

FALL 2006 LECTURE SCHEDULE

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY IN PITTSBURGH



THE OBJECTS OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY: To form a nucleus of the Universal Brother & Sisterhood of Humanity regardless of race, sex, caste, creed or color. To encourage the study of comparative religion, philosophy and science. To investigate the unexplained laws of nature and the powers latent in humanity.

PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW ROOM ASSIGNMENT!

All lectures are presented Sundays from 1:30 to approx. 3:00 PM and are held in room 1500 on the 1st floor of Posvar Hall (formerly the Forbes Quad. classroom building) on the Campus of Pitt University (next to the Hillman Library). Attendees need not be a member of the society. Unless otherwise indicated, all programs may be attended free of charge. Call our 24-hour automated phone system at (412) 462-4200 for the most current information on lectures and Society sponsored events. This number will have all the latest information on weather and unforeseen cancellations. Officers can be reached at this same number.

October

22nd

THE HISTORY OF SEX - Documentary

Would you believe that Mesopotamian men considered women property and that divine masturbation created Egypt, that there were no virgins, and that some mummies had erect phalluses? In classical Greece, husbands had their pick of sexual partners and proper wives went dildo shopping. However sensational this may sound, the commentary from a diverse and insightful panel of academics and the rich selection of historic images make this a tasteful and informative - *History of Sex*.

29th

THE PARANORMAL POWERS & SPIRITUALITY:

The Relevance/Irrelevance of Psychic Abilities to Inner Evolution – Ted Kneupper

The development of psychical abilities is often equated with the attainment of spiritual superiority. Indeed, many great spiritual teachers have been attributed with remarkable supernatural abilities. Here we will inquire whether such abilities are indeed essential to or indicative of genuine spiritual attainment, and their overall place in spirituality.

The Theosophical Society in Pittsburgh

November

5th

DOUBLE FEATURE

LECTURE:

LOOKING THROUGH A GLASS DARKLY:

Shadows, Devils and all things Evil – Ruth & Charque Newell

"Please to remember

The fifth of November

Gunpowder, treason and plot."

Join Spiritual teachers and advisors Ruth and Charque Newell for a look at opposite polarities, their impact, their purpose, and, of course, Guy Fawkes.

MOVIE:

V for VENDETTA – *“Remember, remember the fifth of November...”* See details page 4

12th

EMBRACING IMPERMINANCE – Phil Janetta

The teaching of impermanence is a primary tenet of Buddhism. Phil will discuss the concept's meaning, implications and practical applications in our own lives. Used correctly, the awareness of impermanence can enable us to base our lives on the Absolute while fully embracing daily life.

19th

HOW TO MAKE YOUR PERSONAL SACRED SPACE – Frank DeAngelis

Join spiritual teacher and Parapsychologist Frank DeAngelis for a look into the personal universe of sacred space. Within the cocoon of this personal cosmos learn to meditate, heal, solve personal dilemmas and speak to the spirits.

26th

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY – NO MEETING

December

3rd

DOUBLE FEATURE

LECTURE:

YES VIRGINIA – THERE IS A SANTA CLAUS - Kris Kringle

In 1897 the New York Sun answered eight-year-old Virginia O'Hanlon by saying Santa Claus existed "as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist" - but is that accurate - or is there more to tell? Come participate in this *NEW AND IMPROVED* timely investigation into the life of one of the Earth's more controversial seasonal guests. Is Santa merely the world's most popular uncompensated salesman or is he more "Myth" and "Archetype"? What meaning (if any) does he have for modern culture? Come see for yourself. If you've been good - maybe you will get a present.

MOVIE:

A CHRISTMAS CAROL – *“Bah! Humbug!”* See details page 4

10th

LECTURE TRINITY

A Study in How to See – Edward Drivers

Ed will share the different means of perception or analysis.

Learn the Rules of Perception and how to improve yours.

“You cannot see what you do not know.”

A Rose is a Rose is a Rose... – Richard Herman

Plants reflect the ground they grow in just as the stories we tell reflect the assumptions we have about the world and ourselves. What are those assumptions?

Symbols, Duality & Identity – Andrea Harman

As a Master once said, “Don’t look at my hand, see where it is pointing”. Symbols and myths are here to guide us to awareness but our addition to fixed opinions limit our reality, our identity and therefore our life. Come and join us as we listen to some stories and question our own.



December cont.

17th CENTENNIAL MEETING – *No Speaker*

Next year the Pittsburgh Theosophical Lodge will be 100 years old! So it's only appropriate that we plan a celebration. We've done things differently than other Theosophical Society's around the world - a plan that's left us with a diverse audience that is much larger than our formal membership. Member or no if you'd like to help us plan and execute our centennial celebration please come and offer your support.

ENJOY THE HOLIDAYS! SEE YOU IN JANUARY!

Speaker's Biographies

Frank DeAngelis is one of the few parapsychologists in the Pittsburgh area. He has been actively involved in the study and research of parapsychology and the occult sciences since 1973. Mr. De Angelis is a part-time instructor at CCAC and has had an ongoing series of classes on parapsychology, psychic development and different occult topics since 1981. He has personally conducted research and study into 38 area "hauntings" in the tri-state region and has acted as an advisor on numerous other cases.

Edward Divers is a Korean War Veteran who grew up in Homestead. He has a BA in Mechanical Engineering and while working at the Bureau of Mines was asked to investigate Perception. He read all the books he could find at that time (10) and could not escape the common themes, which he will share with you today.

Andrea Harman has studied esoteric teachings for 30 years. She has been involved with the Theosophical Society since 1992 and is the current the secretary and part time cook.

Richard Herman is a gardener/landscaper working in the Sewickley area for the past 30 years. He designs and installs gardens and garden architecture.

Phil Janetta is an internationally known Feng Shui teacher and consultant, as well as a published author. He comes to this county after spending over 15 years in Asia as a student, teacher and consultant and where he studied Feng Shui with professional Chinese practitioners, Taoist scholars and Buddhist monks. For more than a decade Mr. Janetta operated a successful consulting practice in Tokyo. His advice was based on the principals of Ch'I energy, and their application to physical and mental well being. Since returning to the U.S., Phil has appeared on television and radio, and in major newspapers. He consults and lectures throughout the US, Europe and the Far East, and regularly teaches at the University of Pittsburgh and Community College of Allegheny County. His published works include co-authorship of several books with Michio Kushi, including the acclaimed "Macrobiotics and Oriental Medicine."

Dr. Theodore Kneupper received his Ph.D. in 1972 from the University of Louvain (Belgium), where he focused on the foundations of modern science from a phenomenological perspective. His interests have since expanded to questions concerning the nature of consciousness. He has traveled to the Orient, meeting and discussing existential ideas with numerous masters and scientists in those traditions. Most recently he has been seriously involved in the study of the teachings of J. Krishnamurti and "A Course In Miracles." Dr. Kneupper is keenly concerned with the development of practical understanding and application of 'inner' teachings in the context of the urgent problems facing modern human beings. He is former chair of the Slippery Rock College Philosophy Department.

Kris Kringle comes to Pittsburgh due to an exchange program between the FOEF (Fraternal Order of Elves & Fairies) Workshop #1 and the Pittsburgh Theosophical Lodge. While Mr. Kringle is speaking, Pittsburgh Theosophical Society president Andrew Nesky will be hosting a North Pole discussion group on the topic "Sentient Human Beings - Fact or Fantasy" (some disputed photographic "evidence" will be analyzed as part of the discussion). Mr. Kringle is an authority on his existence and the role of reindeer in inter-dimensional time travel.

Andrew Nesky is the president of the Theosophical Society in Pittsburgh. He has twice been elected to the position of Master of a Masonic Lodge and is a published writer. An actor with regional credits, he also lectures on the subject of metaphysics and human development and coaches high-school competitive public speaking, specializing in value-based

FALL 2006 LECTURE SCHEDULE



Speaker's Biographies cont.

Lincoln-Douglas format debate. In addition to being a ULC Minister, he has hosted the web-casted talk show "Science and the Outer Streams" which investigates the frontiers of human thought, science and spirituality.

Ruth and Charque Newell (also known as "Tarot with Ruth and Charque") operate THE UPPER ROOM, A School of Mysticism, where they also give readings and workshops. They practice and teach their version of "Practical Mysticism", using various metaphysical tools: Tarot, Runes, I Ching, Dreams, Meditation, A course in Miracles, and Nature's Mysteries. Ruth and Charque can be reached at (412) 731-3747

Theosophical Society Movie Series

Ever finish a movie and say, "Wow – that was *really* deep," maybe wishing you had some way to further explore the ideas you'd just encountered? *Well wish no more!* Join the Theosophical Society once each month after a scheduled lecture to view some of the finest "deep" movies and documentaries ever made. Each month the movie will be introduced by a member or guest lecturer and then after the movie – stay for the discussion and questions! (*See the main schedule for dates and times*)

V for VENDETTA – Drama, 2006

Director: James McTeigue

Writing Credits: Andy & Larry Wachowski (Matrix)

Run Time: 132 mins

Rating: R

Featuring: Natalie Portman, Hugo Weaving, Stephen Rea, Stephen Fry, John Hurt, Tim Pigott-Smith

Description: "Set against the futuristic landscape of totalitarian Britain, V For Vendetta tells the story of a mild-mannered young woman named Evey (Natalie Portman) who is rescued from a life-and-death situation by a masked vigilante known only as "V." Incomparably charismatic and ferociously skilled in the art of combat and deception, V ignites a revolution when he detonates two London landmarks and takes over the government-controlled airwaves, urging his fellow citizens to rise up against tyranny and oppression. As Evey uncovers the truth about V's mysterious background, she also discovers the truth about herself - and emerges as his unlikely ally in the culmination of his plot to bring freedom and justice back to a society fraught with cruelty and corruption."

A CHRISTMAS CAROL – Drama, 1951

Director: Bryan Desmond Hurst

Run Time: 86 mins

Rating: NR

Featuring: Alastair Sim, Kathleen Harrison, Mervyn Johns, Hermione Baddeley, Michael Hordern

Description: "This is the desert-island choice of the many versions of *A Christmas Carol*, with a magnificent, full-bodied portrayal of Ebenezer Scrooge by Alastair Sim that leaves everyone else in the dust. Lean and direct, this film's version of the story wastes no time trying to impress viewers with the magical nature of the spirits' visitations. Director Brian Desmond Hurst keeps the focus on Scrooge's life story, beautifully simplifying and underscoring the theme of lost women with a haunting musical refrain from the folk song "Barbara Allen." Sim's commitment to the role is at times astonishing; his Scrooge's Christmas-morning ecstasy is a marvel of giddy technique. Watch for Patrick Macnee (Steed in *The Avengers*) as the young Jacob Marley--the actor made his screen debut in this 1951 production."

For information call (412) 462-4200