

SYMPTOMS OF CONTEMPORARY EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

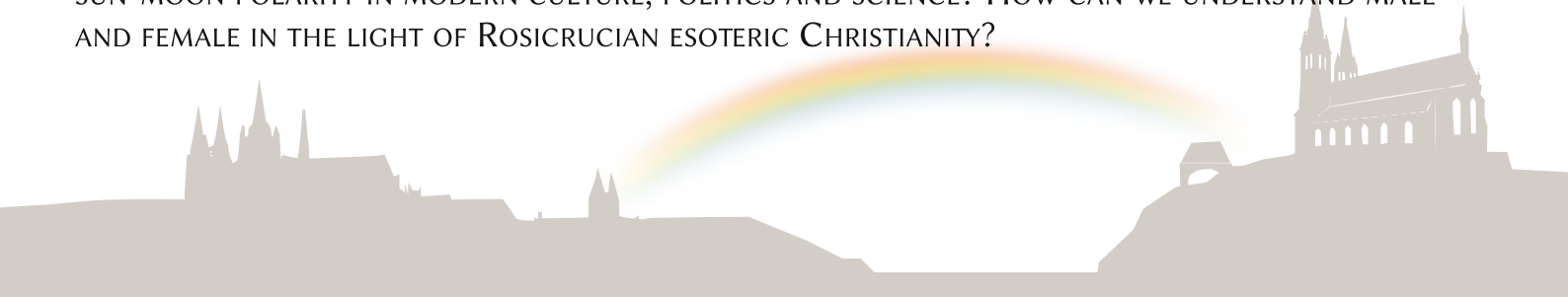


# THE ROSE CROSS IN EUROPE

QUESTIONS OF SPIRITUAL IDENTITY IN THE 20TH AND 21ST CENTURIES

6TH YEAR OF THE CONFERENCE  
22–24 NOVEMBER 2013, PRAGUE

WHAT FORCES ARE AT WORK WITHIN PEOPLE TODAY AND IN CONTEMPORARY EVENTS? WHAT IS THE SUN-MOON POLARITY IN MODERN CULTURE, POLITICS AND SCIENCE? HOW CAN WE UNDERSTAND MALE AND FEMALE IN THE LIGHT OF ROSICRUCIAN ESOTERIC CHRISTIANITY?



[WWW.ROSE-CROSS.CZ](http://WWW.ROSE-CROSS.CZ)

THIS IS THE SIXTH CONFERENCE ON *THE ROSE CROSS IN EUROPE*. IT IS A FREESTANDING EVENT, AND IT IS THEREFORE NOT NECESSARY FOR PARTICIPANTS TO HAVE ATTENDED LAST YEAR'S CONFERENCE. THE AIM OF THE CONFERENCE WILL ONCE AGAIN BE TO ILLUMINE ASPECTS OF ROSICRUCIANISM, AND THROUGH THIS TO SHED LIGHT ON CONTEMPORARY CULTURE AND CURRENT EVENTS. A FOCUS THIS TIME WILL BE ON "SUN AND MOON" IN THE WIDER SENSE – ON ASPECTS OF MASCULINE AND FEMININE IN SPIRITUALITY AS THESE MANIFEST IN CURRENT EVENTS, AND ON HOW THIS MAY BE UNDERSTOOD IN THE LIGHT OF THE ROSE CROSS IMPULSE OF ESOTERIC CHRISTIANITY.

### **Rosicrucianism and the Virgin Soul – Richard Ramsbotham**

Rosicrucianism is a spiritual path to the supersensible – in other words to that which is in no way bound to the sexes or to our genes. This is pointed to within Johannine Christianity (the path of John the Evangelist) by references to that which is "virgin-born", or to the Virgin Sophia. Rudolf Steiner renewed this path in the 20th Century, and in his Mystery Dramas (or Rosicrucian dramas) portrayed characters attempting to transform their earlier connections to "masculine" or "feminine" spiritual streams and thus to evolve a spirituality beyond the division between the sexes. Many spiritual and psycho-spiritual paths do not share this Rosicrucian goal – yet there is an increasing tendency to wish to integrate anthroposophy with these paths. We shall explore this integralsing tendency as well as the continual need to gain a fresh understanding of the sources of anthroposophy.

### **Talk-performance: New Time or Nothingness – Richard Ramsbotham**

An exploration of some of the themes of Richard's lecture and of the conference through a performance of poetry, prose and dramatic pieces.

### **"The Religion of Gaia" as the counter-impulse to the Rose Cross – Terry Boardman**

The "Rosicrucian Furore" of 1614–1623 that spread from Central Europe across the continent was a mysterious mix of esoteric Christian fact and fiction based on a secret brotherhood with far-reaching cultural, spiritual, scientific and apparently political aims. In 1982 the book "The Holy Blood and the Holy Grail" (by Baigent, Leigh and Lincoln) was published and became a global publishing sensation. Based on "the mystery of Rennes-le-Chateau", a town in southwest France, it was a politically-motivated hoax that originated in France in the 1950s, but which, through the success of the 1982 book, became a second global sensation after being picked up by Dan Brown and others in the 1990s. Themes in the 1980s of a secret esoteric society, Templar rites, the alleged bloodline of Jesus, and the United States of Europe had morphed, by the early 2000s, into the emergence of a new feminine mystery religion, centred on Mary Magdalene. The attempt to create for the 21st century a new global religion which could be called "the religion of Gaia", has deep and varied roots, emanates from many different sources, and crops up in various guises in today's culture. This "new" Gaian religion will be the subject of Terry Boardman's two presentations.

## The Human Being between the Higher Self and DNA (Genetics) Spiritual Transformations of the “Serpent” of DNA and the Tree of Knowledge In Search of True Humanity – Markus Osterrieder

Why do many New Age and channelling movements claim that our higher self is hidden in our DNA, while at the same time, materialistic scientists are trying to find a gene for every phenomenon of human life?

What are the driving forces in our genetic make-up? Have they changed over the centuries, and what does this mean for the basic human qualities of love and cognition?

This issue, in the light of Rosicrucianism, also has consequences for a true understanding of humanity, in which individuals form new communities as the basis for mankind.

### Process of individuation towards conscious I. I between pride and egoism. – Anežka Janátová PhD

A brief look at the development of the I in the course of history, with examples of historical individualities. The ability of sacrifice, the ability to forgive.

The development of the individual I aiming towards the conscious “I am”. The way to remember, the way not to forget, the way to train our wakefulness. (How shall we remember, how shall we not forget, how shall we train our wakefulness?). The Foundation Stone within human hearts.

*The programme will be accompanied by plenums, meditative eu-rythmic exercises and artistic performances.*



**Richard Ramsbotham** is a writer and theatre practitioner living near Gloucester, UK. Born in 1962, he studied at Cambridge University and



Artemis School of Speech and Drama. He lectured in English literature at Warsaw University (1989-1993) and worked as performer and writer

with the Rose Theatre Company. He is the author of *Who Wrote Bacon? William Shakespeare, Francis Bacon and James I. A Mystery for the 21st Century* (2004), the editor of *New Selected Poems of Vernon Watkins* (2006). He is currently directing Rudolf Steiner's 3rd Mystery Drama in a contemporary English translation and working on a performance piece, in English and Russian, based on Andrej Belyj's poem Glossolalia.

**Markus Osterrieder**, PhD., M.A. (Munich University), b.1961, Munich. Formerly a research fellow of the Institute for Eastern Europe (Osteuropa Institut), Munich, he is now a freelance historian, lecturer and writer, active in many European countries from Norway to Romania and from Britain to



and Eurasia. Main publication (in German): *Sun Cross and Tree of Life* (1995), *The Militant Commonwealth of Peace* (2005). His web site: [www.celtoslavica.de](http://www.celtoslavica.de)

**Terry Boardman** (b.1952) lives in Stourbridge, England, and is a long-term student of history and of Rudolf Steiner's Spiritual Science, with special interests in East-West issues, contemporary world events, Kaspar Hauser, and the First World War as crucible of the modern world. He was a university and college lecturer in English for thirteen



years in Japan and England, a eurythmist for 11 years, and is now a freelance writer, lecturer and translator of Japanese and German. He is the author of *Kaspar Hauser: Where did he come from?* (2006), *Mapping the Millenium* –

Russia. He has a particular interest in the spiritual, geopolitical and cross-cultural exchanges between the continents of America, Europe

and Eurasia. Main publication (in German): *Sun Cross and Tree of Life* (1995), *The Militant Commonwealth of Peace* (2005). His web site: [www.threeman.org](http://www.threeman.org)

**Anežka Janátová**, PhD., born 1945 in Tabor (Czechoslovakia). After graduating from Charles University (Prague), she worked as a psychologist and later, as a director at the Jedlickas Home for people with learning difficulties and physical handicaps. In 1993 she conceived of the Curative Education and Social Therapy course and promptly established it. In



1997 she and her students set up The Tabor Academy of Social Arts. She has also set up the Tabor Foundation and The Association for Social Therapy and Curative Education in the Czech Republic. She works as a consultant for several day centres and workshops for people with learning difficulties, gives lectures all over Europe, and cooperates with four Steiner schools. Since 2008, she has been the head of the Anthroposophical Society in the Czech Republic. Tabor Academy website: [www.akademietabor.cz](http://www.akademietabor.cz)

## VENUE

Anthroposophical society, Hošťálkova street 392/1d, Prague 6.

## ORGANISER

Anthroposophical society, CR, [www.anthroposof.cz](http://www.anthroposof.cz)

## APPLICATIONS

Online [www.rose-cross.cz](http://www.rose-cross.cz)  
Please send applications by 1st November 2013 at the latest.

## CO-ORDINATOR

Tomáš Petr, The Tabor Academy of Social Arts, Španělská street 10, 120 00 Prague 2, +420 723 539 983

## PRICE

€ 70, 30 (student)

## OTHER INFORMATION

Czech-English and Czech-German translation provided. The conference will start on Friday afternoon (November 22nd) and will end on Sunday afternoon (November 24th). It is possible for the participants to join the tour round Prague on Friday morning in German and in English. You will receive a detailed programme after your application.

See [www.rose-cross.cz](http://www.rose-cross.cz) for more detailed information.