by self hypnosis, to travel back in time where he meets her. They fall in love, a matching that is not appreciated by her manager. Can their love outlast the immense problems caused by their "time" difference? And can Richard remain in a time that is not his?

Light refreshments will be provided.
Your free-will donations to help defray our cost would be greatly appreciated

NOTE: We welcome your movie suggestions and recommendations. We are looking for videos that will generate a flow of creative theosophical ideas and discussion.

Ongoing Activities

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

KEY TO THEOSOPHY STUDY

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

TUESDAYS: 7:30 PM TO 9:30 PM

MEMBERS STUDY

Man the Measure of all Things

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

WEDNESDAYS: 7:30 – 9:00 PM SHARP

OPEN DISCUSSION

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

THURSDAYS: MEDITATION CIRCLE

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

DAYTIME HOURS

Wed., Thurs., Fri., 12:00 P.M. TO 3:00 P.M.

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

Surely the perfect place
to spend a winter afternoon!

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27745 Woodward Avenue
Berkley, Michigan 48072-0906

<http://tsdetroit.org>

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