

The Temenos Academy is pleased to announce its Programme for the Summer Term 2010. Our lectures and seminars are open to all. The addresses of the venues used and instructions for booking appear on page 2.

There are two events in honour of Kathleen Raine on or near the anniversary of her birthday: a Poetry Celebration, to follow on from the success of the 2008 Centenary Celebration, with contributions from nine poets, and the Annual Lecture, which this year will be given by Michael Horovitz.

We welcome back from America Robert Darr, who will speak on 'The Sufi Understanding of Individuality' on 22 April.

On 22 May we will celebrate the work of John Michell, who died last year, in a special day conference with contributions from Keith Critchlow, Robin Heath, Grevel Lindop, John Martineau, Christine Rhone and Robert Stephenson.

The course of lectures 'Arthur and the Grail: Tradition and Imagination' continues, with talks by Andrew Wolpert, David Blamires and Simon Wilson; the actor Tom Durham will give his performance 'You Ought To Ask: Why? – David Jones and the Holy Grail' on 8 July.

Also in July Linda Proud will mark the 500th anniversary of the death of Botticelli with a talk entitled 'Botticelli – Christian or Pagan?'

The regular study of Ibn 'Arabi at Temenos continues, with a course on the chapters on Abraham and his son Ismael, from the *Fusus al-hikam*.

Our afternoon seminar course led by Dr Joseph Milne will conclude the study of Shakespeare's *Antony & Cleopatra* before moving on to a selection of Shakespeare's *Sonnets*.

As well as its lecture and seminar programme the Academy publishes the *Temenos Academy Review* and Temenos Academy Papers, and has a large catalogue of recordings of past lectures.

For information about becoming a Member of the Temenos Academy please see page 3.

To join our postal mailing list and/or email Newsletter list please contact the Administrator.

The Venues

The Art Workers Guild

6 Queen Square

Bloomsbury

London WC1N 3AT

Nearest Underground Holborn /Russell Square

The Lincoln Centre

18 Lincoln's Inn Fields

London WC2A 3ED

Nearest Underground Holborn

The Royal Asiatic Society

14 Stephenson Way

London NW1 2HD

Nearest Underground Euston /Euston Square

The School of Economic Science

11 Mandeville Place

London W1U 3AJ

Nearest Underground Bond Street

Booking

For all lectures please book in advance by post using the booking form (tear out the form carefully). Places may also be reserved by telephone and email. For all seminars please reserve a place in advance and pay at the first meeting.

Kindly inform us if you wish to cancel a reservation.

Telephone 01233 813663

Email temenosacademy@myfastmail.com

Membership

One way of supporting the work of the Temenos Academy is by becoming a Member or Friend. On joining new Members or Friends will be sent the current issue of the *Temenos Academy Review*, and two other publications, *Lighting a Candle – Kathleen Raine and Temenos*, a collection of tributes to Kathleen Raine which also includes many examples of her own writing on the purpose and aims of Temenos; and *A Human Approach to World Peace, the 2004 L M Singhvi-Temenos Lecture* by His Holiness The Dalai Lama. The other Member or Friend benefits are:

- the concessionary admission rate to our lectures and seminars
- the choice of three recordings of past lectures from the catalogue of recorded lectures
- the opportunity to purchase other recordings at a reduced price
- free copies of all new Temenos Academy publications as they are issued

To join, please complete the Member section of the Booking Form at the back of this programme.

If you wish to pay by standing order please contact the Administrator who will send you a form.

Thank you!

Temenos Academy Young Scholars

For the benefit of young students who are attracted to the Temenos Academy's approach to learning *from*, and not merely *about*, the great religious and philosophical traditions, we run the Temenos Academy Young Scholars scheme, a special free membership of the Academy for young people aged 18–35 years.

Applicants are asked to submit a paper on a topic of their choice written in a way that emulates the first five of the 'Ten Basic Principles that inspire the work of Temenos', which are:

- Acknowledgement of Divinity
- Love of Wisdom, as the essential basis of civilization
- Spiritual vision as the life-breath of civilization
- Maintenance of the revered traditions of mankind
- Understanding of tradition as continual renewal

The subject may be drawn from the Humanities in general – art, philosophy, poetry, religion. For further guidance we suggest looking at the work of the numerous contributors to the *Temenos Academy Review* over the last 10 years. The essay should be at least 2000 words in length.

Essays will be appraised by the Temenos Academy Academic Board or a Temenos Academy Fellow.

Membership will be by invitation only and based upon the essay.

Temenos Academy Young Scholars will be full Members of the Academy until the age of 35. They will receive the *Temenos Academy Review*, and other Temenos Academy publications, every year.

Essays of exceptional merit will be considered for publication in the *Review*. A new section of the Temenos Academy website, displaying essays by the Young Scholars and with a forum for communication, is now on-line.

For further information and an application form please go to

http://www.temenosacademy.org/temenos_young_scholars.html

or contact the Administrator

Thetis Blacker Temenos Batik Scholarship

The Temenos Academy has established an award in memory of the artist Thetis Blacker, to further the study of the art of batik.

The award is open to members of the Batik Guild, a UK-based non-profit organization, which exists to encourage a wider appreciation and understanding of batik as a centuries-old craft which continues to meet the needs of creative artists working today. Thetis Blacker was a member of the Batik Guild. More information about its work, and how to become a member, can be found on its website www.batikguild.org.uk

THETIS BLACKER (1927–2006) made a remarkable contribution to Temenos as an artist and lecturer. Her work was first featured in *Temenos 4*, and her ‘Phoenix Egg’, especially designed for the journal, appeared on the covers of issues 6–9. During her lifetime she was regarded as the pre-eminent batik artist in the West. Her brilliantly colourful and masterfully executed dye paintings were commissioned for and exhibited in cathedrals and churches in the United Kingdom, Europe and the United States; her works are in over 500 private and public collections across the world. In this country her work can be seen to powerful effect in St George’s Chapel, Windsor Castle; Winchester Cathedral; Westminster Abbey; St Alban’s Cathedral; and Durham Cathedral. She was also a writer and the author of *A Pilgrimage of Dreams* (1973), an account of her own vivid dreams. A Fellow of the Temenos Academy, she contributed several lectures to the Academy’s programme, including two on Kathleen Raine’s wide circle of friends, which she called ‘A Web of Friendship’.

The Temenos Academy holds an annual Thetis Blacker Lecture.

As a Churchill Fellow, Thetis Blacker studied the craft of batik in South East Asia. The purpose of the Thetis Blacker Temenos Batik Scholarship is to support overseas research, study and travel in the field of batik creation.

For further information please visit our website

http://www.temenosacademy.org/temenos_thetis_blacker.html

or contact the Administrator

THE ROSE

WHAT does the eye see?

A rose-bud on a paradise tree.

What does hope say?

A rose shall fill time with eternity!

What is memory's refrain?

'I was that rose before the world began.'

What does thought foretell?

Petal upon petal,

World within world, star within cell.

What sings love then?

'I am the rose, that crimson rose is mine.'

Why comes death this way?

To take away, to take my rose away.

What lies in the immortal centre hidden?

Mary on the golden throne of Heaven.

And in the heart of Heaven what lives, what grows?

The heart of Heaven is the rose, the rose!

Kathleen Raine

From *The Collected Poems of Kathleen Raine*

(Golgonooza Press, Ipswich, 2000)

The study of key texts in small seminar groups

Antony & Cleopatra

by WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Leader Dr Joseph Milne

Text the Arden edition

21 April – 7 July Wednesdays, 12 sessions

Time 3 – 4.30pm (please arrive promptly)

Venue The School of Economic Science

A study and close reading of Shakespeare's play;
continued from last term.

On completion of *Antony & Cleopatra*, Dr Milne will
turn to a selection of Shakespeare's *Sonnets*.

JOSEPH MILNE has led Shakespeare seminars at the
Temenos Academy for over seventeen years.

An Honorary Lecturer at the University of Kent where
he teaches on the MA Course in Mysticism and Religious
Experience, he is also a Fellow of the Temenos Academy
and author of the Temenos Academy Papers *The Ground
of Being – Foundations of Christian Mysticism* and
Metaphysics and the Cosmic Order.

Course cost

£72 or £60 Members of the Temenos Academy /
Concessions (single seminars pro rata)

Booking

Please reserve your place in advance and pay the course
fee at the first meeting

The study of key texts in small seminar groups

The Ringstones of Wisdom

(Fusus al-hikam)

by IBN ‘ARABI

*The world is nothing other than the Real’s
self-revelation in forms*

**The Wisdom of Ecstatic Love in the Word of Abraham
and**

The Wisdom of Exaltedness in the Word of Ishmael

Leaders Jane Clark and Cecilia Twinch

Text will be provided

11 May – 15 June Tuesdays, 6 sessions

Time 7 – 8.30pm (please arrive promptly)

Venue in Holland Park, w14; full address on booking

Mystic, philosopher, poet, sage, Ibn ‘Arabi is one of the world’s great spiritual teachers. His teaching is based on the primordial principle of unity which underlies all spiritual traditions, and upon his understanding that the realized human has an integral part to play in the cosmos.

These two chapters on Abraham, father of the three major monotheistic religions, and his eldest son Ishmael, are both concerned with the intimate relationship between the human being and the Divine – Abraham being the ‘friend of God’ and Ishmael distinguished by faithfulness to his Lord.

CECILIA TWINCH and JANE CLARK have been studying the works of Muhyiddin Ibn ‘Arabi for more than 30 years. They have written and lectured internationally on Ibn ‘Arabi’s ideas and are engaged in the translation of his works into English.

Course cost

£36 or £30 Members of the Temenos Academy /
Concessions (single seminars pro rata)

Please contact the Administrator to secure your place.
Space is limited.

The Sufi Understanding of Individuality

ROBERT DARR

Thursday 22 April

Chair Dr Leonard Lewisohn

Venue The Royal Asiatic Society

Doors open at 6.15pm

Lecture begins promptly at 7pm

Concludes 8.30pm

Sufism recognizes the lives of individuals as the particular, personal manifestations of diverse aspects of the Divine Self. People are usually only aware of the limited, temporal aspects of their own individuality which sustain their illusion of possessing independent existence and will. Sufi spiritual disciplines awaken people to the awareness of their eternal Individuality, an awareness that overwhelms their life-long identification with the temporal self. This talk explores the Sufi approach to gaining and integrating the awareness of one's true identity.

ROBERT DARR has for thirty-five years been a student of classical Islamic culture. In the 1970s he studied North Indian classical music at The Ali Akbar Khan School of Music in California and by the early 1980s he was studying Persian poetry. In 1987 he met Afghanistan's poet laureate in exile, Ustad Khalilullah Khalili and this friendship led to Darr's English translation of the poet's quatrains in 1988. In 1989 he began the study of Persian miniature painting with Ustad Homayon Etemadi, Afghanistan's last court painter and royal librarian, who was also his tutor of Persian literature. For the last fifteen years, Darr has continued his studies of mystical poetry with the Afghan Sufi poet Raz Mohammad Zaray, while at the same time teaching traditional wooden boat-building in Sausalito.

Admission

£5 or £3.50 Members of the Temenos Academy /
Concessions

The Grail in von Eschenbach's *Parzival*

ANDREW WOLPERT

Thursday 6 May

Chair Julia Cleave

Venue The Lincoln Centre

Doors open at 6.15pm

Lecture begins promptly at 7pm

Concludes 8.15pm promptly

The legends and mythology connected with the Holy Grail are sources of growing interest today. The twelfth century epic by Wolfram von Eschenbach treats the theme in a wider context that acknowledges the healing role of Parzival not only in the outer narrative sense, but also esoterically as an individual and social biographical archetype. This story reveals how Arthur and Klingsor are the destiny companions of Amfortas, and that the significance of The Grail is not just of historical interest, but particularly relevant for our inner strivings today.

ANDREW WOLPERT is a scholar of the historical and esoteric aspects of Renaissance Art. His profession as teacher of English and Literature led him to pursue the connections between the literary Renaissance in Britain and the earlier expression of this great artistic beginning of our modern age in architecture, sculpture and painting in Italy. For a number of years he worked as course leader at Emerson College in England; he has lectured and written extensively on these themes, been co-editor of *The Golden Blade* magazine and now lectures in Japan, Hungary, Germany and Italy, teaching English and introducing the work of Rudolf Steiner. He has twice been the annual Barbara Blackman Temenos Foundation lecturer in Australia.

Admission

£5 or £3.50 Members of the Temenos Academy /
Concessions

John Michell: A Temenos Celebration of his Work

Saturday 22 May

Chair Christine Rhone

Venue The Art Workers Guild

Doors open at 10am

Concludes 5pm

In this day conference we are delighted to bring together a group of distinguished speakers, all of whom knew John Michell well and worked with him, to celebrate his life, work and influence, in the beautiful setting of the Art Workers Guild.

Introduction and welcome from Grevel Lindop

Talks by Keith Critchlow, Robin Heath, John Martineau, Christine Rhone and Robert Stephenson

Tickets

£45 or £40 Concessions / Members of the Temenos Academy

Note: applications limited to a maximum of 2 tickets

A limited number of students tickets are available price £25

The price includes tea and coffee during the morning and afternoon sessions. There are many cafes and restaurants near Queen Square and on Southampton Row where lunch can be found.

Space is limited and to avoid disappointment advance booking is essential

Contributions from Keith Critchlow and Grevel Lindop of the Temenos Academy, and the following talks:

Geometry & Time in Pre-History

ROBIN HEATH

Outside of conventional scientific circles the geometrical and mathematic evidence emerging from the Neolithic period in Northwestern Europe has suggested that the builders of the megalithic monuments inherited these evident skills from a previous 'lost' Age. Orthodox archaeology has chosen to ignore this possibility because

it does not believe nor even consider this kind of evidence. Were they to believe otherwise it would require wholesale revision to their model of prehistory as well as to the well established history of the development of early mathematics.

The megalithic period thus finds itself placed in an unfortunate void in between these two viewpoints, one of a seemingly miraculous source of knowledge such as Atlantis and the other of the apparent impossibility of any form of mathematics prior to the advent of numerical notation.

In this talk Robin Heath will show how this void may be filled through the recent discovery of evidence supporting a mathematical methodology quite unlike our present one which explains a primary force motivating the Megalithic culture. It appears that this force arose naturally from observing the time cycles of the Sun and Moon.

The pioneering investigative work of John Michell and Alexander Thom played a key role in exposing the overlooked evidence that supported a high level of astronomical, geometrical and metrological understanding in prehistoric times. In taking this matter a step further the presentation pays tribute to Robin's dear friend John and honours the achievement of both these extraordinary men.

Geometry & Harmony in the Solar System

JOHN MARTINEAU

The idea of the harmony of spheres is an ancient one. Kepler was the first modern scientist to discover exactly how time and space interrelated regarding the planetary orbits. In this talk John Martineau shows how Kepler's ideas may be extended to reveal a solar system that is still largely comprehensible in terms of simple geometries and harmonies. It will feature the first public presentation of exciting new work on rainbow angles and their application to the planetary orbits.

John Michell: An Introduction to his Work

CHRISTINE RHONE

Described by poet and scholar Kathleen Raine as ‘one of the most brilliant men in England’, John Michell was a unique, multi-faceted personality and a writer who produced many flashes of genius. As a modern Merlin, he influenced a whole generation or more with his revelations and insights into ancient science – geometry, geodesy, and cosmology – and he stands as a twentieth-century giant in the stream of arithmosophy. However, John Michell dealt with many subjects. In this talk, Christine Rhone surveys his work as a whole, viewing his books over four decades and showing how each book contributed to his central vision.

John Michell’s Enchanted Landscape

ROBERT STEPHENSON

The publication of John Michell’s seminal works from the late 1960s onwards made it possible for a whole generation to find a unique re-engagement with the English landscape. His books lyrically describe his rediscovery of leys, earth energies and traditional ways of thinking, and it is John who is responsible for adding a magical dimension to the countryside that goes beyond an appreciation of its beauty and serenity. His theories gave purpose to excursions to the great outdoors, as he was able to remind us that the prehistoric sites encountered on the way, like stone circles, hill camps and holy wells, were not only interconnected by a web of straight lines, but were infused with an energy emanating from the earth that was in tune with the cycles of the cosmos and detectable by dowsing. He had rediscovered a delightful piece of ancient technology and through his study of ancient measure, and many other arcane subjects, was able to produce the evidence that could unlock the code that brings enlightenment.

KEITH CRITCHLOW is Professor Emeritus of the Prince's School of Traditional Arts, where he still supervises the PhD programme that he initiated to acknowledge practitioners in the sacred arts, and President Emeritus of the Temenos Academy. A brilliant and inspiring lecturer, and the author of *Order in Space, Into the Hidden Environment, Islamic Patterns, The Soul as Sphere and Androgyne*, and *Time Stands Still*, he is currently completing three new books on traditional subjects that embrace his life's passion – sacred geometry.

ROBIN HEATH holds an honours degree in Electronics and Engineering Science and after university became a designer of integrated circuits in the nascent electronics revolution. For twelve years he was also a senior lecturer in Mathematics and Engineering. In 1990 he left to take up full time research into the megalithic culture, living in the Preseli region of West Wales, termed the 'University of Megalithia'.

He has written nine books, including a biographical account of the life and work of the late Professor Alexander Thom and two in the hugely influential but diminutive Wooden Books range, *Sun, Moon & Earth* and *Stonehenge*. In 2004 he co-authored *The Measure of Albion* with John Michell.

GREVEL LINDOP was formerly Professor of Romantic and Early Victorian Studies at Manchester University. A Fellow of the Temenos Academy and Chairman of its Academic Board, his books include several works of criticism and scholarly editions, as well as six volumes of poems and *Travels on the Dance Floor*, about his exploration of the geographical and cultural roots of salsa. He is currently writing a biography of the poet, novelist and theologian Charles Williams.

JOHN MARTINEAU, an alumnus of The Prince's School of Architecture, is the editor of the Wooden Books series and author of *A Little Book of Coincidences*.

CHRISTINE RHONE is a French-American dual national who lives in London. She is the co-author, with John Michell, of *Twelve-Tribe Nations* and worked with him for three years on *The Cereologist* magazine. She is the translator of such titles as *Sacred Geography of the Ancient Greeks* by Jean Richer, and *Youthfulness and Chivalry in Iranian Islam* by Henry Corbin (*Temenos Academy Review* 11 and 12); forthcoming is *Western Esotericism: A Concise History* by Antoine Faivre (SUNY, 2010). Contributor to many small press publications, she writes rituals for the Fellowship of Isis.

ROBERT STEPHENSON has been a life-long lover of the landscape and formerly led many pilgrimages to prehistoric sites around the country. He trained as a sculptor but for the last quarter of a century has taught about London and folklore. He is a qualified City of London guide and the Chairman of the Research Into Lost Knowledge Organisation.

The Temenos Academy wishes to thank Christine Rhone for her help in planning this celebration; all the speakers for their contributions; Simon Trethewey of The Prince's School of Traditional Arts, our technician for the day; and Elspeth Dennison, Steward of the Art Workers Guild.

Mystic Presences in David Jones's *The Sleeping Lord*

PROF. DAVID BLAMIRE

Thursday 3 June

Chair Tom Durham

Venue The Lincoln Centre

Doors open at 6.15pm

Lecture begins promptly at 7pm

Concludes 8.15pm promptly

This lecture will focus on the title poem and some of the other related poems in the volume *The Sleeping Lord and other fragments* (Faber and Faber, 1974). It will concentrate on the image of Arthur in connection with the folkloric topic of 'the sleeping lord' and relate it more widely to David Jones's fascination with the numina of place, landscape and geology as found in his other writings, paintings and drawings.

DAVID BLAMIRE retired as Professor of German at the University of Manchester in 2001. His book *David Jones: Artist and Writer* (Manchester UP, 1971; second edition 1978) was the first monograph on Jones. The first secretary of the David Jones Society (from 1975–1984), he has written various articles and reviews on aspects of the work of David Jones. His other publications include *Characterization and Individuality in Wolfram's Parzival* (Cambridge UP, 1966); *Herzog Ernst and the Otherworld Voyage* (Manchester UP, 1979); *Fortunatus in his many English Guises* (Mellen, 1996); a translation of *The Book of the Perfect Life: Theologia Deutsch, Theologia Germanica* (Altamira Press, 2003); *The Books of Jonah* (Oldham: Incline Press, 2009) and *Telling Tales: the Impact of Germany on English Children's Books 1780–1918* (Cambridge: OpenBook Publishers, 2009).

Admission

£5 or £3.50 Members of the Temenos Academy /
Concessions

The 2010 Kathleen Raine Poetry Celebration

Saturday 12 June

Venue The Art Workers Guild

Doors open at 6pm (refreshments)

Readings begin promptly at 6.30pm

In 2008, on the centenary of Kathleen Raine's birth, 14 June 1908, the Temenos Academy held a Poetry Celebration. So enjoyable was it that we are making it into a biennial event.

The Poets

Snowdon Barnett

John F. Deane

Malcolm Guite

Alyson Hallett

James Harpur

Grevel Lindop

Jay Ramsay

India Russell

Francis Warner

Each poet will read from their own work, and one poem by Kathleen Raine of their choice.

Admission

£5 or £3.50 Members of the Temenos Academy /
Concessions

The 2010 Kathleen Raine Lecture

Spiritual Partners: Kathleen Raine, Allen Ginsberg & Frances Horovitz

MICHAEL HOROVITZ

Monday 14 June

Chair Prof. Grevel Lindop

Venue The Art Workers Guild

Doors open at 6.15pm (refreshments)

Lecture begins promptly at 7pm

Concludes 8.30pm

Kathleen Raine was the founder of the Temenos Academy. Born in 1908, she had a distinguished career as a poet, scholar and teacher. Her many books include her famous study of William Blake, *Blake and Tradition* (1969); her *Autobiographies* (1991); and her *Collected Poems* (2000). She died in 2003.

We are delighted that the 2010 Kathleen Raine Lecture will be given by Michael Horovitz on the 102nd anniversary of the birth of Kathleen Raine.

Michael Horovitz writes:

I first met Kathleen after a talk she gave on William Blake in my first year at Oxford University, 1955; Ginsberg in 1959–60 when I was producing the first issues of *New Departures*; and Frances in 1960 – we were soulmates for the following two decades. My lecture will explore a few aspects of the relationships between the four of us.

MICHAEL HOROVITZ, OBE was born in 1935 in Frankfurt, the youngest of 10 children whose parents brought the family to England in 1937. Michael has been an artist in many media for most of his life. In 1980 he launched the Poetry Olympics festivals. His poetry publications in print include *Midsummer Morning Jog Log* (1986, illustrated by Peter Blake), *Wordsounds & Sightlines* (1994 and 2001, cover by David Hockney), and *A New Waste Land: Timeship Earth at Nillennium* (2007). He is currently fronting the William Blake Klezmatrix Band.

Admission

£5 or £3.50 Members of the Temenos Academy /
Concessions

Botticelli – Christian or Pagan?

LINDA PROUD

Thursday 1 July

Chair Dr Joseph Milne

Venue The Lincoln Centre

Doors open at 6.15pm

Lecture begins promptly at 7pm

Concludes 8.15pm promptly

Five hundred years ago, in 1510, Sandro Botticelli died at the age of 66, in poverty and suffering senile dementia. He is famous for his mythological paintings, *Venus and Mars*, *The Birth of Venus* and *La Primavera*. These were the products of a time when Florence was the centre of Neoplatonism. With the rise of Savonarola, however, Botticelli returned to the Christian iconography typical of an early Renaissance artist. Vasari's claim, that Botticelli's switch of allegiance to Savonarola ruined his career and drove him mad, has become the general view. But did Botticelli convert to fundamentalist Christianity? Was the man who painted Neoplatonic myths different from him who painted *The Mystic Nativity*?

It is a mistake, perhaps, to label Botticelli as either a Christian or a Pagan. What he shows is that it is possible to be both without inner conflict. Looking at Botticelli afresh, we can see the Christian elements in *La Primavera*, and the Platonic elements in a work such as *The Lamentation of Christ*. Botticelli achieved visually what the humanists achieved only partially in their writings: a fusion of philosophy and faith. It was not his work that drove him mad and left him impoverished: it was the world he lived in: a world very much like our own.

Writer and publisher LINDA PROUD is the author of three novels which form *The Botticelli Trilogy*, soon to become a quartet with the publication of a 'prequel' about Botticelli's life as an apprentice.

Admission

£5 or £3.50 Members of the Temenos Academy /
Concessions

‘You ought to ask: Why?’ – David Jones and the Holy Grail

A Performance by
TOM DURHAM

Thursday 8 July

Introduced by Ian Skelly

Venue The Art Workers Guild

Doors open at 6.15pm (refreshments)

Performance begins promptly at 7pm

Concludes 8.30pm

Tom Durham writes:

As an artist/poet David Jones was always on the look-out for the meaningful sign that might illuminate the mystery of life; and images of, and references to, the Holy Grail seem to be everywhere in his work. I like to think that one actual experience of his on the Western Front became for him a personal revelation of this so elusive object – a revelation that changed his life. Did he identify with Peredur – the Welsh Percival?

For me, what makes Jones so important is that, having perhaps been granted such ‘a vision’, he did not take it for granted, or continually assert it as a fact in a dogmatic manner. He questioned its significance, pursued its implications and continued the Quest to the end – as a vulnerable artist, not as an absolute authority.

Tom Durham will make his own quest through Jones’ work in a linked recital of significant passages.

The evening will mark the launch of Tom Durham’s new CD *David Jones – A Selection from his Writing*.

TOM DURHAM is an actor with a particular interest in the performance of challenging poetry – soul acting – and has read many times for the Temenos Academy.

Admission

£5 or £3.50 Members of the Temenos Academy /
Concessions

The Grail Utopia in Southern Germany

DR SIMON WILSON

Thursday 5 August

Chair Jack Herbert

Venue The Lincoln Centre

Doors open at 6.15pm

Lecture begins promptly at 7pm

Concludes 8.15pm promptly

From Wolfram von Eschenbach's *Parzival* onwards, the German *Gral* tradition has described a Grail-centred utopia which reconciles the earthly with the celestial, the secular with the sacred, the human with the divine.

This lecture will discuss the way that, throughout the centuries, Bavarian rulers have attempted to realise this ideal order. The focus will be on the foundation, in 1330, of the monastery at Ettal by Ludwig IV, Duke of Upper Bavaria, King of Germany and Holy Roman Emperor. Ettal's church was inspired by the Grail chapel as portrayed in German poetry, and Ludwig hoped that it would form the symbolic centre of an ideal Holy Roman Empire which would transcend earthly politics and rivalries to manifest divine order on Earth. The lecture will explore the complex interaction of imagination, poetry, history and the spiritual in the story of Ettal.

As will be shown, the earthly harmony secured by the Grail continued to fascinate Bavaria's rulers, notably King Ludwig II, builder of architectural dream worlds and patron of Wagner.

SIMON WILSON has a long-standing interest in the esoteric wisdom of the Western world, and is fascinated by the interweaving of imagination, myth, history and landscape. A teacher, author and translator, he studied English at Cambridge and wrote his doctorate on Thomas De Quincey. He has published in English and German on a variety of topics, including the monastery at Ettal, De Quincey, Freemasonry, Ivan Illich, the Bavarian Illuminati, and Charles Fort. He is currently resident in Munich.

Admission

£5 or £3.50 Members of the Temenos Academy /
Concessions

‘For the last few years I have become more and more struck by the connection between how a society conceives itself and how it conceives the cosmos. Yet this connection seems to be almost entirely overlooked in modern thought. That is to say, the way in which the universe is conceived in modern thought reflects how modern thought conceives human society. But this remains largely invisible. Underlying all the various modern social theories, for example, is the unspoken assumption that there is no “divine element” in how society is constituted and how that shapes its destiny. And this unspoken assumption holds sway because it is taken for granted that there is no divine element in the ordering and destiny of the cosmos. Thus, if we might put it this way, we have a “secular cosmos” corresponding with a “secular society”. This means a purposeless cosmos and a purposeless civilisation.’

Joseph Milne

From *The Ancient Conception of Eternal Law*

A lecture given at the Temenos Academy in June 2009

Advance Notice

Two lectures by DR RAVI RAVINDRA

13 and 14 September 2010

Dialectic and Divine Riddles

A Reading Essential Texts Evening

Seminar Course studying the Neoplatonist

Damascius' *Commentary* on Plato's *Phaedo*,

led by TIM ADDEY

Commencing 16 September 2010

The 2010 Thetis Blacker Lecture

Thetis Blacker and the

Four Evangelist Symbols

By DR PAMELA TUDOR-CRAIG

and DR RICHARD FOSTER

2 December 2010

Fellows of the Temenos Academy

Dr Wendell Berry (USA)
Mrs Barbara Blackman (Australia)
Prof. Suheil Bushrui (USA)
Prof. Andrey Bykov (Russia)
Mr David Cadman (UK)
Dr John Carey (Ireland)
Dr Tom Cheetham (USA)
Dr William Chittick (USA)
Prof. Indra Nath Choudhuri (India)
Prof. Keith Critchlow (UK)
Dr Stephen Cross (France)
Dr Hans-Wolfgang Frick (Switzerland)
Dr H.M. Ghomshei (Iran)
Prof. Joscelyn Godwin (USA)
Mr Z'ev ben Shimon Halevi (UK)
Mr Jack Herbert (UK)
Mr Esme F. Howard (UK)
Mr Brian Keeble (UK)
Mr Satish Kumar (UK)
Dr Leonard Lewisohn (UK)
Prof. Grevel Lindop (UK)
Mrs Jill Line (UK)
Dr Joseph Milne (UK)
Prof. S.H. Nasr (USA)
Dr Jeremy Naydler (UK)
Prof. Jacob Needleman (USA)
Mr Tom Perkins (UK)
Contessa M-A. de Robilant (Switzerland)
Mr Mark Rylance (UK)
Dr Karan Singh (India)
Prof. Sir John Tavener (UK)
Dr Kapila Vatsyayan (India)
Prof. Karel Werner (UK)

Booking Form

Advance Booking is recommended

	<i>No. of Places</i>	<i>Cost</i>
22 April Robert Darr	_____	_____
6 May Andrew Wolpert	_____	_____
22 May John Michell Day	_____	_____
3 June David Blamires	_____	_____
12 June Poetry Celebration	_____	_____
14 June Michael Horovitz	_____	_____
1 July Linda Proud	_____	_____
8 July Tom Durham	_____	_____
5 August Simon Wilson	_____	_____

Please enrol me as a Member of the Temenos Academy:

Waged rate	£60	_____
Concession rate	£30	_____
Overseas rate	£50	_____
Friend's rate	£200	_____
	Total £	_____

Payment

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

POSTCODE _____

PHONE or EMAIL _____

BY CHEQUE

Enclosed please find a cheque payable to

The Temenos Academy for £ _____

BY CREDIT CARD

Visa, Mastercard and Delta Debit cards accepted

Please debit my credit/debit card by the amount of

£ _____

Card No. _____

Expiry date _____ / _____

Card Security Code _____

(last 3 digits on signature strip at back of card)

Name on the card _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Note: for Credit Card payments the address given must be the full address as it appears on your credit card statement.

Post this form to:

The Temenos Academy

P O Box 203

Ashford

Kent

TN25 5ZT