

RUDOLF STEINER'S MYSTERY DRAMAS IN THE MODERN DAY APOCALYPSE

MODERN SPIRITUAL TRAINING

Rudolf Steiner's series of essays with the title "How is knowledge of the higher worlds achieved" was first published as a book in 1910. It describes in clear well thought out text mystery knowledge that earlier was only available in secret societies. Parallel with the growing industrialism and the enormous technical discoveries of the day, anthroposophy guides people who wish to freely develop a deeper inner consciousness.

In the chapter entitled "CONDITIONS" one can read the following:

"for an individual wholly involved in the externalised civilisation of our day it is very difficult to attain knowledge of the higher worlds. He can do so only if he works energetically on himself. In the chapter "PREPARATION":
"he who decides to start spiritual training must follow specific advice

"feelings and thoughts are veritable realities, just as are chairs and tables in the physical world of the senses. In the soul-world and in the world of thoughts, feelings and thoughts work upon each other just as physical objects do in the physical world."

"All arbitrary flitting hither-and-thither in thought, all capricious play of fancy, all fortuitous ebb and flow of emotion, must be forbidden. By observing this rule, nobody becomes poverty-stricken in feeling. On the contrary, if the inner life is regulated in this way the person will soon find himself becoming rich in feeling and in genuine imagination."

THE MYSTERY DRAMAS

Between the years 1910 and 1913 Rudolf Steiner wrote four mystery dramas. The dramas relate the destinies of a group of people who go through a spiritual training with the help of a spiritual teacher. The training takes place as part of everyday life, as opposed to the initiation of ancient times which took place in specifically chosen locations. The pupils create their own isolation through meditation and exercises integrated within their own lives.

In an artistic way the dramas display through their 49 scenes lasting about 26 hours a world where thoughts and emotions create a realm filled with different beings.

LEGENDS AND STORIES

Legends and stories where a realm of good and evil beings play a part in the lives and destinies of men are both vivid and timeless. In the Nordic countries knowledge of a world full of spiritual reality is expressed in many different artistic forms through such people as Selma Lagerlöf and Astrid Lindgren. The Mystery Dramas, over 100 years old, have been written in the same spirit. They are performed worldwide in many different countries and cultures. In Sweden all the four complete dramas have been performed: THE PORTAL OF INITIATION, THE SOUL'S PROBATION, THE GUARDIAN OF THE THRESHOLD and THE SOUL'S AWAKENING.

THE GUARDIAN OF THE THRESHOLD and THE SOUL'S AWAKENING.

In the third drama "THE GUARDIAN OF THE THRESHOLD" and the fourth mystery drama "THE SOUL'S AWAKENING" the plot has a **labyrinthine** quality and the outcome is quite uncertain.

The artist Thomasius expresses clear thoughts in a text about ancient mystery wisdom. His work is criticised by the bourgeois world and the respected mystery priests of the period. Through their spiritual training he and his friends waken to a realm where thoughts and emotions are real beings. The guardian of the threshold to the spiritual world, man's double and the spirit of youth, the light bearer Lucifer, the lord of darkness Ahriman, nature beings and soul powers play their roles in the following events. The development of sacrificial love in the soul of man forces the evil forces against their own will to serve the good.

IS THE TIME RIPE?

Having inherited his father's carpentry business Hilarius wants to introduce new ways of working inspired by the spiritual training of his friends, only to cause chaos and large economic problems. Can the friends together create a bridge that will lead from spiritual experience to reform the businesses of the day? Is the time ripe?

FANTASY FILLED WITH BEINGS

Spiritual beings play a role in people's fantasy just as characters in science fiction and well-known magical beings play roles in the films of today. Few of us are aware of the fact that these beings are real. Few of us realise that many of the apocalyptic pictures spread through the media are timeless mystery communications.

REAL SPIRITUALITY

Rudolf Steiner's mystery dramas do not conceal spiritual reality by placing it in a world of fantasy. The artistic fantasy of the dramas opens the human mind to meet real spirituality. The powers responsible for the world events of today are made visible as they are in the timeless images of the Apocalypse.

THE LECTURES

Michael Debus lectures on the theme "The Mystery Dramas in the modern day Apocalypse". He explains the events through the dramas and shows their relevance related to the timeless questions of today.

Michael Debus has been an active member of the Free High School for Religious Renewal in Stuttgart for many years.

Several books have appeared on The Mystery Dramas thanks to his greatly appreciated lectures, even translated to Swedish from the original German. The books are available at the Robygge shop in Ytterjärna and at 14 Hagagatan in Stockholm.

PLANT STUDIES AND PAINTING

During the week of The Mystery Dramas it is possible to paint every morning with Helena Hildur or study some of the medicinal plants used in biodynamic agriculture with Thomas Lüthi. The dramas take place late afternoon and in the evening.

JÄRNA'S EURYTHMY GROUP

The moods of the Zodiac are performed under the leadership of Anne-Grethe Kumlander. Each sign has its own tonal value, its own rhythm, its own form. Accompanied by music from Scriabin, Shostakovich, Chopin and Bach.

A warm welcome to the summer's mystery dramas

THE JÄRNA DRAMA GROUP

TICKETS

The programme for the whole week including morning coffee breaks.

Full price 2000 SEK, pensioners 1700 SEK. Prices of meals below.

Single drama evening: 300/200 SEK

Single lecture: 150 SEK, no reduced prices.

Eurythmy evening: 200 SEK, no reduced prices.

Single lectures or performances to be paid for in cash or with bank card.

DEADLINE FOR ORDERING OF TICKETS

Tickets to be ordered not later than 21st. June at: mysteriedrama@guldfallen.se

PAYMENT

Not later than 21st. June to Stiftelsen Guldfällen/Mysteriedrama

Bankgiro 570-3814

For payment from abroad

BIC/IBAN HANDSESS SE 546000 0000 0003 3209 3328

N.B. Write your name clearly with the payment.

MEALS

Meals can be booked and paid for on arrival at the café in the foyer.

Lunch and evening meal Wednesday, Thursday (festive buffet), Friday and Saturday: 1200 SEK.

Breakfast is not included.

The afternoon meal on Tuesday is not included.

It is possible to buy individual meals in the café.

The separate cost of the festive buffet: 300 SEK.

Keep the receipt, this is the entrance ticket to the buffet.

ACCOMMODATION

Ytterjärna hotel at reduced price.

Single room: 600 SEK /night

Double room: 800 SEK/ night

Breakfast: 120 SEK/day

Telephone booking: +46 (0) 8 554 30200 or

Internet booking: www.ytterjarnahotell.se

KULTURCENTRUM

350 SEK/night. Bed linen and breakfast not included.

Bed linen can be hired.

Booking: info@kulturcentrum.nu

Self-catering is possible at the Kulturcentrum.

Buying tickets by ordinary post, write to:
Stiftelsen Guldfällen, Skattgränd 8, 153 35 Järna

Full price 2000 SEK
Pensioner 1700 SEK

Name.....

Address.....

Post code..... Town.....

Telephone.....E-mail.....

PROGRAMME

Tuesday June 25th.

Arrivals in the afternoon.

Soup is available in the café from 4.30pm, to be paid at the till.

5.30pm until 6.15pm. Introduction and presentation of the characters.

6.30pm until 8.00pm. The hall of a mystic brotherhood.

Scenes 1 and 2 (approx. 90 min.)

8.00pm – 8.30pm. Interval with refreshments

8.30pm – 9.00pm. The realm of Lucifer. Scene 3 (approx. 30 mins.)

Wednesday June 26th.

9.30am – 10.30am. *Plant studies with Thomas Lüthi or*

Painting with Helena Hildur

10.30am – 11.00am. *Coffee break*

11.00am – 12.30pm. *Lecture: Michael Debus in German translated to Swedish*

12.30pm – 2.00pm. Lunch

2.00pm – 3.00pm. Discussion

3.00pm – 4.00pm. Break

4.00pm. In a room in a light red colour. Scene 4 (approx. 20 min.)

In Balde's home. Scene 5 (approx. 20 min.)

Landscape with long views. Scene 6 (approx. 30 min.)

Landscape with imaginative forms. Scene 7 (approx. 15 min.)

6.00pm – 7.00pm. Evening meal.

7.00pm. The realm of Ahriman. Scene 8 (approx. 40 min.)

Sunny landscape. Scene 9 (approx. 15 min.)

Short break/change of scenery

Temple of Occult Brotherhood. Scene 10 (approx. 35 min.)

Thursday June 27th.

9.30am – 12.30pm. (see "Wednesday")

12.30pm – 3.00pm. Lunch

3.00pm – 4.30pm. Lecture.

4.30pm – 5.00pm. Break.

5.00pm – 6.00pm. Eurhythm and music. Moods of the Zodiac.

6.30pm. Festive buffet.

Friday June 27th.

9.30am – 12.30pm. (see "Wednesday")

12.30pm – 2.00pm. Lunch

2.00pm – 3.00pm. Discussion.

3.00pm – 4.00pm. Break.

4.00pm. Gottgetroy's office. Scene 1 (approx. 40 min.)

Mountain landscape. Scene 2 (approx. 60 min.)

6.00pm – 7.00pm. Evening meal.

7.00pm. Mountain landscape. Scene 3 (approx. 40 min.)

Scene 4 (approx. 45 min.)

Saturday June 28th.

9.30am – 12.30pm. (see “Wednesday”)

12.30pm – 2.00pm. Lunch

2.00pm – 3.00pm. Discussion.

3.00pm – 4.00pm. Break

4.00pm. The spirit realm. Scene 5 (approx. 25 min.)

Scene 6 (approx. 30 min.)

15 min. break

Egypt. Scene 7 (approx. 15 min.)

Scene 8 (approx. 30 min.)

6.00pm – 7.00pm. Evening meal

7.00pm. A small room. Scene 9 (approx. 20 min.)

Scene 10 (approx. 15 min.)

Scene 11 (approx. 10 min)

Short break.

The interior of the Earth. Scene 12 (approx. 15 min.)

A large reception room. Scene 13 (approx. 20 min.)

Scene 14 (approx. 15 min.)

Scene 15 (approx. 20 min.)

Reservation for changes in the programme.

The programme can be downloaded from ytterjarna.se.

Images from Benjamin Lüthi, Mats-Ola Olsson and Joel Hallklint.

Text by Ulrike von Schoultz.