

The Threshing Floor

September 2019

Newsletter of the Guild for Psychological Studies

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Guild Vision: The Guild envisions a world in which the significance of each person's truth, authority, and inspired purpose finds fulfillment in life and community.

Guild Mission: Guild seminars offer a way of psychological and spiritual transformation that inspires individuals to live their purpose, expand consciousness, and discover and create meaning in their lives and community.

Replacement Theories ???

By Jack and Nancy Russell Stone

Nancy and I reminisce over our days at Guild seminars and how we wish those glory days might continue to educate today's dystopian societies that span the Earth. I know it's too much to expect from a small group of people decimated by loss of so many talented leaders, but we dream, nevertheless. Whether it is a trend away from unity and egalitarianism, toward separatism as many say, we say it really hasn't changed since Jesus of Nazareth spoke to his people and was nailed to the cross for his efforts. He upset the Status Quo (in the language of Rome). Today, the book containing the alterations of his words and teachings is used to separate and to elevate an elite priesthood over the multitudes, beginning with Moses, the Pope, and Mohammad, down to the splinter groups of today known by other names. There is no Unity. Now, even Hindus are becoming intolerant!

So we learned about *individuation* from Carl Jung, not individualism; and we learned about *individual in community*, which is the mantra that we speak to each other as we listen to the heartbreaking news each day. What a difference from our seminar days! Thank you to all our Guild leaders. Change is in the air: Change is in the air: The Goddess is reasserting herself. May she reign eternally!

SONGLINES

Lisa Yount

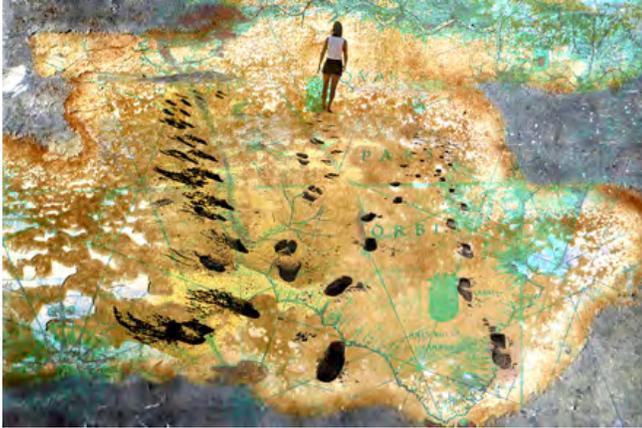
Your feet are maps.
The maps show every path you've ever walked.
The lines are on the bottoms of your feet,
where you can't see them,
but they grow up
through your legs, your belly, your neck,
your head,
into your brain.
The ones that get to your brain
you call memories.
Not all of them make it that far,
but they're all there,
on the bottoms of your feet,
where you can't see.
Every line.
Every step.
All there,
on the maps.

*

And every place is a map
of all the feet that have ever walked on it,
every foot and every paw,
every claw, every wing.
You can't see them either,
but the lines are all there,
crisscrossing endlessly.

*

And all the maps are songs,
 singing to themselves and each other,
 latitudes and longitudes
 humming in complex harmonies.
 Your feet sing to all the places
 you've ever walked,
 and the places sing back.
 All the feet and paws and claws and places
 sing to each other.
 You can hear them if you try.
 Listen.



Sunday on the Stone Wall
 By Selina Sweet

They sat on top
 of the broad stone wall
 cradling the church yard
 talking -
 Their backs to the sun,
 the two -
 American white women,
 one 63, the other 71.

Next to them the church's
 shadow lay
 gray blue upon
 the buff color
 of the wall's sun-warmed stone.
 Sunday in Oaxaca.

They had
 just come from
 a book reading
 where the author, Carolyn,
 had read bits from her work,
 a testimony

that even politicians
 warm to
 respect, kindness, compassion,
 and love to
 remember their common sense -
 enough -
 to vote
 for the passage of
 the nuclear
 test ban treaty.

Inside the
 cooler shadow
 there -
 next to them,
 upon that knee high
 church wall
 broad as a
 single bed,
 lay a girl - a woman
 of 15 or so, Oaxacana,
 often laughing, gaily,
 then going still,
 quiet,
 waiting with
 lips parted, her head
 in his lap, eyes closed,
 as the boy- man, above her,
 (perhaps 16 or 17)
 (stopped talking and)
 slowly lowered
 his head
 til his parted
 lips

met hers
 and all of
 Sunday
 slipped
 silently
 oh so tenderly
 into a
 timeless swoon.

September Birthdays

Judith Peterson	Sep 2
Dean Olson	Sep 3
Charlotte Brown	Sep 5
John Hopkins	Sep 5
Damilia Loupy	Sep 11
Eliane Wilson	Sep 11
Jon Orvik	Sep 13
Elli Norris	Sep 15
Wilene Chang	Sep 22
Richard Lyon	Sep 23
Marsha Schweitzer	Sep 26
Patricia Wilson	Sep 26
Howard Lewis	Sep 29
Robin Taylor	Sep 29



Wrestling with Truth

A seminar presented by the
Guild for Psychological Studies
September 28 (Sat) – October 6 (Sun), 2019

In our upside-down society, where media and technology are appropriating the whole world, and the very idea of truth is questioned, what will help us live meaningful lives in an age of pervasive anxiety?

Though it has waned and is no longer the guiding light of our civilization, the Judeo-Christian tradition has been the archetypal DNA of our collective soul. Unseen, it works still in the background of our lives.

After many decades of work with the historical Jesus, the Guild now turns its attention to consciousness, truth and the end of meaning. The death of God symbolizes a new status of consciousness that influences us all. What does the death of Meaning, a brand-new event in the history of the world, have to teach us?

What can we learn about what has happened to consciousness over the last three thousand years by taking a fresh psychological look at the Judeo-Christian tradition? How do Abraham, Moses, Job and Yahweh, along with Jesus Christ, illuminate the evolution of consciousness from a new soul perspective?

We will seek a new truth embedded in the teachings of Jesus that reflects the historical self-negating and self-transforming work of soul, which is truth ever recreating itself. As we wrestle with truth we wrestle with ourselves and engage with what is called soul-making, or making soul real.

The seminar process uses a modified Socratic method to guide group discussion. We honor the dignity of each individual to express themselves honestly and move at their own pace. Mutual respect will support us as we engage difficult truths and new perspectives.

Our work together will be enriched by the use of non-verbal approaches: meditation, expressive arts, music, body movement and awareness, and silence.

Special Note: All applicants, please include a letter stating your interest in attending this seminar. If you are new to the Guild's work, please tell us a little about yourself and your psychological and spiritual journey.

Location: Four Springs, Middletown CA

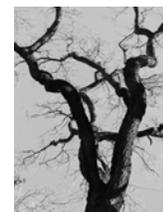
Leaders: Hal Childs, PhD, MFT and Patricia Calcagno Stenger, MA, MFT

Fee: \$1,495, plus a non-refundable fee of \$50 with registration.

Scholarships and payment plans are available.

Contact for more information: Hal Childs, 415-573-2469; halchilds@gmail.com

Register at <https://guildsf.org/online-seminar-registration/>



Stay Connected

Bob Ridder, Administrative Coordinator, is available for all inquiries by phone at (415) 561-2385, or by email at office@guildsf.org.

Send your email address to office@guildsf.org so that we can keep you connected and up-to-date on Guild events. Also be sure that we have your current mailing address so that we are able to send you this yearly edition of the newsletter. Please keep us updated with your address changes.

Mailing Address

Guild for Psychological Studies
P.O. Box 29385
San Francisco, CA 94129-0385

Guild Website

Visit www.guildsf.org for information about seminars and events, and to register for seminars. The website also has general information about the Guild, past issues of the Threshing Floor, relevant news, and links to resources. If you would like to post information of interest to the Guild community, please email harryhenderson51@gmail.com, our web administrator.

Guild Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/guildsf>, launched in January! If you haven't yet, please "friend" and "like" us!

Newsletter

To receive 12 issues of *The Threshing Floor* a year, please contact the Guild office. There is no charge for an e-mail subscription. For a print subscription, please send a check for \$25 to the Guild office.

Items for inclusion in the Threshing Floor should be mailed to the Guild Office, Attn. Threshing Floor Editor, or emailed to office@guildsf.org. The deadline for each issue is the 20th of the month. Items received after that date will be published the following month.

Production & Layout Editor: Wilene Chang
Content Editors: Sue Renfrew and Lisa Yount
Distribution: Bob Ridder

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this newsletter (by contributors other than staff and directors) are the writers' and not necessarily an official position of the Guild.

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Order publications on the Guild website, or contact Carina Ravely at guildpublishing@yahoo.com.

Donations

Many thanks to our donors! Your financial support in any amount helps the Guild with seminars and other events, with the training of leaders, with outreach, and with other new and ongoing efforts. Because the Guild is a registered nonprofit organization, with 501(c)(3) status, your contribution may be tax deductible. Donations should be directed to the Guild office address, or you may donate online using the PayPal link you'll find by selecting the Make a Donation link on the main page of our website.

Volunteers

There are several people who fill necessary volunteer roles in the Guild. If you would like to be a Guild volunteer, please contact the Guild office at office@guildsf.org and let us know particular volunteer roles that appeal to you. Currently volunteers are members of the editorial staff for the Threshing Floor; members of the Board of Directors; serve as continuing education coordinator; train to serve as seminar coordinator, committee person or cook; provide transportation to/from seminars for attendees; help to catalog or research Guild archive materials; write reviews for Guild books and other publications; etc.

Friends and Members

Friends of the Guild are donors and others interested in receiving Guild information who are not Voting Members. Voting membership requires active participation in some form of leadership or committee role, or other volunteer effort, and the payment of annual dues. Voting members may receive a print subscription to the Threshing Floor upon request.

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