

AstroMagia

Full Programme 2023

“And upon Gaia he lay...”: On the Embodiment of the Heavens

Kadmus

How might we, even temporarily, escape from the contemporary dominance of abstraction and correspondence in our astrological thinking and instead experience the heavens in an immediate and concrete fashion? One strategy to peak beyond any current blinders and prejudices we may, often unknowingly, be limited by, is to look to those ways of experiencing the heavens which formed the foundation of what would later become the standard paradigm. In other words, before the formation of what would become so-called Western astrology in the Hellenistic Greek context, how were the heavens and their occupants – be they stars, gods, or something other – experienced?

My argument will be that before the formation of the great synthesis of Egyptian, Greek, and Mesopotamian elements that gave rise to what we largely call astrology, the heavens were experienced as embodied, as indeed were the gods. Far from metaphors or symbols, mythological descriptions of the bodily relations between Heaven and Earth and even Heaven's castration are most informative when we take them literally. What are the details and full implications of this worldview? What does it mean to experience and engage with the bodies of the heavens and how might this inform our contemporary practices?

Kadmus is a practising ceremonial magician. He published the book *True to the Earth: Pagan Political Theology through Gods and Radicals* Press and has taught classes every year for Salem Summer Symposium as well as for The Cauldron Black. He has also presented at the AstroMagia astrological magic conference the last two years including two keynote addresses, “Towards a High Pagan Astrology” and “Orpheus and Art as a Model of Magic”. Most recently he published the paper “Every Nekuomanteia is a Katabasis: Ancient Insights for Contemporary Necromancy” in Hadean Press’ *Conjure Codex: Black* anthology.

Breakout Session 1: Featured Talks

Introduction to Constellation Talismans

Christopher Warnock

Fixed stars are the new cutting edge astrological talismans, but what about their “cousins” constellations? Chris Warnock discusses what are constellation talismans? How do they differ from fixed star talismans? What are our

sources for constellation talismans? How do you elect and create constellation talismans? Ample electional charts and talismans will be shared to ground the exploration of the topic in applied examples.

Christopher Warnock has been a traditional astrologer and Renaissance astrological magician since 1998. He has been called "the father of the traditional astrological magic revival" and the "elder statesman" of astrological magic. With John Michael Greer, Mr. Warnock translated the Latin *Picatrix*, the most important grimoire of traditional astrological magic and has written and published many books on astrological magic and traditional astrology. Mr. Warnock also teaches astrology and magic courses and offers authentic astrological talismans.

Aphrodite's Winds: Sailing the Orphic Milky Way

[Kristin Mathis](#)

The Orphics were an ancient counter-cultural Mystery community whose ritual life included embodied practices of erotic cosmo-navigation. Through poetry, song, dance, and ritual, they curated spaces where grief, longing, and desire for the divine could be performed, metabolized, and instantiated in the bodies of the initiates, who were understood to sail the Milky Way to the immortal stars through the winds of Aphrodite's love.

We are fortunate to have a vast body of work surviving from this tradition—including *The Orphic Hymns*, a text beloved by many astro-magical practitioners. However, the cosmology underlying the Hymns has remained murky to both scholars and practitioners alike—in large part because the Hymns were intentionally composed in an elliptical manner, using puns, wordplay, and esoteric associations based on extremely ancient Mystery teachings. Close reading of the original Greek reveals a deep and startlingly original pre-Socratic cosmology centering on Heavenly Aphrodite (Aphrodite Ourania), who is not only a cosmic force (as we find her in Diotima's teachings from Plato's *Symposium*), but is actually Herself "the All" or "the One" who exceeds and inter-penetrates all facets of the cosmos. For modern practitioners, understanding Heavenly Aphrodite's role in early Orphism offers exciting new and ancient alternatives to the more familiar hierarchies of Platonist cosmologies.

In this presentation I will give a brief overview of my original work reconstructing Orphic erotic cosmology, as well as examples of how the Hymns were used by early Orphics to steer the helm of the initiate's soul-body towards the immortal stars. Slides will feature excerpts from my own Hymn translations, as well as star charts, astrological diagrams, and abundant artwork and archaeological finds. Attendees will come away with a refreshing "take" on old myths and astrological material—one that helps shed light on the origins of all Western magic and astrology, including later traditions in Jewish, Christian, and Islamic cultures.

Kristin Mathis is a poet, translator, and educator in Lenapehoking, aka Brooklyn, NY. She is currently at work (The *Mysteria Mundi* project) translating the Orphic Hymns in a way that allows readers to access the (hither-to unexplored) hidden esoteric wordplay and meanings of the original Greek text. A spiritual peripatetic herself, she has grown to love the Orphics for their counter-cultural "take" on the familiar Greco-Roman myths, and for their star-worship based on a fractal, animist, erotic cosmology.

Astral Magic on the Blockchain: NFT as Materia

Gary P Caton

The most recent Jupiter-Saturn conjunction along with Pluto's ingress to Aquarius have seen the unleashing of enormous technological breakthroughs. I will share my experiences of harnessing the blockchain and AI technologies for creating talismanic NFTs, or NFTalisms and the subsequent effects, material, psychological and spiritual.

Gary P. Caton is a transdisciplinary Hermetic practitioner integrating diverse traditions, art forms and practices gathered over a full Saturn cycle. Initiated an astrologer by a magnificent Dream in 1993, he's since become an accomplished counselor, writer, podcaster, teacher, photographer and mage.

Objects of Desire /// TOTM.no.7 with Christos Tejada

Employing of the body as a talisman or a sigil, by way of flesh-altering rituals, actions of creation/destruction, and mystical/erotic communal dimensions.

Christos Tejada (b. 1989, Los Angeles, CA, Queer 1st generation of Mexican/Salvadorian descent) is an interdisciplinary artist who explores thresholds of the visible and invisible expressed through the body. Performing since 2015 through their audio-visual works, Tejada's practice creates sensory experiences of identity symbolism. Recent commissioned performances: "Our Lady of Spasms", curated by Ron Athey in 2022 at Coaxial Gallery; "Neptune's Closet", curated by Jamie Ross in 2023 at William Andrews Clark Memorial Library; and "We Came to Help You Carry the Sun," a group show curated by Sydney Acosta at Human Resources LA. Returning from Athens, Greece after attending a 9 day intense performance art residency 'Darkness Visible', spring 2023. Tejada's query: Can the body be the talisman? Can the body be a living altar?

Venusian Necromancy and Geomancing the Heart

Dr Alexander Cummins

Love Too Is A Kind of Haunting...

Developing work on pre-modern folk eschatology and planetary necromancy, contemporary cunning-man Dr Alexander Cummins leads us in an exploration of the dark pin-stuck heart of Venusian nigromancy: from conceptions of Ovidian love-sickness to erotic malefic curse-work and its unbewitching. We consider the kinds of ghosts that haunt Venusian places, people, and passions, and how they specifically haunt in ways particular to the shades of Venus...

Grounding us in our hearts, our actions, and our living world, we will then celebrate the Venusian virtues and spirits that may be worked with via the geomantic figures of Puella, The Lady, and Amissio, Loss, to help us find the light in all that Venusian dark. Through a latticing geomantic framework of figural, planetary, and elemental-humoural diagnostics and remediations, we can explore a range of regimen and rituals, observances and taboos, and amulets and actions helpful in developing our medicines of the passions.

As we shall see of these Venusian nigromancies - from healing a broken heart to grieving a lost loved one – such sorcerous and spiritual approaches to the planets, death, and spirits show humoural theory not merely as failed medicine or even four-part personality test, but a profoundly enspirited exploration of the hauntology of the embodied heart.

Dr Alexander Cummins is a contemporary cunning-man and historian of magic. His magical specialities are the dead (folk necromancy), divination (geomancy) and the grimoires.

His published works include *Nazarth: Pillars of Gladness* (Hadean Press, 2022), *An Excellent Booke of the Arte of Magicke* (Scarlet Imprint, 2020) with Phil Legard, *The Starry Rubric* (Hadean Press, 2012), *A Book of the Magi* (Revelore Press, 2018) and several chapbooks as well as essays in collections by Three Hands Press, Hadean Press and Scarlet Imprint.

He is a frequent speaker on the international circuit, co-hosts the podcast *Radio Free Golgotha*, and is a founding editor of Revelore Press' *Folk Necromancy in Transmission* series. Dr Cummins' work, classes, and services can be found at www.alexandercummins.com.

Breakout Session 2

Amplifying Magical Practice with Dramaturgical Thinking

[Jove Spucchi](#)

Individually and collectively, we are joined in an eternal dance with the celestial spheres and the spirits therein—each interaction with the magical other is a movement within the larger choreography of our own spiritual development and role within spiritual ecologies. Approaching magical practice from the perspective of the dramaturg offers frameworks of critical theory and expanded performance praxis as tools to enrich and enhance the erotic potency of our rituals and relationships.

Together we'll explore the dramatic structures of dance, theater, music, and visual art as ways to inhabit planetary archetypes and narratives through embodied action. In turn, we'll apply the languages of aesthetics, semiotics, dynamics, and movement shape to invite the planets to inhabit us as well. Drawing from my own experiences with butoh, ecstatic dance (raves), astro-drama, and multimedia talisman creation, we'll discuss accessible and practical strategies for maximizing the presence, beauty, and intentionality of each facet of our experience as practitioners.

Jove Spucchi is a witch, astrologer, artist, and folk-psychopomp exploring relationship with spirit through butoh, underground dance music, tech, psychedelics, performance, and queerness. In their client work, they give counsel on self-actualization and spiritual development through the co-creation of magical, mindful, and devotional practices. Jove centers the belief that it is through these practices that one develops genuine connections with spirits, their archetypes, faces, and mythic narratives—relationships that bestow wisdom, creativity, and an expanded and potentiated agency.

Host of the *Occulted* podcast and founder of *WitchAid*, Jove celebrates the weird, the hidden, and the wild—working to build and strengthen communities that harness otherness as power. You can find out more about their work at spucchi.com

The Seven Basics: 7 Talismanic Paintings

[Amelia Passer](#)

The Seven Basics was a term made by Paracelsus as a method in Alchemy to integrate and attune oneself with the energies of each planet by making a spagyric tincture for each of the Seven Planets in accordance with their signatures and astrological timing. Using a combination of Alchemy and traditional astrological magic, my intention was to make seven talismanic oil paintings, each of the paintings pertaining to the particular Planet it's ruled by.

Using astrological magic rituals, as well as only working on these paintings during their planetary days and specific electional times combined with iconography and symbolism associated with each planet, my intention was for each painting to possess and express the energies of the particular planet it rules; making 7 talismanic paintings.

I'm a full-time artist, primarily working with oil paint. Outside of painting, I am a practicing astrologer and ceremonial magician. Over the last few years, I've been working on a system which merges my interests in the esoteric and the fine art world. The methodology involves traditional astrological magic and the basic fundamentals of alchemy. Art is a form of Magic just as Magic is a form of Art. My interest lies within the intersection of the two, creating paintings which function like astrological talismans.

Bodybuilding with Astrological Magic

[Danny Larkin](#)

In 2011, I was violently assaulted and endured a six-inch stab wound to my left quadriceps. The assailant was aiming to kill me by puncturing my femoral artery but missed. Mars crossed the ASC on the day I was attacked. The doctors didn't know if I was every going to walk again or find relief from throbbing intense leg pain. After years of physical therapy, I could walk instead of hobble. But I was put on an aggressive regiment of daily weight lifting, stretching and pilates to keep compensating for the permanent leg damage.

This presentation will show how I've used pilgrimages to sacred sites, talismans and other forms of astrological magic to overcome PTSD, and embark on a healing fitness journey. Although astrological magic and the gym don't normally go together, this will be an unorthodox presentation that builds an unusual bridge between these realms. I also sexually shut down after the assault. Working with talismans and going further with astrological magic, along with psychotherapy and a consistent fitness practice, I experienced a major breakthrough after a long ten-year block. The final piece of the talk will address the intersection between astrological magic and sexual healing after trauma.

Danny Larkin is the Vice President of the International Association of Astral Magic, and an co-organizer of the Big Apple Astrology Meetup. He lives and works in New York as an art critic, astrologer and reuse coordinator at Materials for the Arts. He has studied ancient astrology with Demetra George and Chris Brennan, and modern astrology with Liz Greene as well as the Faculty of Astrological Studies.

Plant Rituals: Embodying the Celestial

Linsey Gosper

Plants have been utilised in mystical traditions around the world since time immemorial and continue to be powerful allies today. Using the methodology of plant and planet correspondences, heavenly bodies and earth-bound plants can be interchangeable in magical and herbal work.

What does the practice of engaging plants to attract and embody the celestial look like, how can we utilise this herbal materia in our magic, and bring it into our environment and the corporeal? How can we foster a relationship with plant and planet that is reciprocal, respectful, and authentic? Working with correspondences can enable a profound exchange and ecstasy with plant spirit and planetary spirit and deepens one's connection to both.

In this practical presentation I will share suggestions of accessible herbs to work with for each of the ten planets, and discuss their attributions, folklore, use in magic, how to best source and prepare herbal material, and how to identify new plants as magical allies in your local area. This will be illustrated through creative processes, devotional work, ritual, sympathetic magic, gardening and herbalism.

Linsey Gosper is an artist, tarot reader and magic practitioner based on Bundjalung country, Australia, with a background in art curation and education. Their practice and research are informed by the intersection of art and magic and living in a way that is not separate from these things. Through photography and installation, Linsey visualises and anchors their magical practice, which is a blending of performative ritual, image magic, and alchemical herbalism.

Iterative Magic

Taylor Ellwood

In *Iterative Magic*, Taylor Ellwood explores the cyclical and non-linear sequential aspects of space/time magic as it relates to astrological cycles, the phases of the moon and the turning of the seasons. We will explore the power of iterative repetition, which builds off the previous and future cycles of the astrological currents to empower magic and obtain better results while creating a path of least resistance.

I'm Taylor Ellwood. I began practicing magic when I was 16, but even before I was 16 I wanted magic to be real. I would read fantasy books and wonder what it would be like to actually practice magic. Then when I was 16, I discovered Magic as real. A friend of mine sat me down and told me about his magical experiences and at the end I asked him for books to read. Thus began my life long love relationship with magic.

What's really driven me to practice magic is my insatiable curiosity. I had lots of questions as a kid and those questions have only multiplied since, but what Magic provided me was a means to get answers and ask more questions. It provided me a way to explore my sense of self, my place in the universe and of course the various mysteries of the universe.

Embodied Craft and Living Vessels: The Art of the Talisman

Genie Desert

When Marsilio Ficino wrote in *Three Books on Life* that “hammering and heating alone brings out the power latent in the material”, he was essentially saying the craft of talisman making is of primary importance. While Ficino was specifically talking about metal talismans we can apply this sentiment to all talismanic practices, for he implores us to think beyond cookbook directives to consider material engagement and the embodied practices involved in crafting as key to talismanic creation.

In my many years of working professionally as a gold and silversmith in the talismanic arts, I (like Ficino) have come to the understanding that just as important as the timing of the astrological election is the artistic processes; the craft involved in making a talisman. When made to precise astrological timing astrological talismans receive spirits and infused powers from the planets or stars, and those involved in creating astrological talismans are engaged in the sacred craft of making living vessels for stellar spirits.

When we center craft and creativity in our sacred work we step into a liminal space of innovation and co-creation with stellar spirits. In this presentation I explore how magical operations performed within the context of a creative arts practice can liberate us from the confines of the grimoires and propel us into direct and embodied relationships with stellar spirits.

Genie Desert is an artist, gold and silversmith, astrologer and maker of celestial talismans. She holds an MFA and has been a professional artist for over two decades, having exhibited paintings in galleries throughout Australia. She makes talismans through her atelier Tides of Tethys (formerly Psychic Desert). Her focus is directed towards periodic releases of small, quality hand crafted collections made to astrological timing, using ancient techniques of wax carving, sand casting and lost wax casting. She has a special interest in mythology, folklore and witchcraft.

Planetary Punch Lines: Art As a Magical Joke

Blair Bogin

Working with planets and telling jokes have a lot in common, timing and rhythm is everything.

Saturn walks into your 5th house...

Venus crosses Aries to get to your Moon...

Every planetary happening has a setup and a punchline. Like a stellar knock knock joke—we are invited to respond, or as Lauren Berlant says, “a joke is like an i-love-you awaiting reciprocation.”

This presentation considers how the artist/magus can deepen their planetary courtship through the comedic form. It sounds fun, yet as we know some alignments are a tough crowd, some planets use dark humor and sometimes, we are the butt of the joke. Comedy isn't what we think it is—it depends on tension, failure, often working with what's wrong in order to lead to a moment of mutual delight.

What kind of astral art is possible when we have the courage to stay open to this awkwardness, to keep everything in play? How might our planetary devotions benefit from the in-and-out of controlness that the grammar of comedy depends on? We will discuss what worlds can be built when we let laughter refine our materials, charge our talismans, when amusement is our co-creative tool.

Blair Bogin is an artist and astrologer. Aside from consultations, workshops and lectures, she translates planetary alignments into improv comedy, community theater, video art and moving image horoscopes. Blair earned her MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and spent many years immersed in physical theater clown school. She's been going steady with the planets for over 14 years and works closely with fellow artists, empaths, activists, wild ones, weirdos as an astrology teacher and coach.

Breakout Session 3

Decoding the Language of the Stars

[KristaLyn A Vetovich](#)

What we know of astrological magic comes in large part from ancient and traditional texts that can often feel more like word problems than recipes for magical works. KristaLyn will finally put their degree in English to good use as we explore the rich tradition of astrological magic texts. We will examine traditional sources such as Vettius Valens, Picatrix, and William Lilly to gain insight into the complex and often enigmatic world of traditional astrology. While these texts offer a wealth of knowledge about astrological symbolism and magic, they also carry the occasional traps and pitfalls that can lead the unwary astray. To avoid misinterpretation, we will delve into the art of reading and interpreting these texts, examining the nuances of language and the subtleties of symbolism to uncover their true meaning. We will also explore how these ancient texts can serve as foundation and inspiration to create new works of art and magical practice. Whether you are a seasoned practitioner or a curious newcomer to the world of astrological magic, this talk promises to offer a fascinating glimpse into the mysteries of the stars.

KristaLyn is a multi-certified metaphysical practitioner and psychic mentor who specializes in Traditional Astrology and Astrological Magic. They serve as a practicing astrologer, co-founder of The Forgotten Storytellers High-Vibe novel-writing mentorship program, and co-host of The Alchemist's Inkwell podcast where they help people attract the lives they want to live aligned with their Divine timing. their internationally bestselling books in both fiction and nonfiction feature empowering themes of being your own hero and serving the world through your unique talents and gifts, which they know everyone is born with.

Astrology of Dee's and Kelley's Enochian Magic

Clifton Wigtil

The Renaissance-era system of angelic magic known as Enochian has undergone its own renaissance in the modern era, with modern magicians having painstakingly reconstructed working magical practices from John Dee's diaries of the conversations with the angels and derived publications. Yet aspects of this complicated system and its relationship to Dee's previous work such as the *Monas Hieroglyphica* are still less well-known. This talk will provide a basic introduction to John Dee, the rationale for his work, some background on his partner in the angelic work, Edward Kelley, and then will focus on the astrological aspects of the system. Specifically, the talk will focus on: the angelic Heptarchy of seven kings and seven princes and their relationship to the seven planets; the 12 zodiacal kings; and the use the angels as prescribed in Dee's diaries, as well as applied uses by modern practitioners such as the creation of talismans.

Clifton Wigtil, M.A., M.Sci.Ed. is the proprietor of Enochian.Today, which focuses on presenting topics, techniques, and experiences related to, as well as some original scholarship on, Enochian and magic in general. He has engaged in a variety of magical practices for over 25 years, and is currently follows a dual Vajrayana Buddhist (Kagyu lineage) and Enochian magic practice and model. His current project is the reception of a set of tables which can be used as meditation focuses for consciousness development. He has worked for Pearson on developing clinical assessments since 2011 (all views presented are his own), and currently lives in San Antonio, Texas, USA with his beautiful wife Michelle and his adorable cats.

PGM Birthday Magic: Dawn of the Inner Sun

Rory Keys

"For those who seek the divine within, those ready to awaken their inner potential, eager to discover their purpose in life, anticipating the dawning Sun inside one's Heart..."

Inspired by Paul Weston's *Star of Ishtar*, this presentation is a recollection of, and instruction in the method by which an individual may attain for themselves an exalted personal sovereignty by engaging in a year-long ritual, beginning the night prior to their solar return and concluding 365 days later.

Such an undertaking results in a myriad of blessings, including but not limited to; miraculous good luck, enhanced physical and mental capabilities, renewed confidence, and the development of a 'heart of gold'; all achieved via the alignment of the self with the celestial beneficence represented by the golden light of the Sun.

Utilising a combination of the astrological techniques of annual profections and solar returns, in conjunction with a ritual adaptation of the Greek Magical Papyri's Spell to Helios; so-called 'birthday magic' is elevated to serve a higher purpose: accelerating one's union with divinity for the benefit of both themselves and all those around them.

Rory is a professional Astrologer, based in London. In addition to working as a consulting astrologer, Rory is a researcher, lecturer, teacher and practitioner of hermeticism. His field of interest consists primarily of the astrological and magical innovations emerging from Alexandria during the Ptolemaic Kingdom and subsequent Roman Occupation. He has given

presentations for the Astromagia Conference, the Scottish Astrological Association, and ISAR Star Club, and IAAM, among others.

A Gnostic Astrology of Atomic Eros

Ben Jeans Houghton

By navigating a Gnostic astrology via the nuclear-messiahs, immortal-romantics, transhuman-deities and apocalyptic-guides of cinematic and animatic histories, we will speculate on the erotic embodiment and metamorphic dreaming of a living cosmos through the silver screen.

By examining the seductive gravity of Eros as the physics of incarnation through which energy is en fleshed, we will consider solar systems as living beings that constellate consciousness, etching energy into organic embodiment to undergo a tutelary theatre of transformation; from both the pessimistic and optimistic perspectives of various Gnosticisms.

By illustrating a mobius loop in space time, centred on the solar wound of atomic warfare, that echoes back into the historicism of Gnostic cosmogenesis—reconsidered as prophecy—and forward into the exponential threat of an AI singularity—considered as the black-mirror of mind-body dualism—we will establish a foundation from which to speculate on the macrocosmic and microcosmic function of ‘the wound’; as an evolutionary initiation within the architecture of an astrology.

Whether asleep in the dream of life being danced by a cosmos, awakened to its implications and agencies, or lucid co-creators of a quantum becoming that populates a psychedelic terraforming of matter, desire ever siren-songs us into the nebulous eroticism of being.

Gnostic Animist, Artist and Astrologer Ben Jeans Houghton’s multidisciplinary practice spans votive-sculpture, architectural-installation, oneiric film-essay, liquid-crystal painting, self-reflexive writing, ritual costume, improvised performance, mantric-glossolalia and esoteric lectures. The work explores and expresses magic; the art of transformation and its methodologies, technologies, agencies, and implications, through art-praxis, as-gnosis, informed by astrological, philosophical, and metaphysical perspectives, situated within the more-than-human relational context of a living cosmos. Ben has delivered exhibitions, screenings, presentations, performances and publications internationally in Germany, Greece, Africa, Japan, South Korea, and America and nationally with CCA, Gymnasium Gallery, Bloc Projects, Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art, Generator Projects, Trans-States, Whitstable Biennale, BFI and Channel Four amongst others.

The Talismanic Garden

Isaac Hill

In this talk, we will explore the garden as a medium of astrological power. There are many talismans and elections that one can use to enhance the growth of plants, but the garden itself can also be a talisman. After digging deep into the Moon, decans, mansions, plants, design, and of course timing, we see how the garden can even become a celestial temple.

Isaac Hill is a gardener, astrologer, musician, writer, podcaster and spiritual seeker who lives on a small herb farm in Central NY and co-hosts the Plant Cuning Podcast.

Afrofuturist Magic for Ancestral Healing and Temporal Liberation

Imani Harmon

Explore the colliding worlds of Afrofuturism and astrology, as we explore uses of electional astrology in ways that defy linear time. This talk will explore the creation of an election meant to be sent backwards to ancestors by:

1. Outlining practical applications of electional protocol and research to inform the creation of the election
2. Exploring the “troubleshooting” process for determining the efficacy of the magical election
3. Exploring various astrological, African diasporic, and ancestral teachings that informed the creation of the election and three others like it for the zine Elections to Kill Your Slave Master from the black speculative astrology project.

Imani is an Afrofuturist astrologer, creative, and land steward looking to use her astrological practice for community and world-building as well as Black healing and liberation. She has studied under Sam Reynolds and the School of Traditional Astrology. She has spoken for the Association for Astrological Networking (AFAN), Black Quantum Futurism’s ‘Black Womxn Time Camp 004’, and Wild Ginger Herbal Institute. Imani has also been commissioned to contribute astrological analysis to The Town Hall (NYC)’s “A Blue Moon Halloween: Sun Ra and The Comet Kohoutek with Marshall Allen and Prof. John Szwed.” Her written work has been featured in Sistories Lit Mag, Earth in Color, Priestess Magazine, and Taxonomy Press.

Astromagia hermetica: Hermes Magic in Mediaeval Books

Margherita Fiorello

In our exploration of technical Hermetica, we embark on a journey into the profound depths of the Medieval Renaissance. It was a remarkable era when seekers of wisdom were driven by an insatiable curiosity to unlock the deep secrets of the universe, and in doing so, they sought to discover their unique place within the intricate and mystical cosmos.

This is a journey through famous and less famous manuscripts and magicians. Yet, our exploration will extend beyond mere words on parchment; we will also uncover records of magical experiments and rituals, offering astrological practical examples that illuminate the application of grimoires in the pursuit of arcane knowledge and supernatural power.

This journey invites us to not only read about the mystical arts but to engage with their practical manifestations, bridging the gap between theory and practice in the world of magic.

Italian traditional astrologer since 2000, Margherita Fiorello is a lecturer and teacher of traditional techniques. Collector of books of magic and astrology.

***The Vesica* with [Bert Gilbert](#)**

Bert Gilbert's commission for *The Horror Show: A Twisted Tale of Modern Britain* at Somerset House is a work of thresholds. Not only does it mark the start of *Witch*, the third chapter in this exhibition surveying the dark seam of subversion running through British culture over the past half-century, but the work itself was conceived to invoke and embody perimeters and limina. How they are breached, and on what terms.

The installation brings together several key bodies of work, under the mantle of *The Vesica*, the geometric, almond-like shape formed by the intersection of two circles of similar radius. The figure resonates from Euclidian geometry, through da Vinci's *Vitruvian Man*, touching on religion, mysticism and mythology through the ages. Colloquially, the term was used to refer to the vagina, and this vulva- and womb-like shape can be found in prehistoric art, as well as in associations with Aphrodite/ Venus, the Greek/ Roman goddess of love, with offerings of fish being made in the hope of virility and fertility. In ancient Egypt, it was found in the Temple of Osiris (the god of fertility and the afterlife); the *Vesica Piscis* was also used to represent the vagina of the Cosmic Mother Goddess, Ma'at.

The physical and aural veils of the *Vagina Whisperers* echo the flayed membranes of Gilbert's *Shedded Skins* (inspired by the Jungian concepts of the shadow and golden shadow, and Mesopotamian goddess Inanna's journey to the underworld) hanging from its façade. They mark transitions and crossing points. Beautiful and intricate boundaries, they confront the viewer with the urge to delve deeper, but it's an urge carries the implication of transgression. Their existence is an enticement, but also a line of consent.

Gilbert's work may be humorous and sly, but it's also unflinching in bearing witness to physical and emotional abuse, and biological grief. It counters the trauma with its antidote, the power of resilience, the talismans of the sacred feminine and procreation. Personal, but also species, survival.

Bert Gilbert is an award winning, multi-disciplinary London based artist. Her practice uses the narrative and haptic qualities of materials to produce sensory artefacts, installations, sculptures and performances that animate the shadow realms of rapture and taboo. Informed by her extensive critical and active engagement with ritual and altered states of being, as part of re-discovering Mircea Eliade's universal 'Sacred Heritage', Gilbert's work dramatises and explores the foundation of primordial cosmologies witnessed within myth, the esoteric, alchemy and nature rituals, folkloric storytelling and music.

Gilbert fashions a visceral and fearless language forged of hybrid symbologies, shot through with humour and a purposeful iconoclasm. Her singular ritualized and obsessive methods catalyze transferred emotional states to activate a 'feeling' or connection in the audience, with the works functioning as portals to different realities of thought and vision.

Recent immersive fieldwork with indigenous communities in the Peruvian Amazon has seen her using 3D sound and scanning, collaborating with experts in psychoacoustics, neuroscientists, analytical hypnotherapy and "wearables" to create AR interfaces exploring ancient understandings of the heart's capacity for sensory perception and cognition.

Gilbert sees the artist as the "sensor" that picks up shared information and feeds it back, via interactions and interventions, to

the collective mind; making the invisible, visible.

***Stars of Babalon: Celestial Theophanies and the Poietics of Flesh*——[Alkistis Dimech](#)**

The re-emergence of the figure of the Harlot of Revelation as the goddess Babalon in Aleister Crowley's visions of the Enochian Aethyrs is arguably the first appearance of the heretical erotic divine feminine in the modern era. Crowley placed Her at the heart of his (sex) magick. Though radical in its time, his is a closed system and fundamentally misunderstands the sexual dynamic and human sexuality. In pursuing the 'mystery of mysteries,' that of Babalon, I have developed a personal magical and spiritual praxis rooted in the carnal body, independent of the solar-phallic doctrine of Thelema. In conjunction with my somatic practice, I've made extensive investigations into the Babylon of Revelation as the archetype and source of Crowley's Babalon, tracing John's Harlot to her origin in Inana-Ištar and the corpus of poetic, mythic and stellar lore associated with her. I propose that this corpus can be understood as a prehistory of Babalon, that the stellar theophanies of the hierodule Inana-Ištar are celestial bodies of the whore Babalon.

In this lecture – which develops further the thesis of my 'Transgressing Angels, Entangled Bodies' (Astro Magia, 2019) – I will speak about my experiments incorporating astral magic with the body-techniques that underlie my artistic and magical practice. Such methods, in their affective, creative and visionary potentials, can allow us to move beyond the impasse of an exhausted, unspirited culture and enflesh our visions of the future.

About Alkistis:

I am an artist, dancer, writer and occultist exploring the mysteries of the carnal body and its subtle anatomy through an archaeology and poietics of flesh. My art and praxis is grounded in ankoku butô (dark dance), which I have practised since 2002. I've studied multiple movement, performance and healing modalities, and have, through synthesis and experiment, developed a personal praxis and techne of transformation, of communion-communication with spirit(s), which is fundamental to both my artistic and magical work. Central to this work and to my spiritual path is the emergence of the heretical feminine divine power Babalon, and the cultivation of the sexual and erotic energies characteristic of her manifestation.

With Peter Grey I co-founded and run Scarlet Imprint, a small press which publishes practitioner-oriented works on magic, esotericism and the sacred.

I have performed, given workshops and spoken on my practice at events, conferences and research seminars in the UK, Europe and the United States. Selected works from 2008 to 2018 are published in *The Brazen Vessel* (Scarlet Imprint 2019). I am currently immersed in the creation of *secunda creatura*, and the texts and images for *Antimony*.

Breakout Session 4: Featured Talks

Sky, Sound, and Ritual
[William Morris](#)

In this presentation, we will explore the use of sound and ritual based upon the astrological chart for the moment. As such, it is a form of 'resonant theurgy' whereby coherence is sought between the forms of musica mundanos, musica instrumentals, and musica humanis: the sky, sound creation tools, and the practitioner.

Astrological traditions of various cultures can be used to arrive at the choice of placement in the local space environment of related objects and/or frequencies. Within this particular exploration, we will use midpoint structures as an official tool for gaining a focus. It is one thing to place things in various directions related to the Sky and Earth, and it is another to select the altitude of the expression in space based on the astrological declination (the altitude within the zodiacal band relative to the Celestial equator).

Dr. William Morris began his astrological career with his first consultation in the fall of 1977 while working as a professional musician. Upon leaving the road, he began using music from an astrologically informed perspective for healing purposes. Understanding that, to thoroughly practice medical astrology, one also had to study medicine, he earned a doctorate in Chinese medicine and a PhD focused on practice-based ways of knowing, extending into all disciplines, including astrology and homeopathy. His approach to astrology is eclectic, employing methods throughout the history of the Western tradition and India.

From Morpheus to the Oneiroi: the art of dreaming in late antiquity

Sabrina Moncini

In Greek mythology, Morpheus was a god of dreams and had numerous siblings, collectively known as the Oneiroi. While Morpheus was known as the bearer of messages and prophecies from the gods in the form of dreams, two other Oneiroi were respectively responsible for nightmares (Phobetor) and strange and surreal dreams (Phantasos). I will explore the ontological state of dreaming, which is that of liminality, of being in between or in transition. Dreams definitely open the door to different sensibilities and realities that have been addressed with much interest and respect in late antiquity.

I will explore how dreams were seen in late antiquity and how they were categorized, starting from the theory of incubation and going through the work of Artemidorus, Synesius, and Macrobius. Finally, I will explore how astrological magic relates to dreams and, therefore, talismans that may enhance the quality of dreams and the work on dreams.

Sabrina Moncini is a body psychotherapist, interdisciplinary astrologer, and astral magician from Florence, Italy. Sabrina was awarded a diploma from the Faculty of Astrological Studies (London) and consequently undertook courses in traditional astrology and astrological magic. She is particularly interested in ancient philosophy, shamanism, psychology, and anthropology, disciplines she finds at the crossroads of the practice of astral magic and which profoundly inform the discipline. For nearly two decades, Sabrina has been deeply engaged in client work and teaching that synthesizes her expertise in astrology, psychology, bodywork, and astrological magic. In recent years, she has been researching the dimension of the soul in late antiquity and the related states of liminality that belong to it.

Asteroid Signatures: Wizards, Magicians, Herbalists, & Alchemists

Demetra George

Ancient views of the cosmos include the notion of daimons, a host of semi-divine beings living in the celestial spheres who were tiny, invisible, and linked divine and human realms as agents of planetary fate. I am proposing that the asteroids, which were unknown until the beginning of the nineteenth century, correspond to the daimons in this cosmological model, and that the ancients had a philosophical category for a class of celestial entities that would not be discovered physically for another two thousand years.

From among 23,000 asteroids, this presentation will focus upon those that were named after legendary wizards, mythic deities associated with enchantment, magic and herbalism, and historical alchemists. Learn immediately how to find the zodiacal positions of the asteroids such as Merlin, Circe, Isis, Eros, Hermes, Paracelsus, John Dee, Spirit and others and identify which are most significant in a chart. Reflect upon which traditions and teachers are best supported in a nativity as an integral part of a person's lineage, studies, and practice.

Demetra George, scholar, translator, and practitioner, brings the practice of contemporary astrology back to its ancient roots. Early in her career with the publication of *Asteroid Goddesses* (1986), she looked to cross-cultural mythologies to draw out the archetypal meanings and psychological expression of newly available planetary bodies. She then turned to Greek and Latin texts, articulating the history, cosmology, and techniques of traditional astrology. Author of seven books, her most recent is *Ancient Astrology in Theory and Practice: A Manual of Traditional Techniques*, Vols. 1 & 2 (Rubedo Press, 2019,2022).

The Role of Altered States of Consciousness in Astrological Magic

Soledad Davies

Astrological magic is based on the idea of an interconnected cosmos mirrored in nature, which is alive and impregnated with meaning, intelligence, and purpose. If astrology is regarded as a philosophical practice rather than just a set of ancient and modern techniques, what are the implications of practising astrological magic in a contemporary world rooted in the split of mind and body, humankind and nature (including the sky)?

Soledad Davies M.A., is an astrologer from Patagonia Argentina, and holds an M.A. in Cultural Astronomy and Astrology (University of Wales TSD, UK). She also has studied Western Esotericism (University of Amsterdam, NL). Her main interest lies at the intersection of astrology, philosophy, and religion. In 2016, she founded PsicoCymática, an international centre for the study of astrology & esotericism..

Sigils, Stars and Stones: Astrological Gems, Image Magic and Occult Virtue——**Christopher Warnock**

Drawing from his book *Celestial Gems and Sigils*, Chris Warnock delves into the ancient lore of lapidaries, revealing the underlying spiritual power of occult virtue, that ties together the material, celestial and spiritual.

Christopher Warnock has been a traditional astrologer and Renaissance astrological magician since 1998. He has been called "the father of the traditional astrological magic revival" and the "elder statesman" of astrological magic. With John Michael

Greer, Mr. Warnock translated the Latin Picatrix, the most important grimoire of traditional astrological magic and has written and published many books on astrological magic and traditional astrology. Mr. Warnock also teaches astrology and magic courses and offers authentic astrological talismans.

Breakout Session 5

Dynamic Talismans: A Stereoscopic View of Power Relations

[Jenn Zahrt](#)

Based on years of personal practice, this talk aims to widen our perceptual arena of possibility when engaging in talismanic work. Go beyond the confines of a planetary hour/day, and work across multiple levels of essential dignity and temporal containers to create a dynamic talismanic engagement with potent magical effect..

Jenn Zahrt PhD is an author, publisher, and teacher of cultural astronomy and astrology. She is the founder of Revelore Press, creative director of the Sophia Centre Press and the deputy editor of the peer-reviewed journal Culture and Cosmos. In 2021 she founded the Celestial Arts Education Library Institute in Olympia, WA, where she currently lives. Discover more of her work: www.jennzahrt.com

The Selenalter's Entryway: A Lunar Magic Workshop

[Shuly Rose](#)

This is a workshop of entry points into building a working relationship with the Moon and the spirits of her retinue through the frame of an immersive and embodied monthly lunar return ritual. In this collaborative space participants will survey a toolkit of diverse ritual techniques, from the magical traditions of late antiquity to shared gnosis built in relationship with contemporary Moon-adorers.

Using this toolkit, practitioners will develop their own framing rite in order to craft a monthly ritual space in which to deepen their relationship to their own natal Moon and to collaborate with the Queen of the Night herself. Though it will not be required, attendees are encouraged to bring their own stories, dreams, and experiences of the Moon and her spirits for discussion. This workshop is crafted with diversity of experience in mind and will be suitable for a variety of experience levels and magical backgrounds, with extra attention to presenting entryways for the beginner and suggestions for deeper exploration for more advanced practitioners.

Shuly Rose is a stargazer, plant lady, diviner and witch. She approaches astromagic as a revivalist, endeavoring to reinvigorate rather than focusing on reinvention or strict reconstruction of a historical practice. By awakening the spirits of the ancestors of this art through studying their work and speaking their names, she continues to renew this living tradition. With the awareness that the universe is a divine organism, she turns toward it as a system deserving of respect and care. At the root of her philosophy is the knowledge that a better world is possible; this work is part of her contribution to it.

Sacred Bondage: Ananke and the Lot of Necessity

[Ione Richards](#)

A foray into the mythos of Ananke, the ancient Greek personification of Necessity. The semitic roots of this word translate to variations of “to constrain, to bind” as well as “fate, destiny”. Ananke, self-formed sister and consort of Chronos, mother of the Moira, has a strong relationship with other goddess figures in the Greek pantheon, especially Aphrodite. In the Orphic Hymn to Venus, “Crafty, from whom necessity first came,” it is Venus who creates Ananke and rules the triple Fates.

Beyond exploring the roles of this archetype in planetary mythology, this talk will elucidate the divinatory history of lot casting, with a specific focus on the Lot of Necessity as calculated by Vettius Valens and Paulus Alexandrinus. We'll wind down by exploring parallels between these ancient rites and their cultural relevance within more modern BIPOC sex worker led movements, queer culture, magical praxis, and stately resistance. Through offering love to our chains, there may even be a hint into remedial practices in the Hellenistic astrological tradition.

Ione is a queer astrologer weaving many skillsets into their work, most notably as a community herbalist, magician, and creative. While their astrology practice draws from a Hellenistic framework, they are a non traditionalist utilizing older traditions as a mirror for this moment, and a guide for the future. They are currently based in Los Angeles and taking new clients both in person and over Zoom.

Understanding Magic through Exhibitionism and Sensuality

Mason David Merrill

Magic is not just about will, but feeling it body and soul. Magic can look to others as a taboo, but it is the same subversion of another's reality that allows the magic to happen in the first place. To be so vulnerable and willing to expose yourself to whatever can happen, is an act of God manifesting itself on earth.

How can we be more sensitive to the erotic nature of the cosmos and use that for our greater good when connecting with Celestial Influences?

Mason David Merrill is an experienced Astrologer and Celestial Priest with six years in the field. He has committed his career to unlocking the mysteries of the stars to bring their gifts down to bear on earth through talismanic form, guiding people on an enlightened path using the lights in the sky and the powers they freely give us. As a motivated and dedicated Astrologer & Celestial Priest, he specializes in using tarot cards and chart analysis from the Hellenistic period up to the Renaissance era of Astrology. The approach he follows anchored his belief that fundamental transformation happens through the power and understanding of the cosmos that influence and shape us. He strives to give people the tools they need to make conscious and intentional decisions rooted in self-awareness and understanding. He is passionate about facilitating conversations between his clients and the universe and seeing a pathway to self-empowerment emerge.

In-Carnality of Artificial Intelligence Divination

Arturo Martinini

In the process of turning digital talismanic images made using artificial intelligence into a published book, the contorted relationship between art and carnality was radically highlighted. In this talk I will lay out a strange personal

network of connections starting from Sumerian mythology and the idea of humans as talismans of the Gods, passing through the necromantic worship of an Eros-Frankenstein in Antonin Artaud's theater and landing on artificial intelligence as a medium, planting the seeds for a "Codex of the Flesh" collaborative project.

Arturo Martinini is an enthusiast of the experimental arts, based in Portland, OR. His creative investigations focus on uncanny visions of the future.

Celestial Harmonics & Sonorous Embodiment

Livia Homerski & Skyler Bruisma

In exploration of how to sing or verbalize horoscopes, planetary hours, and talismanic magic squares, we will survey the congruous spaces between music theory and astrology, drawing together a few traditional precedents for the efficacy of songs to address astrological predispositions or transmute ill elements: in time, place, and within the melothesic body.

To this end, along with technical mention of Flying Star Feng Shui and brief notes on Jyotish, Ayurveda and the prescriptive affinities of the 72 Melakarta Ragas, we will seek out an exegesis of vowels —being elements of the soul or manifest constitution— within the historical contours of Pythagorean and Platonic philosophies, Gnostic Nag Hammadi texts, Greek Magical Papyri, and Hermetic literature. Broadly, we propose a theory and practice parallel to Mantra Healing but further informed by Greco-Egyptian tradition and incorporated into the sevenfold grammars of Planetary Attributes and Modal Harmony.

Skyler Lee B. and Livia Homerski are writers and researchers brought together by a mutual interest in astrology, angelology, and the great Mystery of incarnation. Skyler's wide appreciation of esoteric philosophies and Livia's expertise as an astrologically-supported singer-songwriter have intersected to ponder upon the ancient cosmogony of sound and create art in its reflection. Both hold BAs in English from Edinboro University in Northwestern PA; Livia is currently working in the local food system at a farm & non-profit market, while Skyler is pursuing a career abroad as an ESL teacher.

Somatomancy: The Missing Piece of Your Metaphysical Identity

James Divine

What astrological body has the most influence upon us? The Moon? the Sun? Jupiter? Of course it is the one we often don't consider: Planet Earth. But how can we "see" planet earth in the celestial sphere since it is the place from which we are observing? Is it our Shadow? Is it the opposition of our Sun Sign?

In this thought provoking talk, palmist James Divine posits that the body itself offers information that compliments our astrology. Somatomancy, or divination by reading the body, gives us insight into a more complete metaphysical identity.

James Divine has been studying palmistry for over 34 years, and is the creator of the Divine Hand method, blending modern observations of body language and gestures with traditional metaphysical correspondences. James is also High Priest of Spectrum Grove in Seattle, having practiced in the Sylvan Tradition of witchcraft since 1998. James teaches palmistry in an apprenticeship program, presents workshops across the country on various esoteric and magical topics, and is currently working on his first book. James Divine holds a degree in social sciences from the University of Washington, and has been a professional business anthropologist and leadership consultant for over a decade. James lives in Seattle with his husband, and is a proud step-dad and grandpa. Find James at TheDivineHand.com.

Breakout Session 6

The Art of Talismanic Filmmaking and Soundscaping

NM Thomen

In the art of talismanic filmmaking and soundscaping, moving imagery and sound are recorded to intentionally capture the essence of stellar influences. Talismanic films and soundscapes hold the power to break the hypnotic spell of the spectacle by transmitting divinely and daimonically attuned frequencies thru both light and sound. Such works also carry the potential to cast their own hypnosis and mesmeric magic as a path to self-liberating and self-actualizing gnosis. The aim of my presentation is to explore the development of talismanic film and sound as its own genre in the intersecting timeline of experimental art-making and the astral-magical tradition.

NM Thomen is a professional consulting astrologer, astromancer and multi-hyphenate creative investigating celestial esoterica, synthesizing traditional approaches with modern applications. Their background is in 16mm experimental filmmaking, being active in the noise/avant-garde underground as a solo performer as well as a former member of the Laundryroom Squelchers, Astral Knife, and other ensembles, as well as a sound engineer. They are also trained in the healing arts as a body-worker/LMT, and are an initiated adept of Vodoun Hwendo. Raised between El Salvador & the USA, they currently reside in Ouidah, Bénin as the official astrologer at the Vodou Palace of His Majesty, the Supreme Chief of Vodoun Dada Daagbo Hounon II.

Talismans in Time: Image Magic in the Moment

Frank Sivilli

The art of talismanic magic prizes precision in the process of election and execution. And, while there is great wisdom and necessity in this practice, every mage from novice to master has found that their in-the-moment need often does not allow for delay. Rather than delay, we can work with what is given. In doing so, we find surprising revelations of meaning and purpose.

We are shown that what the heavens provide us at the very moment of our need is perhaps indicative of how to work and execute resolution. This course explores the creation of talismanic and image magic as a spontaneous act of creation. Using the teachings and wisdom of the Western astrological tradition as described in *The Picatrix*, in addition to lived examples from the presenter's practice, the goal of this course is to take our liminal desire and make it real, fixed, and present, knotted to what the heavens provide us in the times we are most in need. We will learn to be in congruence with the astrological moment and to flow with the goings-on of the here and now.

Frank Sivilli is a poet, psychotherapist, and astrologer. He works primarily in the psychoanalytic tradition in his therapy practice based out of Ridgewood, NY. And his astrology practice is an amalgam of Hellenistic, Medieval, and Archetypal teachings. His talks have been featured at previous AstroMagia conferences, in addition to other forums on mysticism, spirituality, and psychotherapy. His recent artistic practice focuses on the slow art of Bonsai. And in his spare time he practices qigong, drumming, and archery.

Leveraging Pluto: The Individual and Mass Effect

Erica Shadowsong

We as magickal practitioners and potential change-makers are entering the opportunity of a lifetime with the current configuration of planetary bodies in the zodiac. Especially potent is Pluto entering the sign of Aquarius, an event that has not been seen since the late 1700s. Astrologers and starwatchers have been signaling that this is a time of unprecedented chance for shaking up the current socio-political foundations of human civilization, and it will last for a good part of the century. We are also at a time of great awareness - and urgency - of the catastrophic consequences our impact on the environment is having on all of life on Earth.

Storyteller, vocalist, and folklore enthusiast who has worked for the last 10 years as a professional religious education director for Unitarian Universalist congregations. I am a published author of several articles on spiritual topics, and of one - so far - horror story! I'm also a tabletop RPG enthusiast, a hobby which has greatly influenced the way I think about interconnectedness and knowledge. Finally, I am a solitary (mostly) neopagan since 2006, a member of the Universal Temple of Spirits (a trance-possession tradition) and a priestess of Sekhmet through the Order of the Golden Gryphon. In my magickal workings, I greatly enjoy crafting with wood, herbs, and minerals, as well as visual art.

Planetary Yoga: Hāṭha Yoga & Jyotiṣa

Gary O'Toole

The sequences of hāṭha yoga are not random; they align with the natural cycles of the cosmos. Journey with the planets and shapeshift through the cycles (daśās) of Jyotiṣa (Indian astrology) and your personal story; through various combinations and possibilities, before returning to your still centre.

This one-hour demonstration includes physical movements for each cycle in the vimśottarī sequence; a division of nine 'planetary periods': Ketu (south node of the Moon), Venus, Sun, Moon, Mars, Rāhu (north node of the Moon), Jupiter, Saturn, and Mercury.

Gary O'Toole has studied Jyotiṣa and various forms of movement practices since the early 90s. He runs an astrology practice and has taught yoga for over 10 years. In recent years, he developed Vāyurveda, meaning 'the science of movement', a traditional yet innovative approach that marries celestial movements with the physical, embodying a natural flow.

His first book, *Cosmic Bodies*, explored the relationships between Āyurveda, Jyotiṣa, and Yoga. His latest books, *Rāhu Daśā* and *Timeline Astrology*, delve into timing techniques from India.

Gary teaches a combination of movement practices and astrology at vayurveda.com, and publishes a blog, magazine, and podcast at timelineastrology.com.

Weaving Starlight into Matter: the Spica Series

Edward Knapp

Classical texts describing the methods of creating astrological talismans often contain incomplete or contradictory information regarding both the natures of the astral entities themselves and the talismans formed under their influence. Notably lacking are detailed or comparative reports of the talismanic craft, despite frequent encouragement to would-be practitioners to "experiment and see what happens" in response to questions about methods of electing and working—nobody wants to talk specifics of what did and did not work, much less discuss why.

This project focuses on the creation of astrological talismans with the influence of the fixed star Spica. An experimental prototyping approach using a sequence of waxing moon talismanic elections for Spica of varying configurations and levels of "ideal"-ness combined with standardized materia and methods will illuminate how specific elements of a fixed star election change the resulting quality of communication and communion with the fixed star, and the resulting talisman's quality and effects. A further goal of this series is to clarify through experience the sometimes conflicting information from traditional sources regarding the character of this star.

Lukianos is a visionary artisan who has been co-creating spirit-infused art for over 25 years in the service of making the unseen visible. In addition to his background as a practitioner of divinatory and energetic healing arts, he has studied astrology and astrological magic with Austin Coppock and Michael Ofek, and has been working with the fixed star Spica for about 15 years. Lukianos' talismanic works engage traditional methods adapted to myriad media, from the most permanent of metal and stone,

to the most time-limited of edible materia and immersive performance environments.

Developing Your Astral Sensibility: How to Hone Your Spiritual Perception Using Your Whole Being in the Practice of Astrological Magic

Edoardo Costa

The ritual part of the talisman crafting process is always a big stumbling block for the beginner: what should one say? What should one do? But, most importantly, what should one feel in order to be sure that the spirit was contacted and the operation was a success?

In this talk I will explore some of the possible solutions to these "spiritual feedback" problems, problems that face the aspiring operators when they call forth all manners of non-physical entities. I will bring my personal experiences to the table, as well as enriching, non-traditional perspectives, such as the role of Remote Viewing, Swedenborg, the Ra Materials, and alien contactees and abductees to astrological magic, connecting many metaphysical dots so that we, the inhabitants of this weird sublunary world, can achieve a slightly bigger and more encompassing worldview.

Edoardo Costa, independent researcher and astrological magician, follows his curious spiritual experiences after his coming of age which lead him to deviate from the scientific mentality he grew up with and towards studies in esotericism and occultism. Falling in love with Astrology and then with astrological magic, he then participates in various types of family constellations for almost ten years. He began a project of translation and commentary of the "Liber Hermetis De Quindecim Stellis" in 2021, bringing his research to the international online conference Astromagia of 2021 and 2022. At the moment he studies Somatic Experiencing, family constellations, traditional Astrology and astrological magic as self-taught. With an eclectic, but synthetic and essential approach, he founded The Ivory Tower project (@EidosTheIvoryTower) in December 2020, where he provides his astrological talismans and consulting services.

Love's Own Monster: Erotic Stellar Witchcraft with Hydra

Sasha Ravitch

How does one ride upon the back of the Beast toward the Sanguine Horizon of Desire?

A-flight across the obsidian vault of the firmament is the slithering, vermilion gash of the great Serpentess, Hydra. Her throbbing heart—the fixed star, Alphard—boils the blood to a fever-pitch of need, and incites a riot of wanton hunger in the flesh. Sasha Ravitch explores Hydra, Anthropophagate Queen of the Red Appetite, as the Stellar Witchcraft Mother of Erotic Sorcery, Libidinal Glambours, and Sexual Ecstasy and Obsession. How does the Scarlet Serpentess of the Skies transcend her noumenal kingdom and manifest within the phenomenal world?

How can one constellate her stiletto-fangs and skin-sheds to compel greater reveries of inspiration, of frenzied sensuality, of undulating rivers of passion and power?

Ravitch will explore traditional and ancient astrological research, folk astronomical considerations, artistic and literary supplements and complements, details from her own grimoire concerning myriad intimate workings with Hydra, Alphard, and her legion of spirits, and include a series of introductory operations and Stellar Witchcraft rites and

charms for individuals to perform so as to enhance all things lascivious, lusty, and ferociously creative. Hydra reminds us that shame is a waste of perfectly good pleasure, and pleasure is what makes life worth living.

Mother of the field she has coined "Stellar Witchcraft", Sasha Ravitch spends her days as a consultant -practitioner and professional author. She regularly presents at conferences, having previously been a keynote speaker for AstroMagia, as well as a regular lecturer for the Salem Witchcraft & Folklore Festival, and most recently in academic conferences on the subject of Salome. Ravitch stewards a bustling community of Stellar and Deep-Space Witchcraft enthusiasts on her Patreon Discord server, while spending her free time spinning starlight and constellating desire from the floor of the ocean or a sunny rock in the river. You can book her for a consultation at sasharavitch.com.

Breakout Session 7: Featured Talks

Towards an Embodied Astrology

[Charly McCreary](#)

The intellectual pursuit of astrological knowledge can span a lifetime, but what of the embodiment of the celestial archetypes? How might our relationship to the starry heavens and the great wanderers of the solar system be deepened through a more embodied astrological practice?

In this session, we will explore an emerging field of astrological work coined 'embodied astrology,' a discipline that incorporates a variety of disciplines including ritual theatre, psychodrama, and creative expression. These types of practices help us develop a more personal relationship with the planets, and can yield more potent, transformative, and powerful client work. Offering ourselves as vessels for the divine transmissions of astrological archetypes can also add surprising new dimensions to devotional practice, if we embrace the vulnerability and humility this type of work asks of us.

Charly McCreary is an astrologer, ceremonialist, plant medicine practitioner, and ritual theatre artist based in Hawai'i. Her astrological focus is archetypal astrology, informed and inspired by sacred stories of the ancient world, and how they can inform our lives today. She and her partner Isaiah Dearborne are The Inner Circle IC, a collaboration dedicated to education, ritual, ceremony, and healing.

Nakshatra, Hermetica, and Medieval Magic

[Micki Pellerano](#)

The Nakshatra of Vedanga Jyotisha reveal layers of depth to the syncretism inherent in the development of magical traditions. The Vedic lore surrounding them provides inspiration and elaboration for the relatively cursory material on Lunar Mansions and Behenian Stars in such canonical works as Picatrix and the Books of Agrippa.

This presentation introduces the beneficial fusion of Nakshatra principles into talismanic magic as well as horoscopic and electional astrology. Powerful techniques are revealed to create elections more bespoke to the individual

practitioner based on one's natal lunar mansion position. Practical methods for implementing corresponding deities, gemstones, and plants are demonstrated alongside novel techniques for the construction and consecration of magical talismans.

Micki Pellerano is a reputed professional astrologer and a practitioner of Hermetic Magic with over twenty years' experience. His practice derives inspiration from a broad range of systems including yoga, tantra, and chaos magic. Occultism permeates Pellerano's history as a visual artist. He speaks and presents regularly, while maintaining his program and educational platform Time Lord TV.

Constellating Hands: A Study in Sinistral & Dextral Dynamics [JM Hamade](#)

Using the Western figural-constellations known as Virgo, Gemini, Perseus, Orion, and Ophiucus, this class will explore the relationship between the stars of their left and right hand sides. Though it is often seen as a controversial distinction in magic, as well as in culture at large, generally the left is seen with more suspicion and 'feminine' qualities while the right holds those of positivity and 'masculinity.' In both playing with these stereotypes as well as exploring their many nuances we begin to see the variability of star images/bodies; their living qualities as well as magical (or, perhaps sorcerous) potentials.

J.M. Hamade is an interdisciplinary artist, diviner, writer, and educator, currently residing in New York City. With a focus on both general and historical forms of 'Image Magic,' his/they're work seeks to bridge contemporary aesthetics with time tested magical techniques rooted in astrology, star lore, as well as various talismanic art-forms.

Possessing a keen interest in craft, Hamade has apprenticed in the ways of butchery, the funerary arts, and most recently, the art of floristry. Passionate about the printed word, they have published both writing and illustration with Hadean Press, The Mountain Astrologer, and Revelore Press. Hamade has received a BA focused in Printmaking from San Francisco State University as well as being a current MFA candidate at the City College of New York focusing on video and sound.

Folding Time and Place [Chris Reppucci & Elodie St-Onge-Aubut](#)

Speaking on spaces that can be found, imagined, created, developed, enlivened and re-visited through visionary methodologies and used as oracular interface and "workshop" in tandem with other magical modalities to inform your practice. The interweaving of astrological considerations, kairotic time cycles, residing goetic personae and directional resonance have led us to frequent and operate within particular locations folded into the world map which develop both organically on their own as well as respond to our participation.

We will discuss our processes as both memoir and way-pointing for how psychic, emotional, physical and energetic nervous system projection can bridge phenomenological layers of world, body and being as pathway to interacting with spirits and the otherwise sentient across celestial and terrestrial spectrums, inside and outside of the body.

Chris Reppucci and Elodie St-Onge-Aubut have been collaborating for years on end in a continuous dialogue which sounds the

depths of raw reality. Chris in Maine and Elodie in Newfoundland, they both experience life outside the swing of societal overlay and remain close to natural occurrences of all varieties. Their work with the Lunar Zodiac holds awareness of what is phenomenological vs egregoric in the world at large and how that reflects within metaphysical traditions. They both make their living practising astrology full time, are in the throes of the extremely ancient and deal with dogs on a daily basis.