

Göttliches Licht

Christus Sonne

erwärme unsre Herzen

erleuchte unsre Häupter

Dass gut werde

Was wir aus Herzen

gründen

aus Häuptern

lieblich führen wollen.

# Dass gut werde

*That Good May Become*

100 Years

Christmas Conference

at the Goetheanum

26 to 31 December

Christmas Conference 2023

Anthroposophie  
Schweiz Suisse Svizzera Svizra



# 100 Years Christmas Conference at the Goetheanum

**Dear conference members,**

With the Christmas Conference of 1923/1924 Rudolf Steiner intended to found a 'new human community' for Anthroposophy, to promote, develop and 'fully shape' the Anthroposophical Society – for the human soul of today and awareness of urgent civilizational tasks. He aimed to introduce a 'spirit of hope' to the meeting and celebrate the 'inner resurrection of the human soul' at a difficult and challenging time. The Anthroposophical Society and its School of Spiritual Science were to be newly founded, both spiritually and socially, and they were indeed. A world society for Anthroposophy was initiated that took hold of its task of combining the most profound esotericism with full publicity. The School with its Sections and publications were also made public: the spiritual impulses needed to enter the world where they were urgently needed.

The Christmas Conference in 2023/2024 will attempt to commemorate a century of historical events, strengthen the Anthroposophical Society and the School on the basis of these events but in different circumstances, continue to work more in-

tensively and carry this work into the future as the 'start of a World Turning point of Time'. The challenges have not become smaller. The 'courage to manage the anthroposophical affairs' is called for today more than ever, as is the spirit of hope, the earnestness, warmth and joy that informed the mood of the conference.

We look forward to welcoming you at the Goetheanum on the occasion of the centenary of that event!



Peter Selg  
*for the preparation team on behalf of the Goetheanum Leadership and the Executive Council Constanza Kaliks, Justus Wittich, Matthias Girke, Ueli Hurter, Peter Selg, Stefan Hasler, Gerald Häfner, Clara von Recklinghausen, and in collaboration with the Anthroposophical Society in Switzerland Clara Steinemann, Milena Kowarik and Marc Desales*

# Programme

## Sunday 24.12.

**16:00 Oberufer Paradise Play**

### **18:00 CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION**

Address by Marion Debus  
**Eurythmy performance**  
followed by cake and punch  
under the Christmas tree with  
music and carol singing

## Monday 25.12.

**10:00 Reading of the Foundation Stone Ceremony**

**11:00 4th September lesson**  
freely rendered, Oliver  
Conrad (for School members)

**16:00 Oberufer Shepherds' Play**

**20:00 CHRISTMAS CONCERT**  
Emmanuel Vukovich, violin  
Miguel Pisonero, piano

## Tuesday 26.12.

**11:00 LECTURE**  
From 'Symbol of the Human  
Soul' to 'Dodecahedral Stone  
of Love' – 1913 and 1923,  
Christiane Haid

**16:00 – 18:30 Open Campus**

**19:00 CONCERT**  
**Christmas Oratorio**  
Johann Sebastian Bach

## Wednesday 27.12.

**09:00 Welcome**  
Justus Wittich

**Foundation Stone Meditation in eurythmy with demonstrations**  
German

**READING: Laying the foundation stone of the General Anthroposophical Society on 25 December 1923**  
Brigitte Kowarik

**LECTURE: The Foundation Ceremony**  
Joan Mele (interpreted into  
German by Constanza Kaliks)

## Thursday 28.12.

**Foundation Stone Meditation in eurythmy with demonstrations**  
Russian

**LECTURE: The Anthroposophical Society**  
Pim Blomaard and  
Rik ten Cate

## Friday 29.12.

**Foundation Stone Meditation in eurythmy with demonstrations**  
English

**LECTURE: The School of Spiritual Science**  
Constanza Kaliks

## Saturday 30.12.

**Foundation Stone Meditation in eurythmy with demonstrations**  
Italian

**LECTURE: Ways towards the future**  
Andrea de la Cruz and  
Nathaniel Williams

## Sunday 31.12.

**09:00 'A beginning, a real beginning of life' \*\***  
Perspectives for  
the effectiveness of  
Anthroposophy

**11:00 Farewell brunch**

**19:00 WEGSPUREN (Traces)**  
Eurythmy performance

**20:30 NEW YEAR'S EVE ADDRESS**  
Ueli Hurter

**Welcoming the New Year around the fire**

**CONTEMPLATION ON THE RHYTHMS OF THE FOUNDATION STONE MEDITATION**  
Matthias Girke

**10:45**

**Interval**

**11:30**

**PANEL DISCUSSION**

**12:30**

**Lunch break**  
Guided tours and Open Campus

**14:45**

**Reports on research activities in the sections**  
(Details to follow)

**15:30**

**SPECIALIZED COURSES**  
**Further training courses on different topics in anthroposophical research around the world**  
(registration required, 15 minutes break ca. 16.30)

**MEMBERS' FORUM**  
Members' initiatives and  
impulses from the World  
Conference\*

**18:00**

**Supper break / Open Campus**

**20:00**

**SPEAKING**  
**of verse 4 of the Foundation Stone Meditation**

Finnish

Hebrew

Japanese

German

**LECTURES**  
**on the development of the school of spiritual science**

**The Mysteries of Ephesus**  
Peter Selg

**The School of Chartres**  
Peter Selg


**The Rosicrucian Mysteries**  
Christine Gruwez

**The Guardian of the Threshold**  
Marc Desaulles

**EURYTHMY PERFORMANCE**  
**Motifs from World History in the Light of Anthroposophy**

ends ca. 21.40

 **Christmas Conference with conference ticket**

 **Christmas programme at the Goetheanum with collection, no translation**

\* Would you like to make a contribution or present an initiative? Please register by 4 October at [weihnachtstagung@goetheanum.ch](mailto:weihnachtstagung@goetheanum.ch)

\*\* Cf. GA 240 (6 February 1924)

# Specialized courses

*The following specialized courses will be in English.*

*For further courses in other languages please see the German Flyer.*

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07 DE/EN

## **Transformative encounters with the Guardian of the Threshold** **The 19 stages of the Michael School's path of knowledge**

*Matthias Girke, Medical Section, Claus Peter Röh, General Anthroposophical Section, Carina Schmid, eurythmist*

The experience of crucial situations within the 19 lessons will be followed by conversation and eurythmy. Transformative situations can be experienced during the entire path. We will also look at the connection of the path with the work of the Section.

*Please bring eurythmy shoes and your blue card.  
For members of the School of Spiritual science*

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22 DE/EN

## **Learning to learn as adult education for awakening the will**

*Benno Otter, Goetheanum gardener, Hans Supenkämper, DEMETER consultant*

What happens when the seven life processes are transformed into learning processes? Practical exercises will allow us to experience the far-reaching impact this learning path has on our life, individual development and the presence that is urgently needed in our time.

*\* C. van Houten, *Awakening the Will. Principles and Processes in Adult Learning**

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23 DE/EN

## **A new approach to money for the anthroposophical movement**

*Marc Desaulles, L'Aubier*

Learning how, in the 20th century, money gains unexpected potential, how it emerges in a new way in human interactions and how it can be used humanely and in keeping with our time as buying money, lending money and gift money. Practising how to activate initiative and will forces in order to create space for free and committed individuals. With examples.

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24 DE/EN/DK

## **Encounter in space and time.** **Sculpting course**

*Ulrikke Stokholm, Sculpture School/ a t k a*

In listening we will open our hearts to converse with the stars. Hands can imprint the heart's impressions of the great nights into the silent clay. Hands can express the heart's wishes for the stars in the clay and so reply to the stars.

*\* 'Stars once spoke to human beings ...' Rudolf Steiner to Marie Steiner on 25 December 1922, GA 40*

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26 DE/EN/NL

## **... and one day the earth will shine like a star ...**

*Rik ten Cate, sculptor*

With the help of heavenly and earthly forces we will melt and pour metals. We need the fire to create form. In this process we will address both angelic and elementary forces. We will learn to deal with heat to be able to create form.

*Please bring warm clothes.*

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27 EN

## **The cosmic background to present times and that of the Christmas Conference 1922/23**

*Alan Thewless, Mathematical Astronomical Section*

By taking the steps through astronomy to astrology and into astrosophy, we begin to sense the great work that is connecting our human pathway to the true image of what it is to be human. This journey informs both our daily life and our appreciation of world events.

*\* GA 228 (lecture of 27 July 1923), *Astronomy and the Imagination*. Norman Davidson, *Astronomy and Spiritual Science*. *Astronomical letters of Elisabeth Vreede*.*

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28 EN

## **May Human Beings Hear It!** **The Community Building forces of the Foundation Stone**

*Vlad Popa, Anthroposophical Society Rumania*

Through the seven modules of the course, accompanied by the rhythms of the Christmas Conference, we will try to understand how we can place the Foundation Stone in our hearts as the groundwork for our community that works with Michael, the spirit of our time, and with Christ, on the task of bringing the spiritual impulses necessary for the evolution of humanity and of the earth.

*\* F. W. Zeylmans van Emmichoven, The Foundation Stone; Sergei O. Prokofieff, May Human Beings Hear It!*

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29 EN

## **Biography Work: Awakening to Personal Destiny & Life Questions**

*Marah Evans, biographical counselor*

This an introduction to biography and life phase work integrating Steiner's 3-level karma exercise for better understanding some aspects of personal capacities for resilience and also psychological challenge. This will include introductory content and personal sharing guided in small groups. The course aims to introduce a method for enhancing self-knowledge.

*\* GA 236, Lecture VI, 4 May 1924; Gudrun Burkhard, Taking Charge - Your Life Patterns and Their Meaning.*

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30 EN

## **Helping to threefold society through our daily life and profession**

*Seth Jordan, Writer & Organizer*

All of our actions — both large and small — have an effect on society; they create the conditions for greater well-being or suffering. We can understand the deeper effects of our personal and professional actions by coming to understand the lawfulness of social life. Participants will receive an orientation towards social healing and a better idea of how to work transformatively in their own lives.

*\* <https://thewholesocial.substack.com/p/christmas-conference-reading>*

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31 EN

## **The revival of Speech Formation and Drama and the building of new community life**

*Mirjam & Yakov Arnan, heads of Israeli Speech and Drama training*

In this workshop we will experience and explore Steiner's impulse for the mystery of the word. Through the art of speech formation, inflamed by the dramatic art, we will look for its mission on the developmental path of our time and as a core activity in the building and growth of the communities of the future.

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32 EN

## **Deepening an understanding of Autism as a developmental challenge of recent times.**

*James Dyson MD*

In this seminar, as a background for understanding the so-called 'autistic spectrum', we will address the deeper dynamics of Anthroposophic sense psychology, including the role of the life processes, the ethers and the elements as foundations for establishing healthy soul processes. We will also consider factors, inner and outer, that may be contributing to the seemingly rapid increase in 'neurodiversity' over recent decades and consider the inner nature of these accompanying challenges.

**\* Recommended preparatory reading**

## OPEN CAMPUS

Opening hours for the venues below will be displayed at the information desk:

- Special exhibition with original blackboard drawings by Rudolf Steiner for the 1923 Christmas Conference  
*Nordsaal*
- Building history and model of the First Goetheanum  
*Schreinerei - Südsaal links (on the left)*
- Adjacent buildings – architectural models  
*South staircase – 5th floor*
- Sculpture group: The Representative of Humanity between Lucifer and Ahriman  
*Exhibition Room, South, 5th floor*
- Edith Maryon's Room  
*In the lower Eurythmy House*
- Hochatelier
- Rudolf Steiner's Studio
- Goethe Metamorphosis  
*Mittelraum (central room) in the Glass House*

## GUIDED TOURS

From 27 to 30 December at 1.30 pm. Please register at the Information Desk

## INTERPRETATION

The conference will be interpreted into English, Spanish, French and Italian. If possible, bring your own smartphone and headphones.

## MEMBERS' FORUM ON 31 DECEMBER

Would you like to make a contribution or introduce an initiative? Please register by 4 October at [weihnachtstagung@goetheanum.ch](mailto:weihnachtstagung@goetheanum.ch)

## REGISTRATION

Please book by 12 December  
<https://goetheanum.ch/en/events/dass-gut-werde>  
Phone +41 61 706 44 44

## PRICES

The price that covers the costs of the conference is 480 CHF.

Please feel free to choose what you are able to pay as a contribution to the conference costs. Refreshments during intervals, lunch and a festive evening buffet on 30 December are included in the conference price. Supper and parking permits can be booked.

## HELP WITH TRAVEL COSTS

If you travel from further away and need financial help with travel costs, please apply to the travel fund of the Anthroposophical Society in Switzerland. You find the application form in the Ticket Shop.

## ACCOMMODATION

Group accommodation in the Birseck School can be booked online. See Ticket Shop

GOETHEANUM

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www.goetheanum.org

26.12, 7 pm  
**Christmas Oratorio**  
Johann Sebastian Bach  
(Cantatas I – III)

**Pour Choeur Vocal Ensemble**  
**Capriccio Baroque Orchestra**

**Directors:** Samuel Strub, Marco Beltrani

**Soloists:** Jakob Pilgram (evangelist),  
Lisa Weiss, Seraphin Heusser

*Anthroposophie*  
Schweiz Suisse Svizzera Svizra

 Goetheanum