

THE VOICE OF THE SILENCE:

A MANUAL FOR MYSTICS



EUROPEAN SCHOOL OF THEOSOPHY

ITC, NAARDEN, THE NETHERLANDS, OCTOBER 07-12, 2022

Was launched in 1982 by Geoffrey Farthing, Ianthe Hoskins and Adam Warcup.

The main focus of the School is the research and the study of the early literature giving rise to the contemporary Theosophical Movement such as HPB's writings, *The Mahatma Letters* and more, as well as current developments within the field of humanities and science, esotericism, ancient and modern religions and Eastern and Western philosophies are regularly blended into the programme.

The language of the School is necessarily English but its location varies from year to year to facilitate opportunities to commune with nature, and to allow for physical activities, study, contemplation and meditation.

Since its inauguration in England, the EuST has met in Austria, Germany, Holland, Spain, Greece, Italy, Hungary, Belgium, Holland, Israel, Scotland and Wales and other countries in Europe.

The EuST is autonomous and is not part of any organisation, Theosophical or otherwise.

OUR JOURNEY THIS YEAR

Will take place in the International Theosophical Centre, in Naarden, The Netherlands.

For five days we will explore this year's theme: "The Voice of the Silence: A Manual for Mystics."

Our special guest speaker is Dr Eugene Jennings, from the United Lodge of Theosophists.

WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE BLAVATSKY TRUST

07 FRIDAY

18:00 Dinner.
20:00 Opening

08 SATURDAY

08:30 Meditation - **Jacques Mahnich**
09:00 Breakfast
10:00 **Tim Rudbøg PhD**
H. P. Blavatsky's Love of Buddhism
11:00 Tea Break at the Garden
11:30 **Erica Georgiades MReS**
The Voice of the Silence:
A Manual for Mystics
13:00 Lunch
15:00 **Tim Rudbøg PhD**
The Theosophical Globalization
of Buddhism
15:45 Tea Break at the Garden
16:15 **Ingmar de Boer**
The Voice of the Silence:
The World Behind the Work
17:00 **Tim Wyatt**
Who are the Few?
18:00 **Dinner**
20:00 **Rev. Pamela Joy Giese**
G.R.S. Mead and Blavatsky
How the Theosophical Society
introduced Gnosticism to the World

09 SUNDAY

08:30 Meditation - **Jacques Mahnich**
09:00 Breakfast
10:00 **Dr Eugene Jennings**
Wisdom, Sacred and Conventional
in the Voice of the Silence
10:45 Tea Break at the Garden
11:15 **Erica Georgiades MReS**
Introduction to
the Voice of the Silence
13:00 Lunch
15:00 **Dr Eugene Jennings**
Morals, Ethics, and Virtues
of the Path According to
the Voice of the Silence
15:45 Tea Break at the Garden
16:15 **Ifigeneia Kastamoniti**
Exploring the God Within
17:00 **Tim Wyatt**
Obstacles to Enlightenment
18:00 **Dinner**
20:00 **Rev. Pamela Joy Giese**
Theurgy and the Secret Doctrine
The Seven Sacred Vowels

10 MONDAY

08:30 Meditation - **Jacques Mahnich**
09:00 Breakfast
10:00 xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
11:00 Tea Break at the Garden
11:30 **Arend Heijbroek**
Meditative Walk
13:00 Lunch
15:00 **Dr Eugene Jennings**
Recognising the Occult
and Esoteric in
the Voice of the Silence
16:00 Tea Break at the Garden
16:30 **José Manuel Anacleto**
The Mind is the great Slayer
of the Real. WHICH MIND?
WHAT REAL?
18:00 **Dinner**
20:00 **Jacques Mahnich**
Bridging the gap between Science
and Wisdom Tradition

11 TUESDAY

08:30 Meditation - **Jacques Mahnich**
09:00 Breakfast
10:00 **Dr Eugene Jennings Science**
An Integrative view of the Voice,
the Two Paths, and the 7 Portals
11:00 Tea Break at the Garden
11:30 **Erica Georgiades MReS**
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
13:00 Lunch
15:00 **Ingmar de Boer**
Stages of the Spiritual Path in
the Voice of the Silence
16:00 Tea Break at the Garden
16:30 xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
18:00 **Dinner**
20:00 **Jacques Mahnich**
History & State-of-the-Art

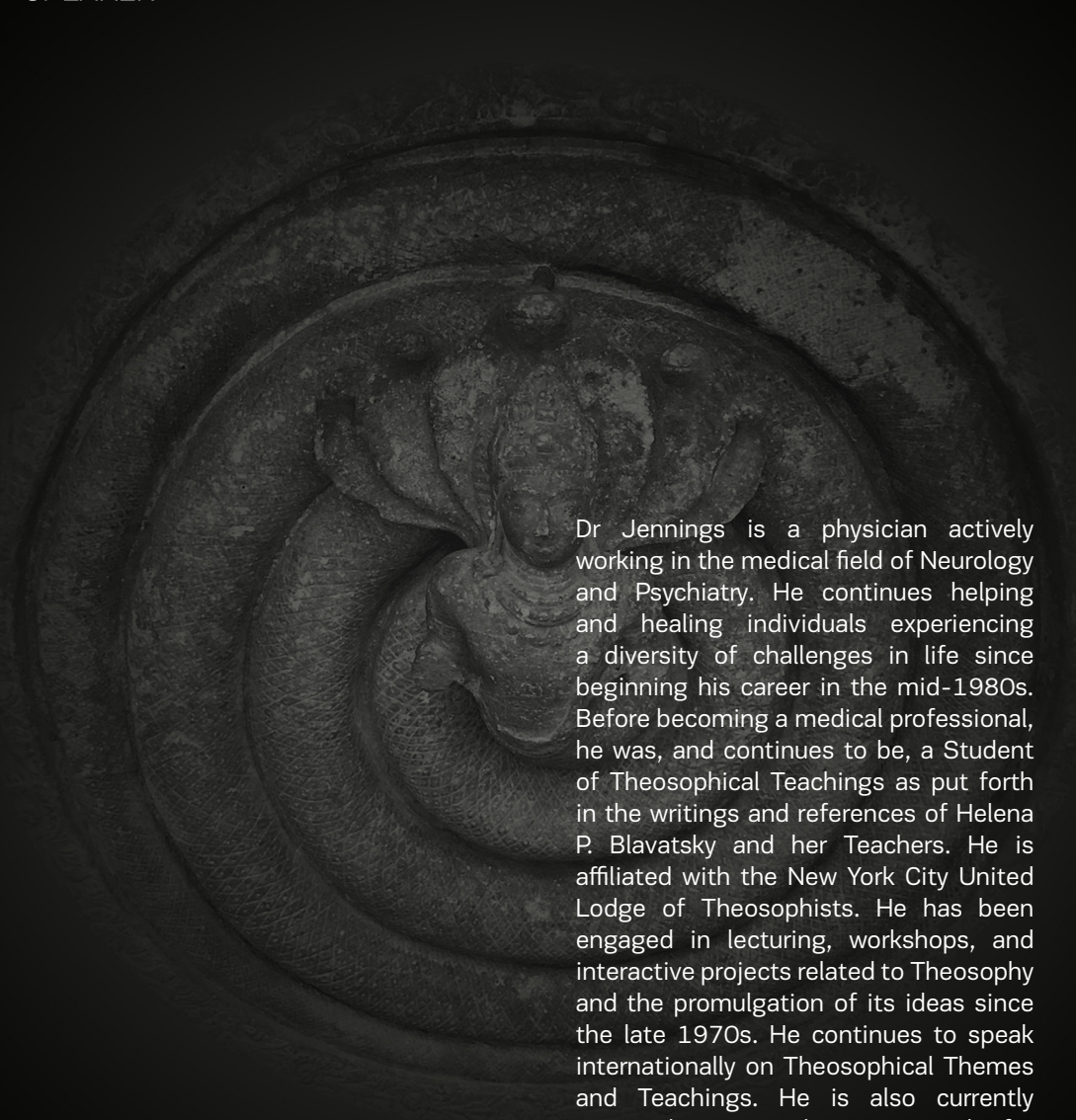
12 WEDNESDAY

08:30 Meditation - **Jacques Mahnich**
09:00 Breakfast
10:00 **Erica Georgiades MReS**
Closing Lecture
DEPARTURE

NOVEMBER *Times and dates to be announced*

ONLINE LECTURES

- **Gary Kidgell**
Reflections on *The Voice of the Silence*: Fragment One, I.
- **Gary Kidgell**
Reflections on *The Voice of the Silence*: Fragment One, II.
- **William Wilson Quinn**
The Catalytic Choice in *The Voice of the Silence*:
“Thou art Enlightened—Choose Thy Way”



Dr Jennings is a physician actively working in the medical field of Neurology and Psychiatry. He continues helping and healing individuals experiencing a diversity of challenges in life since beginning his career in the mid-1980s. Before becoming a medical professional, he was, and continues to be, a Student of Theosophical Teachings as put forth in the writings and references of Helena P. Blavatsky and her Teachers. He is affiliated with the New York City United Lodge of Theosophists. He has been engaged in lecturing, workshops, and interactive projects related to Theosophy and the promulgation of its ideas since the late 1970s. He continues to speak internationally on Theosophical Themes and Teachings. He is also currently engaged in completing a work for possible publication concerning Ideas relating to the practical, complex and philosophical aspects of Karma.

Morals, Ethics, and Virtues of the Path According to the Voice of the Silence

This talk will highlight and examine the system of morals and ethics that pervade all spiritual systems, as foundational requirements for spiritual awakening and realization. Our emphasis will focus on those as expressed in the Voice of the silence and the other Fragments, that become an unshakable power of virtue in action, while simultaneously transforming the being.

Wisdom, Sacred and Conventional in the Voice of the Silence

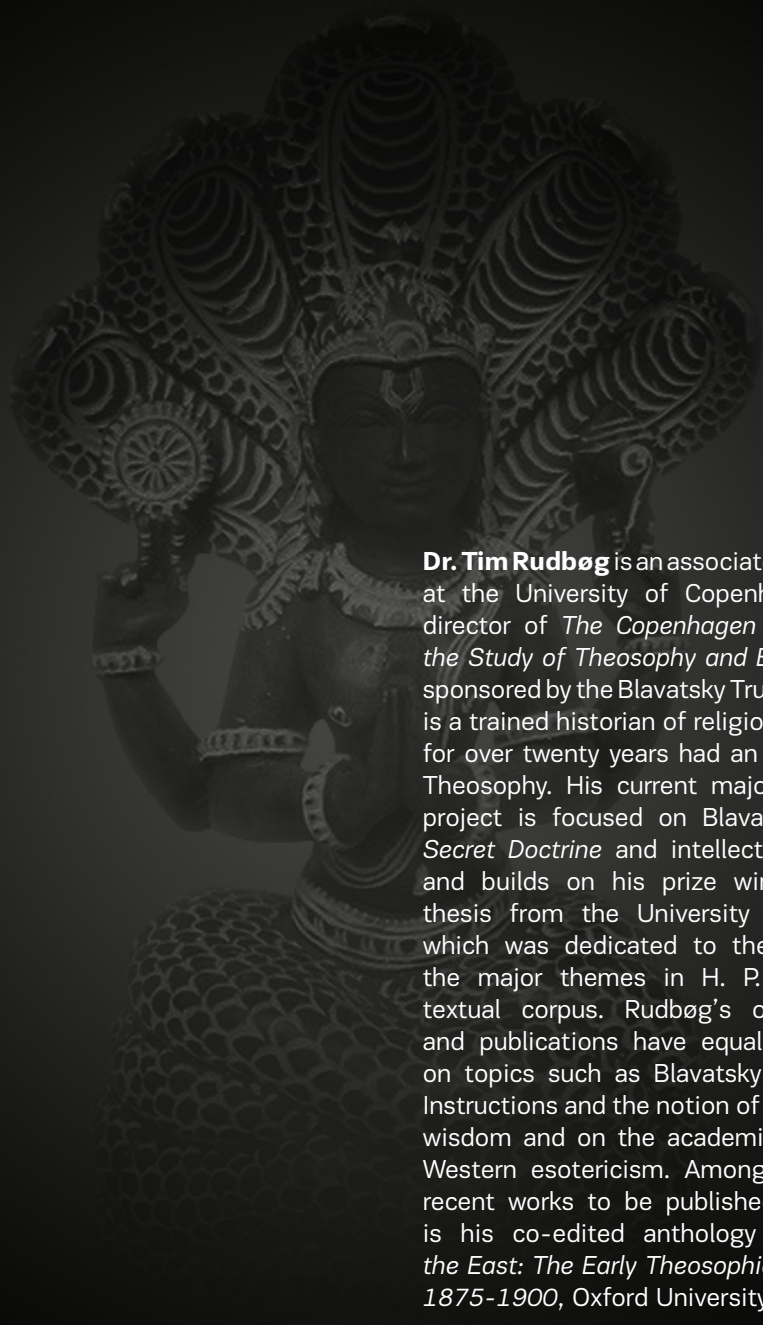
In Wisdom, Sacred and Conventional we will focus on the eternal knowledge and wisdom, conventional, sacred, and perhaps oc-cult, that pervades the voice, along with some of the implications when applied to both the outer and inner life while living in the world.

Recognising the Occult and Esoteric in the Voice of the Silence

In this talk we will focus on some of the suggestive unveilings or signs of the inner life one may encounter while living the life necessary to realize the doctrines. This segment will examine the ideas, and suggestive implications concerning, the occult and esoteric paths, products, practices, powers, and experiences pointed to in the voice.

An Integrative view of the Voice, the Two Paths, and the 7 Portals

Although each fragment in and of itself can be seen as a completed instruction, there perhaps remains a subtle order of unveiling in and of these fragments, that we hope to share concerning the end goal. This will be an attempt at integrating the three fragments in a way that demonstrates that order. In other words, a recognition, according to stages, that leads an aspirant, from a simple desire to be a helper of humanity, to those lofty and actual heights of attainment and responsibility. It is such a path that leads one to become likened to the nature of the Nirmanakaya or Bodhisattva, as they sacrifice all, to serve humanities' truer needs, during this cycle of evolutionary unfolding and awakening.



Dr. Tim Rudbøg is an associate professor at the University of Copenhagen and director of *The Copenhagen Center for the Study of Theosophy and Esotericism* sponsored by the Blavatsky Trust. Rudbøg is a trained historian of religions and has for over twenty years had an interest in Theosophy. His current major research project is focused on Blavatsky's *The Secret Doctrine* and intellectual history and builds on his prize winning PhD thesis from the University of Exeter, which was dedicated to the study of the major themes in H. P. Blavatsky textual corpus. Rudbøg's other work and publications have equally focused on topics such as Blavatsky's Esoteric Instructions and the notion of an ageless wisdom and on the academic study of Western esotericism. Among his most recent works to be published in 2019 is his co-edited anthology *Imagining the East: The Early Theosophical Society 1875-1900*, Oxford University Press.

H. P. Blavatsky's Love of Buddhism

Blavatsky's love of Buddhism is among the most fascinating aspects of her life and teachings. She was in fact one of the first, if not the first modern "Westerner" to formally become a Buddhist. However, it has since the beginning also been a topic of great discussion what Blavatsky actually knew of Buddhism and what the relation is between Theosophy and Buddhism. The aim of this paper is to show how Blavatsky first got into contact with Buddhism, why she fell in love with it, and how she integrated it in her writings. In discussing these topics, this paper will explore Blavatsky's travels, Buddhist scholarship during Blavatsky's lifetime, and how key Buddhist concepts such as *nirvana*, *arhat*, *Buddha* and *skandhas* relate to Theosophy. Finally, Blavatsky's key text *The Voice of the Silence* (1889) will be discussed as an example of Blavatsky love of Buddhism.

The Theosophical Globalization of Buddhism

Today Buddhism is a very well known global tradition, including practices of mindfulness and famous persons such as the Dalai Lama, but this has not always been the case. During the inauguration of the Theosophical Society in 1875, Buddhism in the West was only little known outside of scholarship. Today Buddhism is, however, very popular and is often viewed more as an almost scientific technique or a philosophy of life than a religion. In many respects, the different forms and practices of Buddhism found outside traditional contexts today are in fact the products of modern changes and cultural meetings. By following the history of Buddhism and its connection with Theosophy in the 20th and 21st centuries, the argument of this paper is that the Theosophical movement has been one of the primary reasons why Buddhism is now so widespread and why it is often understood the way it is.

Erica Georgiades is MReS Religious Experience candidate, the Director of The European School of Theosophy, and of The School of Wisdom.

The Voice of the Silence: A Manual for Mystics

Series of Four Talks

The Voice of the Silence is one of the most influential books in theosophical literature. H. P. Blavatsky wrote it in 1889 while in London and may have finalised it during her visit to Fontainebleau. The booklet can be considered a manual for mystics, offering guidance during spiritual awakening. William James called *The Voice of the Silence* a Musical composition. In mystical writings, very often, the call to “hear” or “listen” is “a password to mystical regions,” indicating a shift to a higher state of consciousness. In this manner, very often, an indication the mystic is establishing contact with its high self or soul is often described by the sound of silence, said to be similar to the hissing of a serpent.

This series of four lectures will explore where, when and how H. P. Blavatsky wrote VS; her opening statement “for the Daily Use of Lanoos;” the preface and the “dedication to the few.” In the preface, we will focus on *The Book of Golden Precepts*; psychic powers; the mystic in H.P.B.’s viewpoint; the Nâgas or “Serpents;” on the works mentioned, i.e. Jñâneśvari; *Katha Upanishad*; *Sutta Nipâta*; *Bhagavad-Gita*. Also, how she teaches us to read *Senzar*.

Moving forward to Fragment I, we will see how it shows a process of purification, separation, a rupture from a status quo. It shows the neophyte’s first steps and opens by alerting the dangers of awakening psychic faculties. It explains the stages linked to mystical awakening: ignorance, knowledge, and wisdom. It points out the need to develop concentration, silence the mind, establish a conscious connection with the soul and offers ethical guidance. Fragment II show a liminal process, transition, during which one has left one place or state of being but has not yet entered or joined the next. It outlines the stage during which the aspirant needs to make choices that will define the future steps to follow, i.e., choosing between the path of liberation or renunciation. It points out the need to develop discernment, seek the union of mind and higher self, and avoid self-praise. Suggests techniques for self-knowledge, meditations on the planetary spirit, the need to awake compassion and develop high-siddhis for future births.

Additionally, it shows the importance of following the “wheel of duty,” how devotion may offer the key to actual knowledge while emphasising patience and humbleness as virtues one needs to develop. Finally, Fragment III is the stage of reaggregation, post-liminal or incorporation. Having completed the previous steps, the aspirant needs to master divine concentration to enter the Dhyâna path, the haven of the Yogi, embracing the doctrine of the heart and becoming a skywalker.

José Manuel Anacleto – Student of Theosophy since 1979. Editor of Biosofia Magazine. President of the Centro Lusitano de Unificação Cultural, where three volumes of texts by Helena Blavatsky, have been published for the first time in Portuguese. Others will follow in the future, namely a reedition of A.P.Sinett's The Esoteric Buddhism, The Secret Books of Blavatsky, by David Reigle and Nancy Reigle, and in the upcoming months, the full Portuguese version of The Secret Doctrine Commentaries.

Author of about 40 books, in which we can highlight Esotericism from A to Z, Alexandria and the Sacred Knowledge, The Ebionites, The Dual Mind – from Slavery to Freedom, etc., etc. He has also written the introduction for a Portuguese edition of "The Voice of the Silence".

Commissioner and author of the 24 panels of the Exhibition on Helena Blavatsky, which took place in Lisbon, in May 2018. The papers were later reproduced also in Brazil.

Organizer of several congresses and author of hundreds of lectures and hundreds of articles on Theosophy, Esoteric Philosophy and Spiritual Traditions.

The Mind is the great Slayer of the Real. WHICH MIND? WHAT REAL?

At the very beginning of *The Voice of Silence*, we come across this impressive statement: "The Mind is the great Slayer of the Real." Many of us will have experienced how the Mind is a limited cognitive and experiential tool, and the need to rise to the levels of Atman-Buddhi. Yet, the immediately subsequent assertion, "Let the Disciple slay the Slayer", is even more blunt and leaves important interrogations.

In the volume of *The Secret Doctrine* dedicated to Anthropogenesis, the importance of the work of the Manasaputras, the Sons of Mind, to awake the mental principle in Humanity, is amply emphasised. It is also claimed that only in the 5th round will we reach complete mental development, and that in the 5th round we will have average human beings like Plato and Confucius. Isn't an excessive evolutionary leap proposed in *The Voice of Silence*? We will try to answer the questions: to whom is this wonderful mystical jewel destined, as well as the two questions contained in the title of the conference.

Jacques Mahnich spent his professional career in Aeronautical Engineering Industry. Specialized in electronics and real-time controls, he was involved in many advanced projects in aeronautics as a designer, manager and director. This period of experience provided him with a strong impulse toward learning and mastering the understanding of our material world, especially relativity and quantum physics.

He joined the French T.S. in 1978, where he was active in the Marseilles Lodges for years, and then in Paris. He is a recognized international lecturer, delivering School of the Wisdom (Adyar), Schools of Theosophy and lectures in many places worldwide.

In 2014, he launched a web-based Project <http://theoscience.org>, dedicated to the monitoring and analysis of scientific articles which have some relevance with the Wisdom Traditions teachings. This project publishes a quarterly review "Researches Relevant to Theosophy".

Building bridges between Science and Traditions is one of his main focuses and activity.

Science – History & State-of-the-Art

We are living at a time where the evolution of our human civilizations is accelerating. Values, ethics & community's life models are changing rapidly. Science and Technologies are reshaping the landscape of our human development. To better understand the current acceleration in our ways of life, we will review how Science paradigms and its associated technologies are impacting us. The description of the evolution of the scientific thought throughout the ages will give us an understanding of the mutations scientific mind has gone through. The review of the theosophical activities on the domain of Science will also allow us to identify what were our past achievements and where do we stand now.

Bridging the gap between Science and Wisdom Tradition

Starting from the situation described in the first lecture, we propose some way forward for the Wisdom Tradition to bring some light on some unsolved mysteries of Science. First, we address the necessary conditions – language, methodology - for both communities to be able to understand each other, and therefore to be able to cooperate. Then, concrete examples of scientific subjects are proposed for analysis and clues triggered by the Theosophical teachings will be evaluated. Finally, we identify the value generated by the building of these bridges which would then open the door to a more humanistic and ethical way to do science today, and therefore have a positive impact on the evolution of our humanity and mother Earth.

Ingmar de Boer has been a member of the TS since 1989, most of the time as an active lodge member. Since 2008 he has lived and worked at the International Theosophical Centre at Naarden, The Netherlands. At the moment he is chairman of the Naarden Annie Besant Lodge and vice-chairman of the Dutch Section.

Areas of study most close to his heart are *The Secret Doctrine*, especially the first volume, and the origin of the Book of Dzyan and, in line with that, Indo-Tibetan Buddhism and Sanskrit. Astrology and its esoteric background have been another one of his interests, and over the years he has written a number of articles on most of these topics, and has given many lectures and courses.

Together with David Reigle and Jacques Manich he initiated a web site presenting research articles on the origin of the Book of Dzyan.

In his professional career Ingmar has been working as a software engineer.

The Voice of the Silence: the World Behind the Work

The *Voice of the Silence* is a beautiful poetic work, many of the verses referring to different religious and philosophical contexts, mostly Hindu and Buddhist. In its enigmatic foreword, H.P. Blavatsky relates that she is not the author of the Voice, but that she translated its verses from the Book of Golden Precepts, which is part of the “same series” as the Book of Dzyan. Following the references we may be able to investigate the context of the Voice, and find clues as to the origin of the Voice, and by extension the Book of Dzyan.

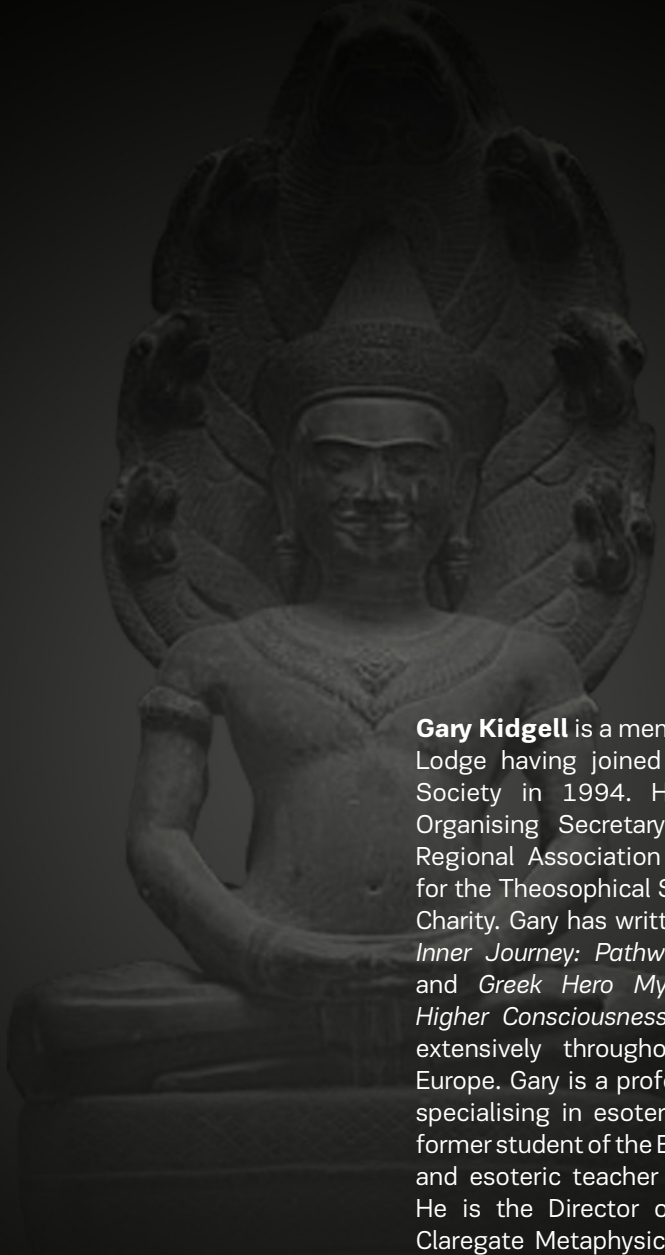
In this lecture, together with the audience, Ingmar de Boer will try to reconstruct the world behind the Voice and formulate a hypothesis as to the origin of the Book of Dzyan.

Stages of the Spiritual Path in the Voice of the Silence

Each of the three fragments making up the Voice of the Silence reflects an important moment on the universal spiritual path. H.P. Blavatsky wrote the Voice two years before her death, with the intention for it to be of help to the members of the TS on their own spiritual journey.

As theosophists we will see the spiritual path as a universal phenomenon, not specific to any religion of philosophy, as H.P. Blavatsky does in all of her writings. Each of the three fragments however, contains a message to us from Blavatsky, for the larger part encoded in the terminology of Hinduism and Mahāyāna Buddhism.

What is it that Blavatsky found so important in the teachings she received herself that she wanted to share it with us in this profound mystical work? What can we learn today from these three fragments for the benefit of our own spiritual development?



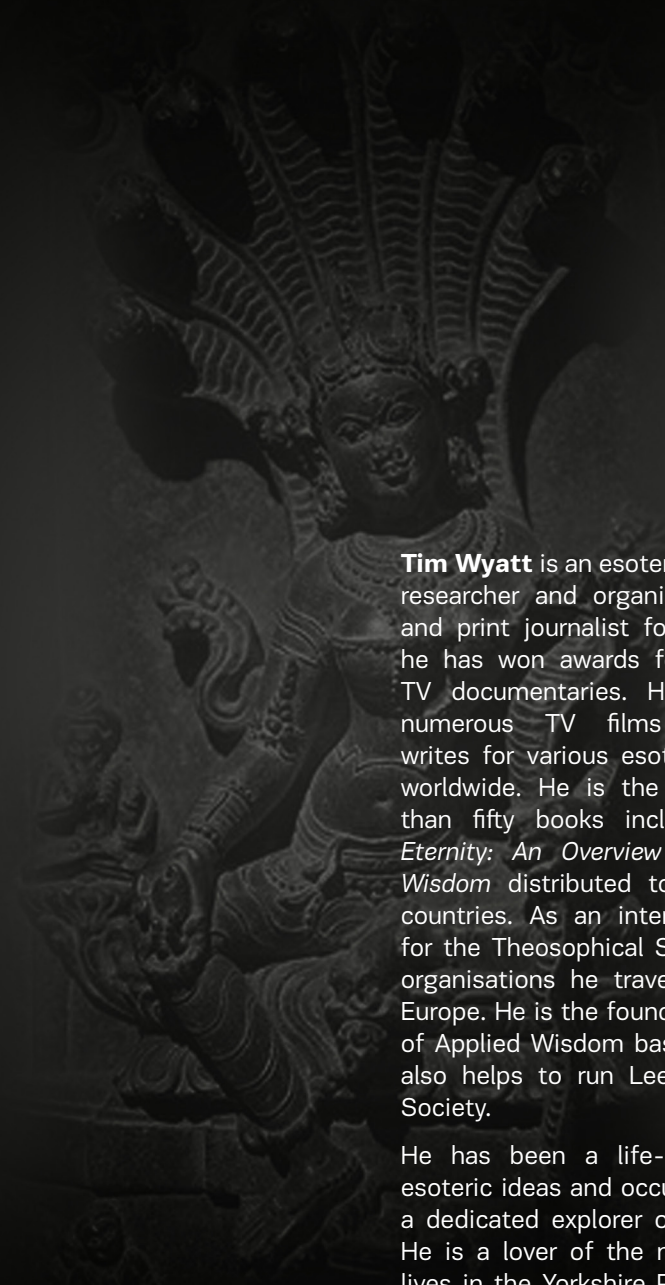
Gary Kidgell is a member of the Dundee Lodge having joined the Theosophical Society in 1994. He is the current Organising Secretary of the Scottish Regional Association and the Librarian for the Theosophical Society in Scotland Charity. Gary has written two books: *The Inner Journey: Pathways to the Higher* and *Greek Hero Myths: Pathways to Higher Consciousness*. He has lectured extensively throughout the U.K. and Europe. Gary is a professional astrologer specialising in esoteric astrology and a former student of the English theosophist and esoteric teacher Dr Douglas Baker. He is the Director of Studies for the Claregate Metaphysics Group for whom he has compiled two online audio-visual courses: *Foundations in Esoteric Studies* and *Esoteric Psychology — The Seven Rays*.

Reflections on The Voice of the Silence: Fragment One - I

The challenges, the rewards, and the disciplines of the Spiritual Path are beautifully and aptly described in H.P.B.'s classic, comprehensive manual of spiritual instruction — *The Voice of the Silence*. In this, the first of two presentations, Gary emphasises that spiritual growth is related to the unfolding of consciousness. This culminates in the realisation of our essential nature in accord with the famous aphorism *Tat Tvam Asi* ("thou art that") found within the *Chandogya Upanishad*. Utilising spiritual writings including *The Yoga Sutras of Patanjali*; *The Bhagavad Gita*; and the symbolism of myth, Gary illustrates how one's consciousness expands as one engages with the symbolic content of *The Voice of the Silence*. On this basis, one unravels increasingly deeper layers of symbolic meaning as the text reciprocates as part of an ongoing symbiotic relationship. Included in this presentation is a consideration of the passage of the aspirant through the 'Three Halls' of Ignorance; Learning; and Wisdom before one may enter the fourth state of pure consciousness described by Advaita Vedanta teachings as *turiya*. Then, and only then, may one 'repose between the wings of the GREAT BIRD' Kala-Hamsa, symbolising the AUM and whose the flight represents liberation from the Wheel of Rebirth.

Reflections on The Voice of the Silence: Fragment One - II

When we seek spiritual transformation, it is important to be aware that matters in life that are particularly testing can be equally elevating to the Soul towards enabling the realisation of its purpose. Adversity in our lives represents opportunity on our spiritual journey. This presentation considers the striking, apposite symbolism and the invaluable time-honoured spiritual instructions contained within *The Voice of the Silence* and its exposition of the immeasurable benefits of successfully treading the Path. Gary employs content from *The Yoga Sutras of Patanjali*; the story of Prince Siddhartha's temptation and subsequent enlightenment; the symbolism of the Grail Quest; and Theosophical teachings. These serve to elucidate the content of the classic text illustrating its unsurpassed description of what Socrates described as the "Jewelled Way." Only by overcoming the challenges of the Path may one rest beneath the symbolic Bodhi tree at the Immovable spot — the interface between transcendence and manifest creation — as a 'Master of SAMÂDHI' whereby the illusion of separateness induced by maya is extinguished. One then perceives the underlying divinity of all life forms and is rendered sensitive and compassionate towards the pain and suffering of all others as exemplified by the Bodhisattva of Mahayana Buddhism.



Tim Wyatt is an esoteric writer, lecturer, researcher and organiser. A broadcast and print journalist for half a century, he has won awards for his plays and TV documentaries. He has produced numerous TV films and currently writes for various esoteric publications worldwide. He is the author of more than fifty books including *Cycles of Eternity: An Overview of the Ageless Wisdom* distributed to more than 40 countries. As an international lecturer for the Theosophical Society and other organisations he travels widely across Europe. He is the founder of The School of Applied Wisdom based in Leeds and also helps to run Leeds Theosophical Society.

He has been a life-long student of esoteric ideas and occult science and is a dedicated explorer of consciousness. He is a lover of the natural world and lives in the Yorkshire Pennines with his cat Electra.

Who are the Few?

The Voice of the Silence is ‘Dedicated to the Few’. It’s certainly neither a book for the faint-hearted nor indeed for the vast majority of people who would inevitably be confused and confounded by its contents. Most would find its messages entirely incomprehensible. So, who was it written for?

Given its deep esoteric underpinnings even those with an in-depth understanding of occult truths find this short volume somewhat difficult. Its archaic, biblical style alone is demanding for modern readers however knowledgeable about these matters. And without its 120 explanatory footnotes few below adept status would be able to make much sense of its subtleties.

Perhaps it was composed in this way in order to stretch the reader’s mind beyond existing limits. After all, as well as being a manual for mystics (and they’re few and far between these days) it’s also a handbook for hyper-evolution. It offers detailed but highly challenging instructions as to how individuals can unite their lower and higher selves. Which, if indeed any, of its messages can we practically absorb in this febrile and materialistic modern age?

Obstacles to Enlightenment

Those searching for esoteric wisdom or indeed pursuing any kind of spiritual path already face immense difficulties reconciling the often-conflicting demands of the soul and the lower self. Since dominant mainstream materialistic thought denies and opposes most spiritual truths anyway, esotericists usually find themselves on a long and lonely, steep and winding road. The first truth they learn is that this is essentially a solitary pursuit and even slow progress can only be achieved by what HPB described as ‘self-devised efforts.’

But the difficulties don’t end there. As well as being misunderstood by the majority, spiritual seekers also face immense difficulties in controlling their physical, astral and mental bodies as they attempt to evolve to more elevated states of being. And yet even this isn’t the end of it.

In *The Voice of the Silence* HPB also outlines countless other demanding challenges and obstacles for aspirants:

‘Give up they life if thou would’st live.’

‘Thou canst not travel on the Path before thou hast become that Path itself.’

‘...mistrust they senses, they are false.’

‘Kill out desire...Kill love of life...’

However, esotericists have one distinct advantage. They appreciate this is a long game – a process unlikely to be completed in a single life-time.



Ifigeneia Kastamoniti has been a member of the TS Greece since 1995 and is a frequent lecturer. She was a member of the Hellenic Board, translator of many classical Theosophical works and editor of TPH Greece and the Theosophical magazine ILISOS for 20 years. For ten years she was secretary of the TS Greece.

Born in the city of Thessaloniki, Greece, she has travelled to many countries in Europe, Asia, America, Africa and Australia meeting people and getting acquainted with their cultures. She is the Secretary of the European School of Theosophy since 2018. She lives in Athens, Greece.

Exploring the God Within

It is said that an inner light exists within ourselves that presently it may be dim, but nevertheless exists. If we achieve harmony within this light will become brighter, and we will gain freedom from the illusions and the turmoil of earthly life. Various names have been given to this light. It has been called higher-self, divine spark, Christ within, inner god and Ātman. Different explanations have been given to these terms, however, they all seem to agree, in one way or another, that this inner-light, this divine light, our inner god has no shape or form and that Its presence is inherent in the human being. We will explore them along with the view concerning the inner-God mentioned in the first fragment of the *Voice of the Silence*:

“Before thou set’st thy foot upon the ladder’s upper rung thou hast to hear the voice of thy *inner God*, in seven manners.”

In our exploration will shall have the help of HPB’s works, Ravi Ravindra, the *Bible*, Karen Armstrong, and others.

Dr William W. Quinn is an alumnus of the University of Arizona (B.A. 1970 in Literature and Writing). In 1978 he earned the degree of M.A. in Religious Studies from the University of Chicago's Divinity School, where he was a protégé of **Prof. Mircea Eliade**, and thereafter earned the Ph.D. (1981) from the University of Chicago's Humanities Division in the *philosophia perennis*. In 1989 he earned the degree of J.D. from Arizona State University, College of Law.

From 1973 to 1978 Mr. Quinn was employed by the Theosophical Society in America, which he joined in the year 1969. He was first the Assistant Editor and thereafter the Editor of *The American Theosophist* and *Quest* magazine, and an Associate Editor of the Theosophical Publishing House in Wheaton. Since his first publication in *The American Theosophist* in 1971, he has published two books—one being his doctoral dissertation titled *The Only Tradition*—and numerous articles on comparative religion, spirituality, and metaphysics, as well as articles on American Indian history, culture, and law in national academic journals and law reviews. He has been both a lecturer for the Theosophical Society and a guest lecturer at several

universities and has appeared on the faculty of numerous seminars and workshops in all these subject areas.

From 1982 to 1987, Mr. Quinn was an ethnohistorian for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, applying his training in tribal religion to anthropological and ethnohistorical inquiries into American Indian groups seeking Federal acknowledgment. Following law school, Mr. Quinn was in private practice for over ten years in Phoenix, specializing in Federal Indian law, first as a partner in the firm of Shea & Wilks and later as Of Counsel in the firm of Snell & Wilmer.

For the last six years of his legal career, Mr. Quinn was the Field Solicitor for the Office of the Solicitor, Phoenix Office, in the Department of the Interior. In that position, he represented various bureaus and services of the Department in Arizona and throughout the American Southwest, including the Bureau of Indian Affairs. In his years as both a Federal attorney and as a tribal attorney representing federally recognized Indian tribes and Indian people, he appeared in virtually every level of judicial forum of the State of Arizona and courts of the United States.

The Catalytic Choice in *The Voice of the Silence*: “Thou art Enlightened—Choose Thy Way”

The Voice of the Silence is, among other things, a book about choices, and choosing involves the principle of free will. The book also harbors a preference between the two choices confronting the Lanoo, since the entire third fragment—of three—is devoted to *one* of these two choices. This choice favors renunciation of nirvana by following the path of the bodhisattva, which requires rigorous training, sacrifice and pain. It also demands mastery of the “seven portals,” and a supreme level of purity and selflessness. Where spiritual wayfarers and Lanoos find their way along this spiritual path using the light of their Inner Person, they will avoid making wrong choices. The Lanoo who has sufficiently synchronized his or her will to the Universal or cosmic will, and so attains *free* will, thereafter defer consequential choices to the Inner Self. At that juncture the right pre-liberation and post-liberation paths explicated in *The Voice of the Silence* will appear and humanity will be served.

Rev. Pamela Joy Giese is bishop at the Treasury of Light, Gnostic Church in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England. She is an active member of Theosophical Society groups in both Durham and Newcastle. She holds a Master of Sacred Science from the ICES in Barbados and a B.S. Psychology from University of Wisconsin-Whitewater.

Theurgy and the Secret Doctrine – The Seven Sacred Vowels

In the *Secret Doctrine* and woven through the Ancient Wisdom, are references to the seven thunders and the seven vowels. While volumes can be written on the meaning of “seven” itself – the seven planets, the seven Rishi, seven rays, etc., there are elements of the seven vowels that appear repeated across different cultures and wisdom traditions. In the *Secret Doctrine*, H.P. Blavatsky even gives us a sacred seven vowel word as well as hints for its use.

In this talk, we will explore how the seven vowels appear across Theosophical, Greek, and Gnostic traditions. Here they serve not only language and gematria, but also in theurgy as practiced by the Greeks and Gnostics. We will also have an opportunity to practice some basic intonations of the vowels and sacred vowel-words and how they can be easily incorporated into one’s daily practice.

G.R.S. Mead and Blavatsky – How the Theosophical Society introduced Gnosticism to the World

When H.P. Blavatsky met the classics student G.R.S. Mead, she recognized a talent who could bring the ancient wisdom of the classics and that of newly discovered Gnostic texts to the world. Supported by the Theosophical Society, G.R.S. Mead proceeded to translate the Pistis Sophia, Chaldean Oracles, Mithras Liturgy, and scores of other texts. His translations of the Pistis Sophia and Chaldean Oracles are still the most available of English Translations.

This talk will give an overview of the work of GRS Mead, his collaboration with HPB, and examples of how and why HPB saw Gnosticism as integral to application of Ancient Wisdom.



Arend Heijbroek is currently chairman of the ITC. He was General Secretary of the Dutch section for 6 years.

Meditative Walk

The meditative walk will be in silence after an introduction. We will walk along some of the special places of the ITC and may get in touch with what is unique about the International Theosophical Centre.

The ITC has a unique and sacred atmosphere. All its activities are related to the higher aspects of life, the Source of Wisdom and Love. It is thus connected with the finer spiritual energies. Visitors can be greatly helped and inspired by its potent stillness.

To safeguard all participants, The European School of Theosophy will adopt and adhere to Government Safety Protocols to be applied during all phases of the Conference in October 2022.



As protocols may differ from country to country, it is the responsibility of each participant to check, and adhere to, all regulations and restrictions regarding travel to and from their point/country of origin to Naarden, the Netherlands, as well as during their stay on campus while attending the Conference.

Furthermore Rapid Antigen Tests will be made available for testing as deemed necessary: e.g., on arrival, or day 2/3 after arrival.



Everyone should maintain recommended social distancing guidelines. Chairs and tables will be positioned in accordance with distancing rules



Anyone attending the Conference must be free of any symptoms before arriving on campus, (e.g., fever, difficulty breathing, recent loss of taste/smell, coughing, runny nose), unless due to a pre-existing chronic health condition



Face coverings must cover the nose and mouth and should be used all times



REGISTRATION

REGISTRATION FEE

(NON-REFUNDABLE): €20,00

ACCOMMODATION

FULL BOARD

SINGLE ROOM: €480,00

DOUBLE ROOM: €430,00

All above rates include VAT 24%

PAYMENT AND CANCELATION POLICY:

We accept installments on a case by case basis. Otherwise, the suggestion payment policy is the registration fee + 40% of the accommodation cost. The other 60% should be paid 60 days prior the conference.

Cancellation of payment is fully refundable, until 10th of June of 2022, with the respective deduction of bank or Pay Pal transfer fees. After the 10th of June 2022 cancelations are refundable minus 30% (of the total value of the room). After the 10th of July cancelations are refundable minus 50% of the total value of the room, also minus transaction fees. After the 10th of August payment is non-refundable.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

PAYPAL PAYMENT

Please add +5% on the total value to cover transactions fees

European School of Theosophy

Email address:

eustheosophy@gmail.com

Country: Greece

Please, email your registration form with confirmation of payment to:

eustheosophy@gmail.com

Route description to the International Theosophical Centre (ITC)

The ITC is located approx. 20 km east of Amsterdam, close to the old, fortified city of Naarden.



ARRIVE BY PLANE:

Fly into Schiphol airport, Amsterdam. The railway station is under the airport. Buy a ticket to station Naarden/Bussum.



ARRIVE BY TRAIN:

Buy ticket to station Naarden/Bussum. Go by regular taxi to ITC (see plan to the right) or by bus (Regioliner 100. From bus stop Flevolaan it is a 20 minutes' walk. See plan to the right).



ARRIVE BY CAR:

Take exit Bussum/Naarden off Motor way A1 between Amsterdam and Amersfoort. Then follow description of the plan.



ADDRESS:

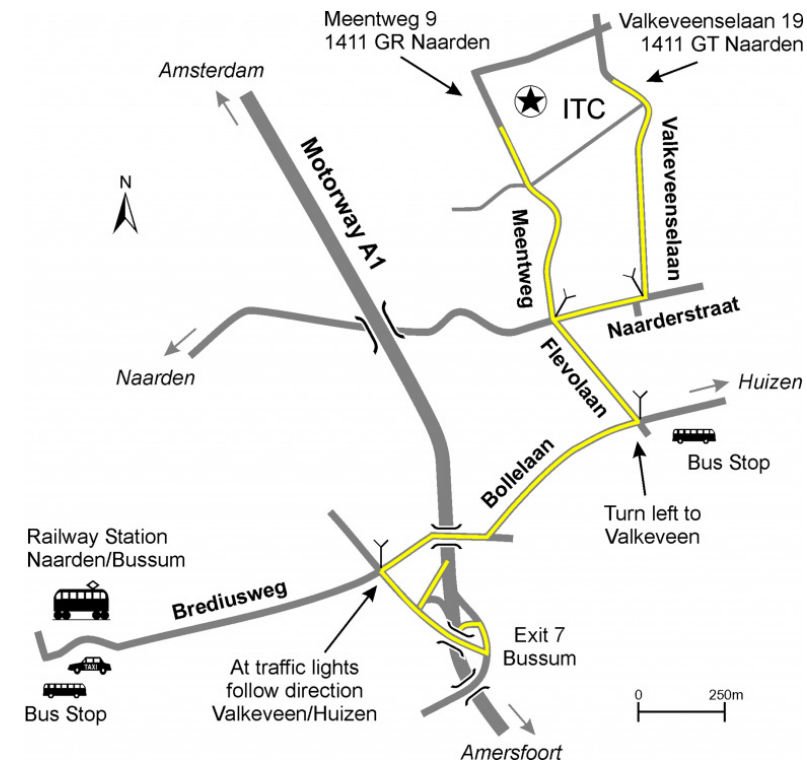
Besant Hall,
International Theosophical Centre
Meentweg 9,
1411 GR Naarden
The Netherlands



NAARDEN HISTORY:

Visit:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kb89MyU1DkQ>



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