

Dornach, 23 December 2025

Dear Friends of the General Anthroposophical Section and dear Members of the School for Spiritual Science,

At Christmas, before the beginning of the Holy Nights and at the end of an eventful year marking the 100th anniversary of Rudolf Steiner's death, we send you our warmest greetings from the General Anthroposophical Section at the Goetheanum!

We would like to connect these greetings with a review of the activities of the Section over the past twelve months; we would also like to inform you about plans for 2026 and, already at this point, to express our thanks for the excellent collaboration—both in the field of general Anthroposophy and in connection with the First Class. Through many events, as well as through Class Holders' gatherings and School conferences in many places around the world that we visited, a vivid impression of this collaboration could be gained.

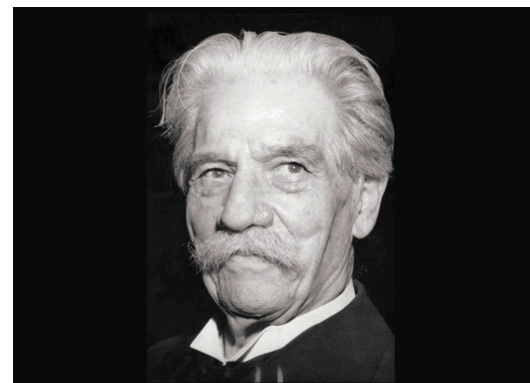
In this letter, we will first report on work in the field of general Anthroposophy, and in the second part on events and publications relating to the First Class of the Free School for Spiritual Science. In Rudolf Steiner's understanding, the General Anthroposophical Section at the Goetheanum has this dual task.

General Anthroposophy

From the many events carried out by the General Anthroposophical Section at the Goetheanum in connection with the anniversary of Rudolf Steiner's death, we would like to recall here, among others, the contributions on his final year of work and on the time of his illness and death, as well as on his friendship with Albert Schweitzer. The Michaelmas conference addressed Rudolf Steiner as a student and a teacher; amongst other things, his relationship to Friedrich Eckstein and his spiritual encounter with Johann Wolfgang von Goethe were also discussed. In the event series "Rudolf Steiner reads ...", which developed out of this conference, his reception of Nicholas of Cusa was addressed in 2025. This sequence of presentations will be continued through until 2028 and will culminate in a publication; in 2026, events will take place on "Rudolf Steiner reads Aristotle" (Nicolas Criblez), "Rudolf Steiner reads



Student Day lecture and poster of the General Anthroposophical Section



Zum 150. Geburtstag von Albert Schweitzer
14. Januar 1875, Kayzersberg, Elsass

Begegnungen mit Rudolf Steiner

Vortrag
Peter Selg

Plato" (Salvatore Lavecchia), and "Rudolf Steiner reads Thomas Aquinas."

Rudolf Steiner's Last Address was heard during the Michaelmas conference, introduced by a lecture on Raphael (Matthias Zäeslin) and followed by a performance of the Michael Imagination by the Goetheanum Ensemble. Rudolf Steiner's relationship to the central Grail figures in the poetry of Wolfram von Eschenbach was taken up following the anniversary of his death, in connection with the performance of Parsifal; his work on the Michael Imagination was the theme at Pentecost within a conference of the entire Goetheanum leadership, with the participation of all Sections.

Of great importance to us was the joint study of Rudolf Steiners Leading Thoughts from January to April 1925, which regularly took place together with a reading of the essays at the Goetheanum.

The "Alma Humana!" conference, which the General Anthroposophical Section was able to hold together with the Executive Council of the Anthroposophical Society at the Goetheanum, and in cooperation with latin-languages national societies (with major support from the Swiss National Society), took place at the Goetheanum in July 2025. It was dedicated to Rudolf Steiner and his cosmopolitan presence: "Encounters with Rudolf Steiner and Anthroposophy." The contributions were given predominantly in Spanish, Portuguese, French, Italian, and Romanian, and the more than 200 participants came from 19 countries, many of them from Spain.

The ongoing work of Joshua Kelberman in the Section also serves to make visible the cosmopolitan presence of Rudolf Steiner's work. On the occasion of the 100th anniversary of Rudolf Steiner's death, Joshua presented the first international directory of translated lectures and writings by Steiner and continues to work steadily on expanding this overview. The directory now records 5,863 titles by Rudolf Steiner in 31 languages, clearly demonstrating how rapidly and intensively his work spread throughout the world.

An international spirit also characterized the second conference of publishers, librarians, and archivists of Rudolf Steiner's work and of anthroposophical secondary literature, which was organized by the General Anthroposophical Section in June 2025. It led to special presentations and lively collegial exchange among the 32



Alma Humana! 2025 and meeting for publishers, librarians and archivists

professionals who traveled to attend. The new leaders of the Rudolf Steiner Archive (Angelika Schmitt and Philipp Kovce) were present as well, and with 45 participants who were unable to travel, we continued the themes of the gathering online.

The question of publications is closely connected with the task of study and further education, and the shared study of Rudolf Steiner's writings continued to play an outstanding role in 2025 in the Department for Studies and Further Education area of the General Anthroposophical Section. In 2025, 160 students from more than 40 countries took part in the study programs in person at the Goetheanum and online, and worked on Rudolf Steiner's Leading Thoughts in the new bilingual edition. For the first time, under the facilitation of Andrea de la Cruz, the students were able to perform Goethe's Fairy Tale of the Green Snake and the Beautiful Lily in the Goetheanum gardens, gaining intensive insights into the work of all the specialist Sections at the Goetheanum. They were able to participate in many events of the commemorative year and, among other things, deepen their understanding of Rudolf Steiner's life course in a joint seminar in Weimar. Intensive work is currently underway on a comprehensive presentation of the further educational offers at the Goetheanum.

In the event series conducted since 2021 on pioneering figures of Jewish humanism in the 19th and 20th centuries, Hugo Bergman and Ernst Müller marked a provisional conclusion in 2025. Both had engaged in detailed study of Rudolf Steiner and had received numerous impulses for their own work from him. In 1961, Bergman, as a professor of philosophy at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, organized a week-long event on Steiner's life's work around Steiner's 100th birthday, representing the most significant academic recognition of Steiner up until that time. At the event in the Harvard Divinity School in December 2025 honoring the 100th anniversary of Steiner's death, Constanza Kaliks and Peter Selg contributed with presentations.

In December 2025, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of Hannah Arendt's death, they also addressed at an event at the Goetheanum the convergences between Steiner's and Arendt's approaches to the nature of evil and to spiritual will. Audio recordings were made of many of the lectures given within the framework of these events organized by the General Section; these are accessible via the Section's website www.allgemeine-sektion.goetheanum.ch/en and in part also via YouTube.



Students, performance of Goethe's Fairy Tale, at Schiller's House in Weimar | Event on Hannah Arendt and Rudolf Steiner



Hannah Arendt und Rudolf Steiner
Zum 50. Todestag Hannah Arendts

*Samstag 6. Dezember 2025 am Goetheanum
Eintritt frei. Kollekte am Saalaustritt*

17:00 Uhr	Peter Selg Das Wesen des Bösen und das Wesen des menschlichen Willen bei Rudolf Steiner
19:00 Uhr	Constanza Kaliks Das Wesen des Bösen und das Wesen des menschlichen Willen bei Hannah Arendt



Numerous books were published in 2025 by the Section and the associated Ita Wegman Institute as part of their ongoing work as well as the ongoing research. In German, these included, among others, Peter Selg's studies *The Death of Rudolf Steiner: Grail Figures*, *Pentecost: Thomas Aquinas and the School of Spiritual Science*. *The Michael Imagination as a Pentecost Event*, and *Rudolf Steiner in St. Gallen: Visits, Lectures, and Meditations*, published by the Ita Wegman Institute Press (Arlesheim). At Schwabe (Basel/Berlin), the extensive work by Peter Selg *Rudolf Steiner and Anthroposophy: Studies on Life and Work*

appeared, as well as (together with Susanne H. Gross and M. Mochner) the second volume of the study *Anthroposophical Medicine, Pharmacy, and Curative Education*, dealing with Weleda and WALA from 1933 to 1945.

In German–English bilingual editions, the General Anthroposophical Section published, in cooperation with three international publishing houses (Switzerland/Germany, Romania, USA), a study edition of Rudolf Steiner's *Leading Thoughts*. A bilingual edition (German/English) of Peter Selg's book *Rudolf Steiner in Public Life* was also published. Constanza Kaliks published her lecture *The Conditions for a Global Educational Movement Focused on the Child: Rudolf Steiner's Educational Impulse*, which she delivered as part of a lecture series organized by the Goetheanum leadership for the 100th anniversary of Rudolf Steiner's death, in three languages (German, English, Spanish) in a single volume with the Goetheanum publishing house (Verlag am Goetheanum).

The activities of the General Anthroposophical Section at the Goetheanum in the 100th year since Rudolf Steiner's death represent only a small part of what was organized and accomplished in this spirit in so many countries. In the journal *Anthroposophy Worldwide*, impressive reports documented the rich spectrum of international initiatives, and many voices spoke about them at the Goetheanum.

In 2026, the focus of the General Anthroposophical Section will include events marking the 150th anniversary of Ita Wegman's birth on February 22 (together with the Medical Section and the Section for Inclusive Social Development), the international conference of publishers and translators in June, the Michaelmas conference "Cosmic Intelligence: The Learning Heart," and the conference on the 19 Class Lessons in November (see below). In addition, we will begin a series of events in the sense of in-depth seminars in 2026, to be continued in 2027 and 2028—on the mystery of creation (in 2026 based on Rudolf Steiner's book *Inner Experiences of Evolution* GA 132) and on the spiritual hierarchies and the destiny of the human being (based on the *Leading Thoughts* and the *Karma Lectures*). The individual dates will be announced in January 2026.

Book publications planned for 2026 by the General Anthroposophical Section and the Ita Wegman Institute include works on Rudolf Steiner's scientific conceptions in the 20th and 21st centuries (for the Goetheanum leadership), on Ita Wegman and the future of the School, and on Albert Schweitzer and Rudolf Steiner. Further plans include the publication of a



Book presentation and poster for "Courage of Healing" in 2026

chronicle of Ita Wegman (comparable to Christoph Lindenberg's Rudolf Steiner Chronicle), a bilingual edition of Rudolf Steiner's book *The Threshold of the Spiritual World*, the third and final volume of the NS documentation at Schwabe Anthroposophical Psychiatry and Curative Education 1933–1945, as well as two additional volumes in the series on figures of Jewish humanism (Volume 4: Gustav Landauer / Margarete Susman / Paul Celan / Emmanuel Levinas; Volume 5: Gershom Scholem / Hugo Bergman / Ernst Müller). If possible, completion is also planned for a volume of selected notebook entries by Rudolf Steiner from the Ita Wegman estate, as well as a study of the first three priests of the Christian Community in their relationship to Rudolf Steiner (Friedrich Rittelmeyer, Emil Bock, Rudolf Frieling). These publication projects could not yet be completed due to the many activities of the year 2025.

On the First Class

The Class Holders' Gathering at the Goetheanum in November was held under the motto "Rudolf Steiner and the Class Lessons" and, alongside many other themes, conversational motifs, and encounters, was characterized by a shared striving for a deepened understanding of the individual Class Lessons, the mantras and their articulation, the speaking hierarchies and the signs and seals. Many new Class Holders introduced themselves, and we remembered those who have passed away.

The School conference that followed immediately afterward, with the participation of all specialized Sections, was devoted to the formation of the first School communities in Rudolf Steiner's final period of life and work. It sought to make clear how work in all Sections began 100 years ago in Rudolf Steiner's professional collaboration with those responsible, how methods and working contexts were developed from which the various initiatives of the anthroposophical movement were spiritually inspired and dynamically unfolded.

We sent out Newsletters for School members at Easter and Michaelmas, each in five languages to all parts of the world; as the feedback shows, they are received with gratitude and contribute to the deepening of both individual and joint work. In the autumn of 2025, we launched an editorial series with three books entitled "The 19 Class Lessons: Study Contributions on the Foundations of the School for Spiritual Science", published by Verlag am Goetheanum. In its own way, the series seeks to open up further perspectives of insight for the inner engagement with the mantric content in connection with the Lessons and within the context of the School's overall development.

Uli Molsen published his study *The Rhythms of the Mantras in the Class Lessons*, Matthias Girke a work on the Three Tablets of the Michaeli School, and Constanza Kaliks and Peter Selg edited selected foundational essays from the Newsletters since Michaelmas 2021 (*The 19 Class Lessons: Studies on Intention, Composition, and Mantras*). We very much hope that



School Conference 2025 and publication on the First Class

These books will achieve wide circulation, are aiming for their translation into various languages, and will continue the publication series in 2026.

At the Goetheanum, beginning at Michaelmas 2025, a lecture and discussion series also began that will accompany the Class Lessons through to St. John's Day 2026 and is about the relationship of the Michael School to the spiritual cycle of the year.

In the first week of November 2026, all nineteen Class Lessons will once again be held within a single week at the Goetheanum—and this in various languages. During this time, the gathering of the Class Holders will take place, as well as meetings of the School members of the Sections and their various specialist fields. In this way, we hope not only to unfold a great intensity of shared work after the 100th anniversary of Rudolf Steiner's death, but also to be able to deepen the spiritualization of the professional fields of work.

In the early period of the development of the School following the Christmas Conference, the collegia of physicians and therapists, the priesthood of the Christian Community, the leading staff members of the curative education homes, and many of the scientists and artists of the School were involved. From the strength and spiritual intentions of the First Class and the School communities, the founding of the anthroposophical institutions succeeded, as did their continued work during a time of severe political and social pressure.

Much will depend, for the future of the School of Spiritual Science as well as for anthroposophical initiatives worldwide, on whether this relationship between professional work and the spiritual core can continue to be shaped and developed. In this respect, the conference in November 2026 is connected with great hope for the future. At Michaelmas 2028, the second Goetheanum building will mark its 100th anniversary, and with it its School. The erection of this powerful building between 1925 and 1928 was achieved in an impressive and dynamic manner; the inner and outer development of the School, with all its specialist fields, however, constitutes as a shared task for the future.

Finally, we would like to report that at the Class Holders' Gathering in November of this year, a group of Class Holders from Spain asked about themes that could be worked on jointly at the annual gatherings of Class members in Spain. From this arose the idea that such thematically centered members' conferences could take place annually in different countries, addressing motifs such as the Guardian of the Threshold in the 19 Class Lessons, light and darkness in the Class Lessons, Spiritual Hierarchies in general Anthroposophy and in the Class Lessons, the anthropology of the Class Lessons, the Michael Letters and the Michael School, the karma of the human being in general Anthroposophy and in the Class Lessons, the particular character of the September lessons, the Three Tablets, and the heart in general Anthroposophy and in the Class Lessons etc. If these (and other) topics were explored in the coming years in the various countries, the results and experiences could be brought into a general class-members' meeting at the Goetheanum in 2028 and serve the development of Anthroposophy, in the spirit of Elisabeth Vreede's words from January 1934:



"The essence of Anthroposophy – I have always felt it myself as a spiritual being newly created by Dr. Steiner, so to speak the first hierarchical being created by humans, very young and still imperfectly developed, like a child – a being that now, through our joint work as a 'community of knowledge' and with the cooperation of its creator from the spiritual world, remains only to be further developed."

We will continue to advance these ideas and hope for resonance!

We would like to thank the Class Members and Class Holders worldwide for the work accomplished in 2025 on behalf of the Goetheanum leadership. In 2025, 550 new members were admitted to the School; all the sincere applications and the endorsements of the Class Holders were read by us with great care, and the team of the General Anthroposophical Section made every effort to process them promptly. 71 new Class Holders began their work in 2025 – the largest number of new members in recent years. In total, 1,156 Class Holders are now active worldwide.

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We would like to sincerely thank you all for your interest in our events, publications, and work. We are also very grateful for the financial support we have received, which we rely on heavily. Like all departments at the Goetheanum, the General Anthroposophical Section operates with a small budget. We can only carry out the planned projects if the associated costs are covered. We seek this support from members, friends, and foundations, but at present, we are still well below the amount needed for the work, conferences, newsletters, and publications planned for 2026.

With warm Christmas greetings from the Goetheanum,

*Constanza Kaliks, Peter Selg
Andrea de la Cruz, Nicolas Criblez, Andrea Keim*

