

SYMPTOMS OF CONTEMPORARY EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

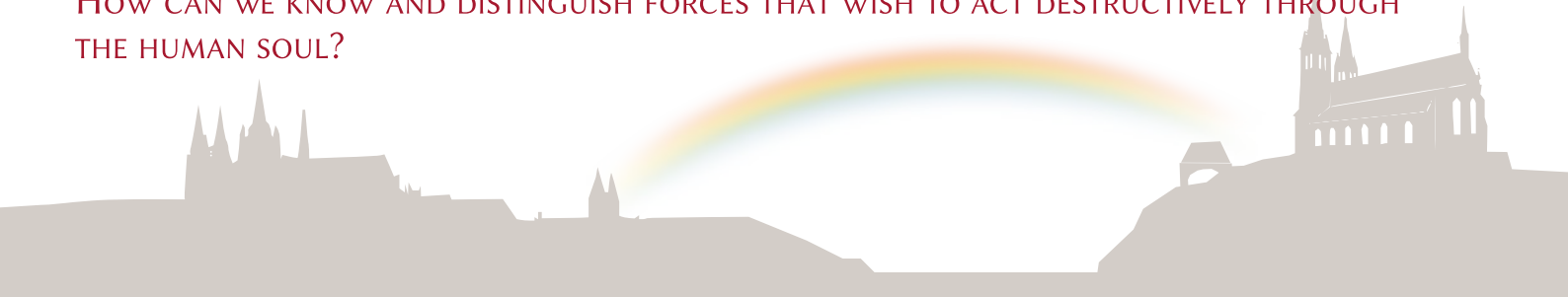


# THE ROSE CROSS IN EUROPE

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

8TH YEAR OF THE CONFERENCE  
19–22 NOVEMBER 2015, PRAGUE

THE STRUGGLE FOR TRUTH, FREEDOM AND HOPE AMIDST THE CONFUSION OF OUR TIME  
HOW CAN WE KNOW AND DISTINGUISH FORCES THAT WISH TO ACT DESTRUCTIVELY THROUGH  
THE HUMAN SOUL?



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

THIS IS THE EIGHTH SUCCESSIVE ANNUAL CONFERENCE UNDER THE THEME OF THE ROSE CROSS IN EUROPE. THE AIM OF THE CONFERENCE, SINCE THE BEGINNING, HAS BEEN TO SHED LIGHT ON CONTEMPORARY CULTURE AND CURRENT EVENTS, INCLUDING POLITICS, SPIRITUALITY, THE ARTS AND MANY OTHER ASPECTS OF CONTEMPORARY LIFE, WHILE ATTEMPTING TO FIND THE TRUE METAMORPHOSES OF THE “ROSE CROSS IN EUROPE”.

THIS YEAR WE WILL TRY TO ADDRESS INNER AND OUTER FORCES THAT HAVE A DESTRUCTIVE IMPACT ON THE HUMAN SOUL. BUT FACING THE NUMEROUS THREATENING, OPPRESSIVE CONFLICTS OF OUR PRESENT, IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT TO DISCOVER THE POTENTIAL OF THE HUMAN SOUL TO OVERCOME APATHY AND RESIGNATION, IN ORDER TO TRANSFORM WHAT WOULD OTHERWISE ONLY END IN DESTRUCTIVENESS.

### **The “ideological struggle of our time”, contemporary “myths” and the search for truthfulness. (How do we know?) / Richard Ramsbotham**

“Nothing is true, everything is possible” is a phrase that has been used to describe the increasingly prevalent situation, world-wide, with regard to truthfulness, on the one hand, and ethics or morality on the other. The viewpoint that truth is anyway not attainable significantly affects both major political decision-making and the behaviour of the mainstream media. Looking at how we know is essential if we are to see through the untruthfulness so often at work in these and is equally essential if we are to find different ways forward.

### **Battling “Isis”, spiritual illusions and the search for new morality. (What can we do?) / Richard Ramsbotham**

The second lecture will explore further ramifications of this, such

as what lies behind what David Cameron has called the ‘ideological battle of our generation’ (the battle with ‘Islamic State’ or ‘Isis’). It will also look at the question of where new morality is to be found (or not to be found)– and at some of the questions facing the anthroposophical movement amidst the increasing world crises today.

### **Freedom and Conformity: “Public Opinion” and Hegel / Terry Boardman**

Today we are told we live in “the information society”. Information, news, data “are said” to determine almost everything in today's “scientific” world. This is an example of “public opinion”. The theme of the first talk will be “public opinion“. What is it? How does it influence and control us? What is behind public opinion, from a spiritual perspective? What do we mean when we speak of “the middle way”, of “balance“ and “polarity“? How does public opinion relate to the question of Europe and its future direction?

### **Hegel, Steiner and Public Opinion / Terry Boardman**

The second talk will address a very specific aspect of modern public opinion, namely, views stemming from the West about the German philosopher Hegel and his dialectic. Hegel (1770-1831) was a man greatly respected by Rudolf Steiner, but not uncritically. How are Hegel and his ideas being abused today and why does it matter? Why did Steiner value Hegel so highly, and what is Hegel's relation to the impulse of the Rose Cross?

### **Current World Events in the Mirror of the 33 Year Rhythm / Markus Osterrieder**

It is no longer sufficient to seek to understand the great political and social upheavals and conflicts of the present time in their

deeper driving forces from media coverage alone. From the end of 1917 Rudolf Steiner pointed to the significance of a 33 year rhythm in history, which is based on spiritual and astronomical foundations. Accordingly, the events of the last three years 2012-2015 relate to events which occurred in 1979-82 and 1946-49 (2 x 33 years). From studying this phenomenon, one can learn something about how one can shape the future in the present, beyond “public opinion”.

### **Hope, Freedom and the “Spirit of Truth” / Markus Osterrieder**

Together with faith and love, hope is one of the three intimate soul forces of the human being. It is most strongly linked to what meets us directly in nature and is at the basis of human acts of will. Political and social systems that seek to enslave people in unfreedom always try to destroy hope. Hope and the freedom of the human will are, however, inextricably linked to that “spirit of truth” which Christ spoke of to his disciples. To receive this spirit, one first needs to educate oneself for truth. And it is precisely the will for truth that is so conflicted in our time.

### **What has changed in the working of spiritual forces on the human soul since the beginning of the 3rd millennium? / Anežka Janátová**

The new millennium began in the sign of the Beast 3 x 666. How does the Beast try to change the human race? The development of the 12 senses. The development of the 12 world views. The development of personality. The development of children. The development of the anthroposophical impulse. The development of the Consciousness Soul.

### **Numerous responses to the impulses of the Beast / Anežka Janátová**

A conscious approach in learning to see the changes that are occurring. The struggle to “know and distinguish the spirits” behind their various masks. The open, and not merely rhetorical acknowledgment of Rudolf Steiner.



**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 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), *World in Upheaval – The Question of Nationalities, World Order Concepts, and Rudolf Steiner's Standpoint during the First World War* (2014). 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 the 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), (*Záhadný*

*Kaspar Hauser, Grada, 2009*), *Mapping the Millenium – Behind the Plans of the New World Order* (1998 and 2013). 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 2015 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

€ 90, 30 (student)

## OTHER INFORMATION

Czech-English and Czech-German translation provided. The conference will start on Thursday evening (November 19nd) and will end on Sunday afternoon (November 22th). 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.