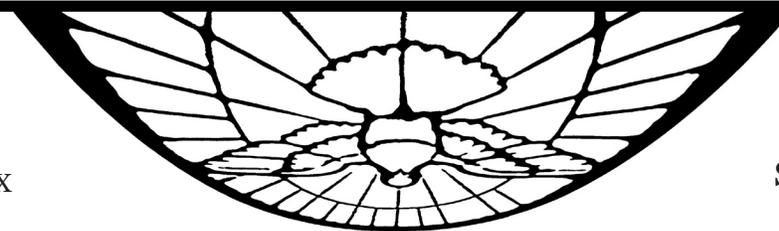


THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE U.S. GRAND LODGE OF ORDO TEMPLI ORIENTIS

# AGAPÉ

⊙ IN ⊕  
♃ IN ♀  
ANNO IV:XIX

VOLUME XII  
NUMBER 2  
SUMMER, 2011 EV



" Upon all that this  
day unite with love  
under will let  
fall success;

May strength and  
skill unite to bring  
forth ecstasy,  
and beauty answer  
beauty... "  
— Liber XV



*The Official Organ of the  
United States Grand Lodge of  
Ordo Templi Orientis*

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## FROM THE EDITOR

*Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.*

Care Fratres et Sorores,

### NEW EDITORIAL ADDRESS

*Agapé* now has a new physical mailing address. Please send your hardcopy correspondence and submissions to:

*Agapé*  
P.O. Box 4123  
Pittsburgh, PA 15202

The editorial email address remains unchanged at:

[agape@oto-usa.org](mailto:agape@oto-usa.org).

### NOTOCON VIII SCRAPBOOK

This August will see United States Grand Lodge's eighth biennial national conference, hosted by Blue Equinox Oasis in the valley of Detroit, Michigan. In our ongoing endeavor to be the Magical Record of Ordo Templi Orientis in the U.S., *Agapé* is determined to cover this event as never before and we want *you* to help.

*Agapé* invites all brothers and sisters attending NOTOCON VIII to send in accounts of their experiences for publication in the Fall issue. You can write a comprehensive memoir of the entire conference if you want, or something less ambitious. You can submit detailed reviews of the presentations you attended, or share your philosophical reflections on the weekend, or just your random impressions. Tell us about an interesting conversation you had or an improptu ritual you put together. You can even tell us that funny story you heard on the elevator late one night. Length can be anything from a couple thousand words to a few sentences. Tell us what interested you, what impressed you, what entertained you, what moved you, and what made you laugh. In short, tell us what made *this* NOTOCON special.

Submissions will be assembled into a special "NOTOCON Scrapbook" that will appear in the Fall issue, with all pieces credited to the individual authors. Deadline for submissions is October 1st.

### YOUR EDITOR AT LARGE

Finally, I will be attending NOTOCON myself and I will be happy to talk with anyone about *Agapé*, its content and direction. I will be especially happy to discuss any material you may wish to submit for publication and even look it over as time allows. If you have ideas, I want to hear them!

*Love is the law, love under will.*

Fraternally,  
Frater Julianus  
Editor, *Agapé*

## FROM THE GRAND MASTER

*Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.*

### ANNUAL REPORT

United States Grand Lodge's annual report is available here:

[http://oto-usa.org/usgl\\_annual\\_report\\_IVxviii.pdf](http://oto-usa.org/usgl_annual_report_IVxviii.pdf)

### UPDATE: RITES OF ELEUSIS ANNIVERSARY COMPETITION

At the 2009 EV NOTOCON, we decided that, in 2010 EV, U.S. Grand Lodge would commemorate the one-hundredth anniversary of the first performance of Crowley's *Rites of Eleusis*, which took place in London in Caxton Hall in 1910 EV. We decided to do this by holding a friendly competition for our modern local bodies that enact these rites. The parameters for the project were set and the competition commenced for the best submissions for each of the seven rites. However, after a year, only three of the needed seven rites were submitted: the rites of Venus, Luna, and Mercury. We extended the submission period for a few more months, and we did receive another *Rite of Mercury*—but missing still were the rites of Jupiter, Sol, Mars and Saturn.

At that point it became clear that the original "competition" concept would need to be modified, and we decided to re-conceptualize the project as an ongoing documentary collection. We initiated an effort to find older videotaped rites, and we were able to successfully find videos of the Rites of Sol and Jupiter that would nicely add to our historical compilation. These were originally produced in a mini video format, but with the help of a professional videographer, they were edited and converted to DVD format and added to the collection.

We will continue to collect the rites that our local bodies have decided to document until we have a complete set suitable for documentation. At this time we are still in search of two more rites, the rites of Mars and Saturn. We would like to encourage all U.S. local bodies to videotape at least these last two rites and submit them for consideration. The rites collected will be deposited at the U.S.G.L. Library, now located at Star Sapphire Lodge in Los Angeles.

For the upcoming NOTOCON, we have decided to present all of the submissions that we have collected so far throughout the NOTOCON weekend. In addition to this collection and to add to this enriching history, Brother Jon Sewell and Sister Melissa Holm traveled throughout the U.S. during 2010 EV and met with many O.T.O. members who

were involved in *Rites of Eleusis* productions over the last thirty years. The team conducted and recorded a number of interviews, which have become a very welcome addition to our documentary project and will serve as an opening presentation to introduce the showing of the rites themselves. Special thanks go to Brother Jon and Sister Melissa for this contribution, and as well for their Eleusyve Productions company, which has professionally produced several of the rites, for contributing to our collection. We wish them continued success as they continue to produce all seven of the rites.

In summary, what was once a competition has now become our Grand Lodge's ongoing documentary collection honoring the composition and performance of Crowley's *Rites of Eleusis*. Please help us continue this important historical work by submitting past or future video productions of the Rites to:

Soror Lutea  
P.O. Box 2778  
Mission Viejo, CA 92690

### STRATEGIC PLANNING

The Strategic Planning group is currently working to complete a revised Strategic Plan by NOTOCON.

### MAN OF EARTH DELEGATES

We have created an email address that is jointly used by all four Man of Earth delegates, to which members of the Man of Earth Triad in good standing may write, "that the feelings of the general body may be represented." The address is:

[MoE.Delegates@gmail.com](mailto:MoE.Delegates@gmail.com).

We have also created a page on the U.S.G.L. Website for the Man of Earth delegates:

[admin.oto-usa.org/man-of-earth-delegates](http://admin.oto-usa.org/man-of-earth-delegates)

In addition, as part of the revised Strategic Plan, I am developing a method whereby the Man of Earth delegates may be chosen by the Man of Earth Triad in accordance with *Liber CXCV*: "In order that the feelings of the general body may be represented, the Men of Earth choose four persons, two men and two women, from among themselves, to stand continually before the face of the Supreme and Holy King, serving him day and night."

For more information on the Man of Earth delegates, see *Agapé* Vol. IX, No. 1, which can be found here:

[lib.oto-usa.org/agape/agape.9.1.pdf](http://lib.oto-usa.org/agape/agape.9.1.pdf)

*Love is the law, love under will.*



Fraternally,  
Sabazius

## FROM THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE

*Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.*

As the Electoral College will not hold its **Summer Meeting** until August 5th, 2011 EV, reports of new local body charters, closures, etc. will appear in the Fall issue.

### NINTH DEGREE REVOLUTIONARY

Members in good standing of the Sovereign Sanctuary of the IX° in the United States (who are not serving as an officer or voting member of any Governing or Administrative Body under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Grand Lodge) wishing to volunteer to stand for election to the office of Revolutionary by the Electoral College are encouraged to write the President of the E.C. See page 11 for contact information.

### SANCTION FOR APPEAL

Brothers or Sisters of our Order who wish to pursue appeal of a verdict of the Grand Tribunal may write to individual members of the Electoral College to request sanction be given to take their case to the Areopagus of the Eighth Degree (per *Liber CXCIV*, section 16) via email links found at: [ec.oto-usa.org/ECElectors.html](http://ec.oto-usa.org/ECElectors.html).

### HOSTING ELECTORAL COLLEGE MEETINGS

Local bodies that are interested in hosting meetings of the Electoral College are encouraged to write the President of the E.C. See page 11 for contact information.

### UPCOMING ELECTORAL COLLEGE MEETINGS

- Summer 2011 EV Meeting scheduled to be held on-site at NOTOCON VIII, August 5th, 2011 EV in Detroit, Michigan.
- Fall 2011 EV meeting scheduled for Saturday, October 15th, 2011 EV, hosted by Abrahadabra Oasis (Portland, Maine).

The deadline for submission of items to be considered (for the Summer 2011 EV meeting) is July 15th, 2011 EV. Please mail submissions to the Secretary of the Electoral College. See page 11 for contact information.

### ATTENDING ELECTORAL COLLEGE MEETINGS

Dues-current members in good standing of V° and above are welcome to attend and observe the in-person Electoral College Meetings. We request that those planning to attend contact the master of the hosting body so that adequate arrangements can be made.

### ELECTORAL COLLEGE WEBSITE

The official Electoral College website can be found at: [ec.oto-usa.org](http://ec.oto-usa.org).

### FORMS

Bodymasters seeking up-to-date forms for the Annual Report, Change of Mastership Application, Application for Oasis Status, Application for Lodge Status, or closure forms, will find them by contacting the document control officer at [doc\\_control@oto-usa.org](mailto:doc_control@oto-usa.org).

### COMMUNICATION WITH THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE

I would like to invite any initiates with specific concerns or questions regarding the operation of the Electoral College, to write to either the President or Secretary of the E.C. For contact information, please see page 11.

It is my goal as President of the Electoral College to take effective measures bringing about better communication between the E.C. and the membership of all local bodies. Any input provided to this end is warmly welcomed. I believe that communication is of benefit to the entire Order in our mutual goals and aspiration toward enlightenment in all forms. All postal mail correspondence with the Electoral College Secretary should be sent to the address listed on page 11.

*Love is the law, love under will.*

In the Bonds of the Order,  
Dnn Bvchnn  
President, Electoral College O.T.O. U.S.A.

# NOTOCON UPDATE

by Soror Shivani, On-site Coordinator

*Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.*

NOTOCON VIII is almost upon us! Registration is still open, so make a plan, hitch a ride, book a plane or take the bus this August to Dearborn, Michigan. Check out our blog via the website at [viii.notocon.org](http://viii.notocon.org), tweet us on Twitter or see us on Facebook for Michigan info, event details and idle amusements.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

So, now that you all are planning to attend, please let us know if you would be able to volunteer in one of the following areas:

- Vending/Art Show (set-up and tear down)
- Gnostic Mass (set-up and tear down)
- Security during classes
- General assistance
- Vending Room security and table sitting

Contact our Assistant On-site Coordinator Soror Margaret at [info@notocon.org](mailto:info@notocon.org). She will forward you a brief questionnaire which will help us both decide where, when and how you can lend a hand. You have our sincere and profound thanks in advance for your fraternity, generosity and good will.

## GNOSTIC MASS FASHION SHOW

Manifest your E.G.C. glory at our Mass Fashion Show beginning at 10:00 pm Saturday night at NOTOCON VIII. Walk the red carpet as Priests, Priestesses and Deacons. You will need to be available that afternoon during the break for a brief rehearsal.

We know how much time and effort Brethren put into the creation of their Gnostic Mass robes. We hope this event will also serve as an inspiration. This is *not* a competition or beauty contest; there will be no judging and no prizes given. The “runway” will be specially set up in the Marquis ballroom. You may model more than one outfit, but please be aware that the dressing area will be small and you will share it with others.

The event will not be filmed. A photography opportunity will be available. If you would like your photograph shown on the NOTOCON website, in *Agapé*, or some other media, you will need to sign a release form allowing the Order to publish your photo.

A small dressing area will be set-up inside and the ballroom will be free of hotel staff interruptions, except in emergencies. However, please do not treat the room as clothing



optional. Please respect the boundaries of the hotel by changing into revealing or ritual garb in the room where the fashion show will be held.

Please contact our Assistant On-site Coordinator at [info@notocon.org](mailto:info@notocon.org) with your name, contact info and which costume(s) you will be showing if you would like to participate.

## COFFEE CASBAH

Come enter the Coffee Casbah on the Friday evening of NOTOCON

VIII starting at around 10:30 pm. We have created a comfortable setting with candle-lit tables and lounging floor pillows. Come and socialize, sample free Turkish coffee and listen to any of our brethren who would like to perform their favorite selection by “one of England’s greatest lyric poets.” You may also perform any suitably relevant magical or like-minded work.

If you would like to be involved, please drop the Assistant On-site Coordinator a quick line at [info@notocon.org](mailto:info@notocon.org) with your name, contact info and chosen piece. We will then have an idea of how many readings we can schedule. Walk in performances will also be welcome! Memorization is not required. Please bring your passion and inspiration for the poetry and writings of Sir Aleister Crowley to our coffee house for one night only. Some time constraints may apply depending on the number of participants, so a briefer work is appreciated.

## SOME GENERAL REMINDERS

Please make note of the following reminders for NOTOCON VIII. If you have any questions or problems of any nature, please contact us at [info@notocon.org](mailto:info@notocon.org).

- The registration deadline for the conference is July 30th, 2011 EV.
- Please make sure that the hotel will accept whatever form of payment you are offering. There is often a deposit required with a credit card. Please check and make sure that the Hyatt will accept a Debit card if you are using one and be aware of the deposit amount.
- Please contact us if you would like to be a vendor or art show participant or need our assistance in vending.
- If you need a roommate, we can help.
- Please make sure that your rental car company will accept whatever form of payment you are offering. A

*Continued on next page* ~

deposit is always required. Experienced travelers have told us that only Enterprise will take a Debit VISA/MC. Please double check and reserve a car before you leave.

- The Masonic Temple Tour has been a huge hit! There is still room for a few attendees.
- See our blog at [viii.notocon.org/blog.html](http://viii.notocon.org/blog.html) for news and info. FAQ to be posted soon!

*Love is the law, love under will.*



## MAN OF EARTH DELEGATES

*Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.*

*Liber CXCIV: An Intimation with Reference to the Constitution of the Order* states, "In order that the feelings of the general body may be represented, the Men of Earth choose four persons, two men and two women, from among themselves, to stand continually before the face of the Supreme and Holy King, serving him day and night." The Man of Earth delegates are therefore pledged to give representation to the general feelings of the Man of Earth Triad.

The current Man of Earth delegates are:

Soror Sandy Bowie  
Soror Erin Walsh  
Frater IAO131  
Frater Kian Seadhna NGUF

We thank all of the past Man of Earth delegates for their service.

If you are in the Man of Earth Triad (i.e. Minerval through Perfect Initiate), any issues, comments, concerns, or suggestions you have that can not already be addressed by the Path of Mediation (see *Agapé* VII-1 through VIII-2) may be addressed to the Man of Earth delegates who will bring these issues to attention of the Supreme and Holy King. If you uncertain about the best course of action for issues in relation to the Path of Mediation, contact the Ombudsman at [ombudsman@oto-usa.org](mailto:ombudsman@oto-usa.org).

You may contact the current delegates at [MoE.Delegates@gmail.com](mailto:MoE.Delegates@gmail.com) as you will.

More information on the current delegates will soon be available at [admin.oto-usa.org/man-of-earth-delegates](http://admin.oto-usa.org/man-of-earth-delegates). We will let you know once it is online)

*Love is the law, love under will.*

Fraternally,  
IAO131

## THE GREAT HOUSE OF GOD



Acrylic, 24 x 48 inches

by Richard Pence

# THE PRINCIPLES OF PROMULGATION

by IAO131

*Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.*

*You may regard the establishment of the Law of Thelema as an essential element of your True Will, since, whatever the ultimate nature of that Will, the evident condition of putting it into execution is freedom from external interference. —Aleister Crowley, Duty*

Many people have qualms about the idea of promulgation of the Law of Thelema, often from a misperception of the motives of those who promulgate. This article addresses some of the issues involved and offers some general principles.

## I

**“There is no law beyond Do what thou wilt.”**

*(Liber AL vel Legis III:60)*

Our highest and most central law as Thelemites is “Do what thou wilt,” and all of our actions are an expression of this idea. While there are many Mysteries to be approached and secrets to be studied, all aims are subsumed under the prime directive of accomplishment of one’s True Will. This means, in terms of promulgation, that all efforts to spread ideas not directly connected with spreading the Law of Thelema—the use of Magick and yoga, fraternity, the Secret of IX° of Ordo Templi Orientis, philosophy, etc.—are done as expressions of that same Law. That is, when we teach Magick it is done under the understanding that it will help us understand and do our wills more fully, teachings about fraternity are done in the context of the Law, and efforts to teach other topics are so that the individual may come to a more comprehensive understanding of the Law.

## II

**“The Law is for all.”**

*(Liber AL vel Legis I:34)*

The Law of Thelema applies to all planes. Thelema is not simply a Law for the elite of mankind, although it makes room for them and allows for their full development as Hermits. While some may strive to become an Ipsissimus of the A.:A.: or IX° of O.T.O., it is just as valid for some to be Men of Earth or Lovers. There are many “resting places” in these Orders that are natural for some to remain at. As promulgators of the Law of Thelema, it is our duty to make this Law known to any and everyone, not that we may know the true Will of the recipient of promulgation materials, but so that each may read the source material and integrate the Law on their own terms.

Further, the establishment of the Law of Thelema in the world is inherently tied up with the accomplishment of one’s own True Will. As the quotation at the top of this essay says, “You may regard the establishment of the Law of Thelema as

an essential element of your True Will, since, whatever the ultimate nature of that Will, the evident condition of putting it into execution is freedom from external interference.” That is, in establishing the Law of Liberty in the outer, it allows the accomplishment of the Will free from “external interference,” including from the hounding busybodies left over from the Old Æons. In this way we move closer to the ideal of humanity moving as it wills without hindrance or inhibition from the chafing of its parts, even as the stars move in the night sky.

## III

**“Argue not; convert not...”**

*(Liber AL vel Legis III:42)*

While our duty may be to make the Law known to the public, it is NOT our duty to:

- convert people to our point of view.
- convince people that we are correct.
- threaten people who do not accept the Law or our views.
- argue about philosophical or theological points.

While this is all true, *The Book of the Law* also says, “and to each man and woman that thou meetest, were it but to dine or to drink at them, it is the Law to give. Then they shall chance to abide in this bliss or no; it is no odds. Do this quickly!” (III:39) This is a fundamental point to understand about the difference between promulgation by Thelemites and traditional conversion attempts by people like Christians. We do not threaten people with tales of sin, pæans of our guiltlessness, and after-worldly judgment. Nor is the whole complex of “saving one’s soul” present in promulgating the Law of Thelema to others. We give the Law to all without argumentation or hopes of conversion, and they can “abide in this bliss or no; it is no odds” to us.

## IV

**“We shall bring you to Absolute Truth,  
Absolute Light, Absolute Bliss.”**

*(Liber Porta Lucis, line 17)*

While these are all theoretical justifications of promulgation, there is also a more intimate sense that Thelemites who experience the beauty, truth, and wisdom of the Law of Thelema will inherently want to share this bliss with others. In

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experiencing the freedom from tyranny and superstition and the liberty of the spirit inherent in the doctrine of Thelema, it is only natural to want to share the keys that helped break one's own bondage.

Spreading the Law of Thelema is not done out of a desire to boost your ego; on the contrary, experiences while promulgating are often quite a blow to the ego along with the fact that one is naturally exposing oneself to outside elements that must be integrated by "love under will." Spreading the Law of Thelema is not done out of a desire to recruit for a particular organization, although exposing people to the teachings of an order like Ordo Templi Orientis is certainly a valid expression of promulgation. The goal is not to get a group that is the biggest, baddest person on the block so you can revel in its power but rather the goal is for each individual, on their own terms and in their own way, to acknowledge, understand, and begin to enact the Law of Thelema in their own lives.

*Love is the law, love under will.*



## TOTOCON

*Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.*

This autumn, Scarlet Woman Lodge will be hosting the fourth annual Texas regional O.T.O. Convention (TOTOCON). TOTOCON is a regional gathering, open to the public and to those beyond the Texas region, featuring presentations and workshops on a variety of topics of interest to Thelemites, Magicians, Pagans, and Seekers.

This year, we are returning to our lodge space, and plan to include both original ritual performance and a Gnostic Mass. Attendees are encouraged to register early, as space will be limited. Please watch the Scarlet Woman Lodge webpage for details and registration information: [www.scarletwoman.org](http://www.scarletwoman.org).

TOTOCON 4 will take place the weekend of November 12th and 13th EV. Please join us for a weekend packed with unique presentations, workshops, social events, and rituals. This is a great opportunity to fraternize with initiates from Texas and surrounding areas.

*Love is the law, love under will.*



VOLUME XII, NUMBER 3 SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

⊕ IN ♃ • ♃ IN ♁ • Dies ໓ • Anno IV:VXIV  
(Saturday, October 1st, 2011 EV)

**We want:** news and articles, original rituals and artwork, reviews of all kinds, local body reports, local body publication reports, publication announcements, and anything else pertinent to Thelema, Ordo Templi Orientis and the activities of our members.

**Please Remember** that *Agapé* is available to the general public. Submissions should not include oathbound material.

See our submission guidelines at [www.oto-usa.org/agape.html](http://www.oto-usa.org/agape.html). Contact [agape@oto-usa.org](mailto:agape@oto-usa.org) for more information.

## KAABA COLLOQUIUM REPORT

*Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the Law.*

The Kaaba Colloquium Committee would like to thank Warrior Island Camp for their hospitality and all brethren in attendance from the Deep South for their attention, input, and active participation in the Spring Kaaba held in Jacksonville Beach in June.

Brethren around the country can look for us to come to their region soon. We will be in Sacramento, California in November with final details to be announced soon, and in Cleveland, Ohio in May with requests for proposals out presently to the area hotels.

Check our website news page for updates: [kaaba.oto-usa.org/news](http://kaaba.oto-usa.org/news) or contact our Logistics Coordinator at [beth.kimbell@oto-usa.org](mailto:beth.kimbell@oto-usa.org).

*Love is the law, love under will.*

Fraternally,  
Beth Kimbell  
Kaaba Coordinator

## BOOK REVIEWS

*The Inner West:**An Introduction to the Hidden Wisdom of the West*

Edited and introduced by Jay Kinney

Jeremy P. Tarcher/Penguin, 2004 EV (324 pages, softcover)

Nearly all the articles in this anthology first appeared in Kinney's magazine, *Gnosis: A Journal of the Western Inner Traditions*, which ran from 1985 to 1999 EV and was easily the best general source for information on the various Western esoteric traditions then available. As such, this book displays both the strengths of that publication and its limitations.

On the plus side, the twenty articles herein cover topics as diverse as Neoplatonism, Sufism, Theosophy, and Rudolf Steiner. All are well written and researched, usually by important scholars of the traditions concerned, such as Joscelyn Godwin or Christopher McIntosh. They generally require relatively little in the way of prior knowledge on the part of the reader and almost all include extensive references.

The main limitation is that, while *Gnosis* certainly did not ignore the magical traditions of the West, it never really did justice to them either. The articles on magic—let alone Magick!—always tended to be least satisfying in the magazine and that is reflected in this anthology: aside from Chas Clifton's excellent article on the origins of the Tarot we only get a couple of very cursory surveys on the "Quest of the Magus" and Wicca. In its entire run, *Gnosis* never printed a decent article on Thelema as a system and only covered Aleister Crowley in the context of how "dark" or "dangerous" his work supposedly is to the unsuspecting neophyte. *The Inner West* barely mentions A.C. outside of that totally apocryphal tale of his being told off by Gurdjieff.

Specialist quibbles aside, I can't help thinking that it's a very idiosyncratic "West" that can include Islam and virtually exclude the Golden Dawn! In fact, Kinney, who came of age during the height of the "guru invasion" of the sixties and seventies, admits in his introduction that his "West" basically means "not China or India." (That it also leaves out the indigenous traditions of Africa, the Americas, Polynesia, etc. almost goes without saying.) Paul Johnson's ground-breaking exposé of Madame Blavatsky's real masters manages to venture outside this geographical straightjacket, but that article originally appeared in a different magazine.

Even within the very arbitrary limits described above, there seems to be a bias against the many non-monotheistic traditions, both ancient and modern. It is perfectly true that one magazine, even one that ran for fifty-one issues, could never cover the full spectrum of Western esotericism, and that one book can barely hit on the high points, but surely more effort at inclusiveness would have been a good thing.

Of course, most readers of *Agapé* will have more comprehensive sources of information on the magical traditions. Where *The Inner West* comes in handy for people like us is as an introduction to the many other systems of Western esoteric thought, from Gurdjieff's Fourth Way to Swedenborgianism

to the Traditionalist school of René Guénon. In any case, several of the topics covered are directly pertinent to our tradition and make good starting points for historical research: the articles on Rosicrucianism and Freemasonry, to say nothing of the Templars, are especially useful in this regard. As such, *The Inner West* makes a good addition to your local body's library.

—Julianus

*The Mirror of Simple Souls*

by Margaret Porette [Marguerite Porete]

Translated by Jack C. Marler

University of Notre Dame Press, 1999 EV

(296 pages, softcover)

This masterpiece of Christian apophatic mysticism is notable for also containing a high degree of affective content. It includes elements of Boethian allegory and draws on the literary tradition of courtly love, while describing the annihilation and apotheosis of the Soul in a set of visionary conversations. Church authorities considered its contents to be dangerously heretical because of the antinomian idea (sometimes connected with the heresy of the Free Spirit) that the mystic who attains to annihilation has desire free from sin, and thus may exercise his or her will without constraint.

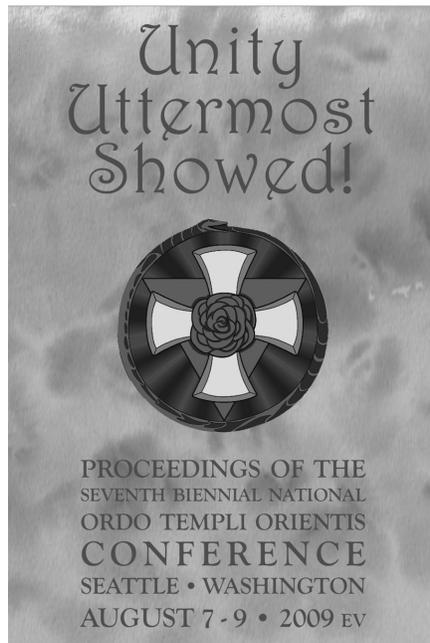
*And therefore I say to all that no-one who understands as I do will understand this book unless he understands it by the strength of Faith and the Power of Love, who are my mistresses, for I obey them in all things. And then too, says Reason, I want to say this: that whoever has these two strings to his bow, that is the light of Faith and the power of Love, he has permission to do whatever pleases him, and the witness of this is Love herself, who says to the Soul: Beloved, love, and do what you will. (page 30)*

This text thus manifests a link in the germination of Thelema between Augustine of Hippo's *Dilige et quod vis fac* ("Love, and do what you will") and Francesco Colonna's *Trahit sua quemque voluptas* ("Let each follow his own pleasure").

Marguerite was burnt at the stake for heresy in 1310, less than a month after the similar execution of fifty-four Knights Templar. Her book had been incinerated earlier, but she persisted in authorizing its distribution. After her death, it was sufficiently prized by its readers that they continued to circulate it *sub rosa*, and it was not reconnected to her authorship until the middle of the twentieth century. In the meanwhile it was influential on other mystics including Eckhart and Ruysbroek. Porette's idea of annihilation bears fruitful comparison with the Sufi doctrine of *fana*. Thelemites will be well advised to study *The Mirror of Simple Souls* in connection with *Liber CLXVI* and its related rituals and attainments.

—Paradoxos Alpha

## PUBLICATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

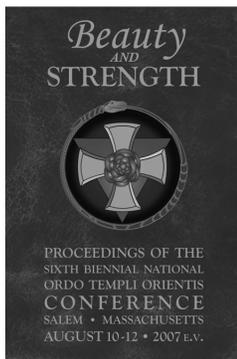


**UNITY UTTERMOST SHOWED!**  
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**SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, AUGUST 7-9, 2009 EV**

U.S.G.L., O.T.O., 2011 EV

*Unity Uttermost Showed!* offers a selection of papers from the seventh biennial National Ordo Templi Orientis Conference (NOTOCON) of the United States Grand Lodge of O.T.O., held in the Valley of Seattle, Washington, in 2009 EV. The papers cover diverse topics including Enochian magick, sacrifice in Aztec mythology, the sacred geometry of an astral cathedral, producing ritual theater, personal responsibility in Magick, promulgation of the Law of Thelema, textual analysis of *The Book of the Law*, and more. Other highlights include the original ritual, the "Feast of Babalon," and the address given by U.S. National Grand Master Sabazius. The contents represent some of the best modern practical and scholarly work on Ordo Templi Orientis, Thelema, and the magick of Aleister Crowley.

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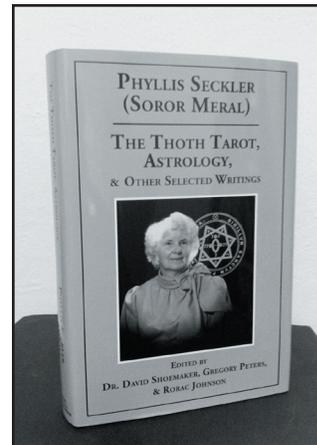
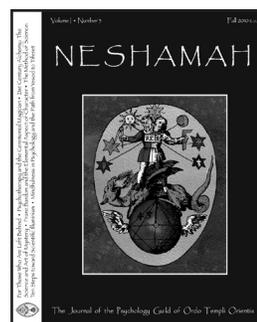
U.S.G.L., O.T.O., 2009 EV

Includes addresses and articles by Sabazius X°, Richard Kaczynski,

Lon Milo DuQuette, James and Nancy Wasserman, Dionysius Rogers, Frater Hrumachis, and many Others of equal Merit, if less Fame.

**NESHAMAH**  
**THE JOURNAL OF THE**  
**PSYCHOLOGY GUILD OF ORDO**  
**TEMPLI ORIENTIS**  
**Volume I, Number 3**

The third issue of *Neshamah*, journal of the O.T.O. Psychology Guild, was released in Fall, 2010 EV. Contributors of this issue include Frater Harmateus, David R. Hill, David G. Shoemaker, Lita-Luise Chappell, Richard Kaczynski, and Soror Rosasophia



**PHYLIS SECKLER**  
**(SOROR MERAL):**  
**THE THOTH TAROT,**  
**ASTROLOGY, & OTHER**  
**SELECTED WRITINGS**

Edited and introduced by Dr. David Shoemaker, Gregory Peters, & Rorac Johnson

Phyllis Seckler (1917-2004 EV) was one of the most important and influential Thelemites of the post-Crowley era. An initiate of Ordo

Templi Orientis since 1939, and an A.∴A.∴ student of Jane Wolfe, Seckler was an indispensable factor in the resurgence of the O.T.O. and the shaping of modern Thelema as we know it. This landmark publication collects two of her most important essays on the Thoth Tarot, depth psychology, and astrology originally serialized in her journal *In the Continuum*. In addition, this book presents important and previously unpublished correspondence between Seckler, Aleister Crowley, Karl Germer, and Jane Wolfe. The final section of the book presents her last major interview, where she discusses her early years at the old Agape Lodge in Los Angeles, her views on the current state of Thelema, and much more.

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