

WINTER 2007 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.

Unless otherwise announced, 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 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.

2007: Celebration and Challenge

This year is the Pittsburgh Theosophical Lodge's centennial. We're planning to celebrate by sponsoring a fall conference that will investigate the subject of Enlightenment. Plans are progressing well. Special thanks to all of you that have dedicated your efforts to making our event a success.

In contrast to this celebratory mood, our group has encountered some difficult news about our meeting place. As many of you know, Pitt University has been our home for over 15 years, and has been very good to us. We have prospered in this location. However, this January when we requested our usual room assignment we found that our meetings will be more costly than ever before. An unexpected policy change means that, in addition to our regular expenses, we must allocate an additional fifty dollars per meeting to cover the university's costs.

We are researching funding sources and other alternatives, but the immediate future of our residence at Pitt depends on your generosity. The money you donate at the close of every meeting has been our primary source of funds. Our average collection (as it has been) cannot support our new expenses.

We've committed to fewer meetings than our usual winter schedule to help us develop the best solution to this problem without incurring too burdensome an expense. Your increased financial help is critical. Please help us keep our group moving forward.

Thank you all.

Namaste

Andrew Nesky
President
The Theosophical Society in Pittsburgh.

The Theosophical Society in Pittsburgh

February

4th **A STILL SMALL VOICE**
Mysticism & the Search for Religious Understanding – Documentary
Religious leaders and scholars from nine countries probe the question of the mystical in the modern world, while ordinary individuals recount their own mystical experiences. Join us for the 1-hour documentary and then stay for discussion!

11th **DOUBLE FEATURE**
CONSCIOUS LOVE – Andrew Nesky
What is Love? How does it come to us? What can we do to have more of it in our lives? The concept of Love is a key tenet of virtually every religion in the world, but what do the mystics and prophets really mean when they tell us, “simply”, to “love” each other? Join Theosophical Society President Andrew Nesky for this timely discussion of this primarily important concept.

MOVIE!

SCORCHERS

Plumb the depths of human relationships and the female psyche. (*See description: Page 4*)

18th **LECTURE TRINITY**
THE MYTH OF SISYPHUS – Richard Herman
Richard will offer a reexamination of the Myth of Sisyphus. Many people are searching for stories of healing-- stories that might heal the rift between ourselves and others and between ourselves and nature. Perhaps Sisyphus could help us in that search.

MOSES, THE ATHEIST – James Arnold

There is a huge inconsistency in how the Bible portrays Moses. How did this divergence happen; and by whose hand was it reported –who wrote the Old Testament?

"THE FORTH WAY" 101 – Andrea Harman

A brief introduction to the teachings of "The Work" from the writings by Maurice Nicholl entitled, "Psychological Commentaries on the Teaching of Gurdjieff and Ouspensky". The depth of this teaching touches every religion and belief system; including non-belief. "The Work" can help integrate paradoxes in thought, science, religion and cultural differences. The wholeness of this teaching interprets dream, symbols and includes divination. Tools will be presented that can be used daily for a practical application in the development of spirit and psychological awakening no matter your interests or religious background.

25th **NADA BRAHMA: The World is Sound** – Nelson Harrison
The Technological Revolution is in full sway and its influence affects not only the present and future but history as well. Shall we abdicate our active involvement as stewards of the blue planet or can we access abilities that can counteract the increasing imbalance of Yang over Yin that threatens us all.

March

4th **PITT UNIVERSITY SPRING BREAK – NO MEETING**

11th **PITT UNIVERSITY SPRING BREAK – NO MEETING**

18th **DOUBLE FEATURE**
CARING FOR THE DEPARTED



March Cont.

Why We Should & How We Can – Phil Janetta

A practical and common sense approach to our participation in the larger dimensions of life.

MOVIE!

BIG FISH

A son tries to find the truth of his father's life. (*See description: Page 4*)

25th

REBIRTH:

Religious & Philosophical Theories of Reincarnation – Ted Kneupper

Although the belief in reincarnation is widely accepted among many traditions, it is not generally appreciated that there are differences concerning what it involves. Here we will consider several of the important religious and philosophical theories concerning rebirth, as well as reasons for (and critical of) those views. Our intention is to obtain a better grasp of what a belief in reincarnation involves and why such a belief may, or not be, wise.

Speaker's Biographies

James Arnold is a spiritualist, experienced in the phenomena known as "direct voice". He has a B.A. in Philosophy from Northwestern University, engaged in graduate studies at Berkeley and audited a year at Jewish Theological Seminary.

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.

Nelson E. Harrison, Ph. D., ASCAP, clinical psychologist, educator, composer, arranger, trombonist, clinician, veteran of the Count Basie Orchestra featuring Joe Williams, Sarah Vaughan, Helen Humes, Joe Turner, Eddie Vinson, Dennis Rowland (1978-81); played with Kenny Clarke (1979), Billy Eckstine and Earl "Fatha" Hines (1975), Jay McShann (1987), Slide Hampton (1986); recorded with Walt Harper (1969), Nathan Davis (1970). Composer credits consist of over 400 original compositions; an original taped score for the road-show version of the August Wilson's Pulitzer Prize winning "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom; four compositions in the Georg Stanford Brown movie "Stuck with Each Other" co-starring Tyne Daly and Richard Crenna; the entire score for the world premiere performance of "The Man Who Lived Underground," sound track cues in "Santa Claws" feature horror film by producer/screenwriter John Russo (Night of the Living Dead) (1996); composed and performed entire musical score for "Saloonatics" feature film by John Russo (2002).

Producer/director/performer credits include: musical director for WQED-TV's award winning "Black Horizons Show for 6 years; producer of Nancy Wilson's 25th Anniversary Concert in Pittsburgh; appearance as a trombonist in the touring orchestra in the made-for TV movie entitled "The Temptations." Playwright of "The World According to Bop," series of 5 Boprettas based on storylines from over 150 original lyrics to bebop and hard bop standards now in pre-production.

Developer of a "Whole-brain Approach to Jazz Mastery," a 7-step career-path endorsed by Billy Eckstine, Max Roach, Ahmad Jamal and others.

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."

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Biographies Cont.

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 the former chairman of the Slippery Rock University Philosophy Department.

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 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. The show can be viewed at www.inecom.com/outer

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*)

BIG FISH – Drama

Director: Tim Burton

Run Time: 125 min

Starring: Ewan McGregor, Albert Finney, Billy Crudup, Jessica Lange,

Description: The story revolves around a dying father and his son, who is trying to learn more about his dad by piecing together the "truth" of the often incredible stories his father recounted over the years. As the son sets out on his journey of discovery, he finds himself deeply immersed in realities that are far beyond any he formerly knew.

SCORCHERS – Comedy/Drama

Director: David Beaird

Run Time: 81 min

Starring: Faye Dunaway, Denholm Elliott, James Earl Jones, Emily Lloyd, Jennifer Tilly,

Description: Bayou La Teche, Louisiana sizzles as the Cajun town celebrates the wedding of Splendid and Dolan. The trouble comes on the wedding night when Splendid is determined to maintain her innocence. On the other side of town Splendid's cousin has her own problems. Her man has been sleeping with Thais, the town hooker. She heads to the Tiger Cafe with gun in hand to get back her man. Deep issues of relationship and love are explored in this little known, but star-studded, film.

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For information call (412) 462-4200