

MAGICAL AND MYTHIC COURSES & OTHER EVENTS

*These courses, events and signings are open to all who are on their spiritual path. FIOS MASTERCLASSES offer an opportunity to deepen spiritual practice with a living exemplar of a tradition. Courses marked * give £20 member's discount.*

11 March 2019 *The Elucidation of the Grail: Sacred Hospitality and the Wasteland*: a talk by Caitlín Matthews. The Grail legend as told in *The Elucidation* presents a world in which both faery and human sides of the Grail myth are related. This 13th century French poem uniquely reveals a world familiar to us from our own times where greed, corporate interest, and the exploitation of natural resources are rife. By considering sacred hospitality and the Wasteland, Caitlín Matthews will explore the deeper context of the Grail quest and human responsiveness to the spiritual vision it presents. Chaired by Julia Cleave, at a 7–8.30pm, The Royal Asiatic Society, 14 Stephenson Way, London NW1 2HD *Admission:* £8 or £5 Members of the Temenos Academy/Concessions. Full-time students with student ID card FREE. Bookings: temenosacademy@myfastmail.com or 01233 813663.



18 March 2019 *The House of the Grail*: a talk by John Matthews A number of medieval texts, beginning with the 12th century *Perceval or Le Conte del Graal* by Chretien de Troyes, describe a visit to a castle, chapel or temple dedicated to the Holy Grail. It is evident that simply to visit these places brings about a profound change in the visitor. In effect the places where the Grail is housed are chambers of initiation. In this talk John will look at several neglected texts, some previously untranslated, which offer detailed accounts of buildings constructed to house the Grail, and a possible source for a physical site which may have influenced the writers and architects who saw the Grail as a symbol of spiritual gnosis. Chaired by Professor Grevel Lindop At The Royal Asiatic Society, 14 Stephenson Way, London NW1 2HD *Admission* £8 or £5 Members of the Temenos Academy/Concessions. Full-time students with student ID card FREE. Bookings: temenosacademy@myfastmail.com, or 01233 813663.

1st June 2019 MAGICKAL WOMEN CONFERENCE Caitlín will be presenting, *Sounding the Silence: Embodying and Singing the Otherworld* as part of this overwhelmingly exciting conference, whose line-up looks like a list of our friends! Key note speakers are Dolores Ashcroft Nowicki and Christina Harrington, storyteller in residence Baya Salmon-Hawk. Venue: 65 Queen's Gate South Kensington London SW7 price £75, lunch and refreshments <https://ti.to/magickal-women-conference/2019>



15-16 June 2019
**REINTERPRETING SHAMANISM FOR THE
MODERN SEEKER**

With Dr. JANET PIEDILATO

At the Yurt, Hadden Acre, North Moreton, Oxon

**A Non-residential FÍOS MASTERCLASS
introduced by John Matthews**

In the past several decades the western world has embraced what is commonly called “shamanism.” Yet the “journeying” practice so cherished by shamanic tribal ritual is not so different from that which lies at the core of the visionary practice of altering consciousness. Together we shall explore this cherished imaginal altered state, not as the sole property of the shamanic tradition, but as the spiritual tool given to all humanity, that which is relevant to the quest for understanding and guidance as we travel the physical world while exploring that which is at the very heart of all existence.

We will explore: Shamanism’s origins, who participated in its practice and how we take the practice and use it as a tool of personal enrichment and growth. Are shamanism and dreams related? What does hypnosis, altered states, and the above have in common? Who can enter the shamanic state? Participants will receive a deeper understanding of the shamanic journey process and its place in consciousness. Moving beyond cultural examples we will learn how the common bonds of inner work as found in ancient beliefs connect with the world beyond the physical, the inner landscape.

By exploring the inner doorway, represented as the false door to inner wisdom, we will journey to empower the connections with guardian spirits of this portal, each time bringing back images to draw, to bring to waking consciousness as empowering tools, bridges between seen and internal worlds. We will end by connecting with the ritual feast of the tastes. The entire weekend would revolve around honouring the ever-present doorway that stands as a bridge between inner and outer worlds. Our work will flow from the ancient understanding of the power of the word and image, enabling us to find the portal, returning to waking reality and access the personal door through which we find inner wisdom.



JANET PIEDILATO is a transpersonal psychologist, a complementary health care consultant, and an ordained minister. She holds a doctorate in biology from New York University and a doctorate in transpersonal psychology from Saybrook University. Janet holds the distinction of being the first woman practitioner to present shamanic ritual at the Harvard Divinity School Conference on *Reinterpreting Shamanism*. She is the author of *Pieda’s Tales* and the *Mystical Dream Tarot* (Autumn 2019), and is a featured author in Stanley Krippner’s “Healing Tales”, and in the Seven Pillars House of Wisdom anthology, *Journeys and Awakenings: Wisdom for Spiritual Travelers* (December 2018). Janet teaches internationally and leads spiritual pilgrimages to Egypt. She resides at Temenos, an environmental sanctuary, co-founded with her husband and soul mate, Iggy. <http://www.janetpiedilato.com>

BOOKING: FEE: £230 includes course, lunches and teas. £210 includes course and teas only (bring your own lunch!) Send a deposit of £100 payable to *John Matthews*, to Jane May, Briarwood, Long Wittenham, Oxon OX14 4QW (01865 407680.) janedmay@btinternet.com

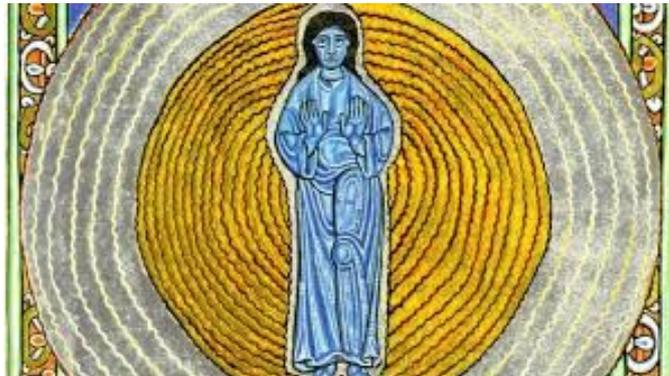
5-7 August 2019 PATHS TO THE GRAIL: RESTORING THE COURTS OF JOY with Caitlín.



The Grail is a quest for all living beings. Blending pre-Christian and medieval sources, this myth shares a familiar resonance with our own times: the rape, wars, exploitation, and dedication to regenerate the earth. Following a newly-translated Grail text, the *Elucidation*, we experience the regenerative Grail as a gift in which all participate. Through discussion, meditation, prayer, and simple ceremony, we will walk its paths, discovering timeless ways to embody its wisdom, enabling its healing to irrigate our world. This course is for anyone who is moved by the spiritual truths and wisdom within mythology. At Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre, 1046 Bristol Road, Birmingham B29 6LJ. Prices tbc. enquiries@woodbrooke.org.uk, 0121 472 5171.

***23-26 AUGUST 2019 CONNECTING HEAVEN TO EARTH:
THE CHANT OF HILDEGARD OF BINGEN with Dame Emma Kirkby & Caitlín Matthews**

The FÍOS Masterclass 2019



The visionary music of Benedictine abbess, Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179) explores the connecting of heaven to earth. Her sublime chant came to popular attention nearly 900 years later, notably with the album *A Feather on the Breath of God*, sung by Emma Kirkby with Gothic Voices in 1985. We are delighted to welcome Emma to this FÍOS Masterclass. She will guide us to sing and discover the beauty of Hildegard's unique chant, while Caitlín will help us explore Hildegard's life and work. All singers are very welcome. *Early Booking is recommended.*

Dame Emma Kirkby is one of the world's most renowned Early Music specialists, who has sung on over 100 recordings. Her career has seen her perform Renaissance and Baroque repertoire all over the world. She was appointed Dame Commander of the British Empire in the 2007 Queen's Birthday Honours. <http://www.emmakirkby.com>



Price: Single £470, Shared £410, Non-res £350. *Please send your non-returnable deposit of £120 payable to Hawkwood College, Painswick Old Rd., Stroud, Glos GL6 7QW (01453 759034) Enclose an SAE for map & confirmation.*

CAITLÍN IN THE USA IN SEPTEMBER

I will be in just two locations: at Hinsdale, MA. and in Nashville TN. I will be available for any brief meetings at both Boston Logan Airport and Nashville International Airport at either ends of this trip where I have to spend some time before flying onwards. I am particularly interested to make contact with members of the Fellowship of Isis on this trip, if possible.

6-8 September 2019 The NINEFOLD CONFERENCE Caitlín is giving the key-note address at this conference which is held at Camp Emerson, 212 Longview Avenue, Hinsdale, MA 01235, USA <http://www.ninefoldfestival.com/> More details will follow next issue.

14 September 2019 THE ANCESTRAL GIFT a public evening talk at the United Universalists, in Nashville organized by the OBOD grove Celli Sanctaidd O Gerridwen A Llew in Nashville. Contact grove@druidrynashville.org for more details.

11-12 October 2019 UK TAROT CONFERENCE The UK Tarot Conference returns in its Tower year. (note this is a Friday-Saturday) Caitlín will be presenting *Tarot Constellations*. Held at the Holiday In, Wrights Lane, London W8. Contact Kim Arnold for more details info@tarotconference.co.uk

6-8 December 2019 BRUTUS AND THE MYTH OF NEW TROY: After the Illiad and the Aeneid. With John & Caitlín, and special guest, Charles Newington.



On this our 34th Open Mystery School weekend, we explore the myth that sees all Britons as ‘the remnant of Troy,’ according to the Welsh poet, Taliesin. After Homer’s account of the *Illiad* and the Fall of Troy, the story of Aeneas, last survivor of that doomed city, is recounted by Virgil in the *Aeneid*. Geoffrey of Monmouth and others continued the story by relating the adventures of Aeneas’s descendant, Brutus who comes to Britain, challenging the giants who are the land’s guardians, and founding Troynovant, or London. Following Brutus from his founding footstep at Totnes, to the parade of the giants Gog and Magog at the Lord Mayor’s Show, we will explore the impact of this myth. We are delighted to welcome artist Charles Newington who will speak about his own involvement with the Brutus legend, and introduce us to the making of contemporary chalk hill figures. Together we will enact the *Masque of Brutus*, helping to recreate the giants, as well as following the myth of Troy to its very native conclusion.

BOOKING: Single £340, Shared £300, Non-Res £260. Please send your non-returnable deposit of £120 to Hawkwood College, Painswick Old Rd, Stroud, Glos GL6 7QW (01453 759034) info@hawkwoodcollege.co.uk. Enclose SAE for map & confirmation.

Charles Newington is an acclaimed artist. He is the creator of the Folkstone White Horse, a chalk hill figure. Charles was Artist Recorder for ARC at the gathering the world’s religious leaders at Windsor Castle in 2009. His recreation of the now-lost Gogmagog and Brutus figures at Plymouth Ho is currently under consideration. Charles’ art is in collections worldwide