



Inside

the Skin of the Dragon

Manichaeism in a new light – overcoming evil in our time

A Foot of the World Conference hosted by the Anthroposophical Society in the Western Cape 28 June – 2 July 2009

Inside the Skin of the Dragon

“For the light of the primal human being that the Dragon had swallowed caused it to feel pleasure in light. ‘May light be kindled by light’ rejoiced the human being, and the abyss rose ever higher and higher, radiating light like the Sun. Thus were the spirits of darkness redeemed, so that gentleness proved stronger than hatred. In humankind gentleness redeemed the Dragon from hell”.

From the Manichaeism Apocolypse

For over a thousand years Manichaeism was systematically suppressed, and ever since our only knowledge of it has been filtered down through the outlook of its enemies. With recent findings awareness of its profound wisdom and ethical insights into good and evil is re-emerging. Fragments of hymns, prayers and parables have brought to light the Manichaean outlook of the world as a drama between light and dark.

Contemporary research throws new light on the spread of this esoteric spirituality from Iran eastwards and westwards, to the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. But what were its movements and influences north, and especially south into Africa?

In the north its message finds confirmation in the great artistic achievements of Rembrandt and Goethe. In Goethe’s *Faust* the problem of evil in our time is addressed, and reveals the Manichaean impulse in a new light, relevant to the inner and outer challenges of the human soul today. In the south it is reflected in the folklore of the African peoples.

You are warmly invited to attend this conference where we will be exploring Manichaeism through presentations, discussions, and art forms and activities.

Rembrandt’s Faust

Booking & Enquiries

Contact Details

Phone: +27 (0) 21 761 9600
Tuesday - Friday 08h00 – 15h00
Please book timously to enable
catering arrangements
Email: info@aswc.org.za

Venue

Sophia House
18 Firfield Rd
Plumstead, Cape Town

Costs

R400 (R300 for members,
pensioners, students)
Includes all meals and
refreshments
Individual evening presentations
on Faust – R40

Program

	Sunday 28 June	Monday 29 June	Tuesday 30 June	Wednesday 1 July	Thursday 2 July
17h00		Sequences in the history of Manichaeism			
17h30		Workshops			
19h00	Registration	Supper			
19h45	Introductions , Welcome & Opening Performance	Presentations on Goethe's Faust			Closing Evening
21h30	Close	Close			Close

Programme Details

Opening Evening – *Aniela von Maltitz, Douw Raaths & Friends. A Manichean Hymn in eurythmy, drama and music*

Sequences in the history of Manichaeism – *Michael Grimley. Mani's origins and the unfolding of his influence through the ages*

Workshops – *Choose one workshop from the list below:*

- *“Evil is not real and its appearance has no power” with Aniela von Maltitz: Exploring the transformation of evil back into light through eurythmy*
- *Modern Manichaeism - our tools for Transformation” with Reingard Knausenberger & Michael Merle: An active conversation group addressing bringing light into darkness; wresting life from death; turning evil into healing power; spanning the heights from the depths.*
- *“The deeds and sufferings of light!” with Michael Grimley: Presentations and discussions on the struggle of light and dark through pictures and images in the age of the Consciousness Soul.*

Presentations on Goethe's Faust – *Peter Guttenhöfer*

19.45 Monday Evening 29 June: Faust in darkness and light - light and darkness in Faust.

19.45 Tuesday Evening 30 June: Faust's unconditional striving for individuality.

19.45 Wednesday Evening 1 July: Faust 'Unbound'

Closing Evening – *Celebrating the Power of Light*

Contributors

Aniela von Maltitz is a eurythmy teacher and is training as a Traditional Healer in the Xhosa culture

Douw Raaths is a eurythmist with a background in drama

Michael Grimley is a History and Art teacher in the Waldorf School movement. His special interest is in working with the transformative power of art. He has a MA in Fine Art.

Dr Peter Guttenhöfer is a History and Language teacher from Germany, and a teacher trainer in the Waldorf School movement worldwide. He has visited South Africa a number of times, led workshops on human development and given presentations penetrating into the deeper spiritual side of literature. He has a PhD in Literature and the Arts.

Reingard Knausenberger is a priest in The Christian Community. Her interest and focus lies in experiencing how Spirit works in the different levels of the human being and developing the aptitude of inner balance.

Michael Merle is an upper high school Waldorf teacher of the Sciences and Religion. He has honours degrees in Theology and Accounting