

MYTHIC JOURNEYS DAILY SCHEDULE

Pre-Conference

(Please note: This schedule will be updated periodically and may be subject to change. Additionally, it does not include the full musical performance schedule, which will be available soon.)



THURSDAY — *Creation*

This day is dedicated to Creation and creativity. It is a day for appreciating and apprehending the inspiration and imagination that fire the great Creation and our small creations. It is also a day to put in a word for the will, the capacity to do more than imagine, to do, to bring in, to bring down, to bring up into our middle earth the fruits of our imaginings.

Many stories, including those of modern science, imagine the world as coming into being through song, music, rhythm and vibration. The world is imagined as arriving inside a Word, the Creation as a vast dance.

All things came at once and yet they evolve. (And Time. Amazing. The fourth dimension is the most difficult to get, we barely do.) All things came at once: beauty and exile, joy and death, home and elsewhere.

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM

Wake Up Well — Participatory Activities (see Main Conference Schedule for descriptions)

Choose from among a number of activities to help you start the day: dream sharing, tai chi, and dance.

9 AM – 10:30 AM

The Mythic Morning

Greeting the Day ritual by Chief Jake Swamp

Welcome from Michael Karlin

A Few Words from James Hillman

The Big Story: Creation from the *Kalevala*. Flautist Ulla Suokko weaves her playing, singing and chanting through the creation of the world as it is made from music.

Workshops and Presentations

11 AM – 12:30 PM

As Above So Below: The Way of the Celestial Lights

Rebecca Armstrong

Human Beings in every place and every time have spontaneously mythologized their world. Through his comprehensive study of world mythology, Joseph Campbell, building on the work of Leo Frobenius, noted that there have been four great epochs of mythology: The Way of the Animal Powers; The Way of the Seeded Earth; The Way of the Celestial Lights; The Way of the Human. While these emerged in a chronological order, none of them has vanished from the planet or from the dreambody of humankind, but still live on in the human psyche. In 3200 BC a mythic paradigm shift of enormous significance occurred when the patterns of the heavenly bodies became known and human societies gathered together in cities spread upon the earth but with the architecture of heaven. Through dream, storytelling, ritual, music, poetry and movement, we will explore the profound implications of this epoch on our personal and public lives. (CEUs Available)

Bardic Reveries: A Program of Songs, Stories and Poems

Peter S. Beagle, James Flannery

Featuring singer, stage director and Yeats scholar James Flannery and Peter S. Beagle, renowned author of *The Last Unicorn* and *A Fine and Private Place*.

Burn the Barn

Pittman McGehee

The Zen poet Masahide writes:

The barn's burnt down...

Now I can see the moon.

Spirituality is the deep human longing to move the transcendent into the immanent through experience and reflection. This lecture/workshop will consider the illusions the ego builds, as defenses against life's inevitable anxiety and pain. These illusions may keep us from seeing the transcendent truth, thus leaving us dis-illusioned. What are the barns we build that keep us from seeing the moon? (CEUs Available)

Cinema as a Sacred Art

Joe Kulin, Mickie Lemle, Kevin Peer, Michael Tobias

Celebrated documentary producers/directors Michael Tobias, Mickey Lemle, and Kevin Peer join Joseph Kulin of Parabola's "Cinema of the Spirit" to address questions such as: What makes an event, artifact or vision sacred? What are prime examples of cinema as a sacred art? What kind of cinema encourages the development of an inner spiritual life?

Magic Rings in Mythic Narratives

Wendy Doniger

Magic rings sometimes make people forget, sometimes remember, who they are or who they love. A comparison of such rings in ancient Indian myths, medieval French and German narratives, and Wagnerian opera reveals the ways in which storytellers can reach for rings as alibis when they find themselves trapped in a moral quandary within a romantic narrative.

A Myth for The 20th Century? Mythopoeia and World-building in the Tolkien's Lord of the Rings.

Ari Berk, Verlyn Flieger, Alan Lee

A conversation focusing on the resonance of ancient stories in Tolkien's modern mythic fiction, and the ways in which Tolkien's mythic telling have been illustrated, retold and adapted in art and film.

Orpheus, Shamanic Singer

William Doty

Beyond obvious elements such as Orpheus's dismemberment, there are shamanic, particularly dramatic elements, and especially the sheer power and control of the utterances between speech and writing. Poetry is particularly there, of the sort of immediate speech that brings us an experience of the power of "the other."

The World Behind the World: Mythic Sense and the Re-imagination of the World

Michael Meade

There are risks the soul wants to take, discoveries that require a "mythic sense," a leap of the Old Mind resonating with core dreams, living stories and the body breaking open to Nature's undying song. Thus, Myth and Nature conspire, inner and outer converse, the hidden appears and the world awakens again. (CEUs Available)

The White Bear King

Robert Bly

Robert Bly tells the story of the White Bear King Valemon, which is a spectacularly beautiful Norwegian story with many resemblances to the Amor and Psyche myth. Instead of Amor, the divine personage is called the White Bear King Valemon. Includes discussions with the audience as the storytelling proceeds from one part of the story to another. (CEUs Available)

The Big Conversations

2 PM – 3:30 PM

The Endurance of Pain in the Service of Love

Robert Bly, Marion Woodman

Robert Bly and Marion Woodman discuss the White Bear King story, which Robert Bly told earlier in the day. The story begins with the warning that young women who are a little bit too attached to their fathers may not be the ones who get to marry the White Bear King. Some enthusiasm for life outside the family home is required. The central part of the story goes over the grief so well described in Greek stories when the young woman, in her desire to see her Lover, moves out of the darkness in which their lovemaking has always taken place, lights a candle, and lifts it. This moment is done supremely in this story. When a drop of hot wax hits the shoulder of her lover, he turns back into the White Bear and rushes away. The young woman follows, and her life of deprivation and grief begins. Robert and Marion will relate this story to other epics of its kind, to what Jungian psychology has to say about this sort of suffering, and finally what is necessary — what sort of endurance of pain is needed — to bring the love affair back on track. (CEUs Available)

Sources: Seeds and Sparks

Phil Cousineau (mod), Wendy Doniger, James Hillman, Huston Smith

How do different views of origins live in the present? Are they important or do we need each moment to be original? (CEUs Available)

Tension: Exile, Evil, Sacrifice, Meaning, Gnosis

Betty Sue Flowers, Michael Meade, Bradd Shore (mod), Richard Smoley, Robert Walter

Within our images of what is good, wise and beautiful are profound and awful tensions. What purpose do opposites serve? (CEUs Available)

Workshops and Presentations

4 PM — 5:30 PM

Crossing Borders in Myth and Art

Living Room with Ellen Kushner, Heinz Insu Fenkl, Karen Joy Fowler, Gregory Frost, Delia Sherman, Midori Snyder, Terri Windling

In myth, we learn to become border crossers, stepping over the boundary lines between the human world and the spirit world, between civilization and wilderness, between the known and the great unknown. Standing at the crossroads are Hermes, Coyote, and other border denizens to guide us... or lead us astray. Borders are dangerous places, and ones rich in possibility. This

discussion on crossing boundaries is lead by members of the Interstitial Arts Foundation, a nonprofit group dedicated to border-crossing in contemporary arts.

The Dark Side of Myth

Sam Keen

All too often people interested in myth go toward the stories that promise wisdom, enlightenment, harmony and happiness and ignore the dark side of mythology. Every culture creates myths that sanctify the killing of enemies. The archetypes of the hostile imagination are universal, pervasive and central to creating the myth of the inevitability of war. Paradoxically, the only hope we have of living in relative peace is to reown the evil we project onto our enemies. This workshop consists of three illustrated talks: The Art of Enemymaking. The New Enemy. Beyond Enmity. (CEUs Available)

The Force, The Matrix, and the Muse: Hollywood's Quest for Meaning

Christopher Vogler

Hollywood has co-opted some of the language and ideas of depth psychology in its quest to reach the broadest possible international audiences with its epic visions. How conscious is Hollywood of what it is doing, and how responsible? What hidden cultural assumptions lurk in its Western interpretation of universal myths and symbols? Where are we headed with new technologies for storytelling and tapping the power of the unconscious? Hollywood story consultant and scriptwriter Christopher Vogler chairs this workshop on how myth gets into the movies.

Gnosis: The Heart of Inner Christianity

Richard Smoley

The most ancient texts and traditions in Christianity speak of *gnosis*, a mysterious inner illumination that provides the key to our true nature. What is gnosis, and how do we find it in ourselves? In this seminar, Richard Smoley explores this method of awakening, which lies at the heart of the inner Christian tradition. He also offers a guided meditation to help open up participants to an experience of gnosis. (CEUs Available)

Godiva and White Riding Performance and Discussion

Nor Hall, Carran Waterfield

Triangle theatre's Carran Waterfield in solo, "Godiva the Naked Politician" and Nor Hall's lecture "White Riding" will be given in joint performance in an event celebrating the famous naked protest ride of Lady Godiva. She rode through the English town of Coventry in the 11th century to free the people from excess tax. Legend tells that only Peeping Tom dared look. Other sources noted for Hall's part: Helene Cixous, HD, Robert Duncan, Marina Warner. (CEUs Available)

One-hour performance followed by discussion.

Joseph Campbell's Mythic Journey

Robin and Stephen Larsen

What inspired the man who inspired so many, with his translucent perspective on the world's great spiritual traditions? Until he looked back, at the end of his days, Campbell did not know that his own journey was in a sense guided by invisible wisdom (and secret helpers). As people who knew, loved, and studied with Campbell for over twenty-five years, and wrote his authorized biography: *A Fire in the Mind*, Stephen and Robin Larsen are uniquely privileged to bring this story to participants of the Mythic Journey conference. Stephen and Robin also edited *Baksheesh and Brahman*, Campbell's Indian Journals, and Stephen is the author of a book entitled *The Mythic Imagination*, dedicated to and inspired by Campbell's work. (CEUs Available)

The Krispy Kreme Story

Scott Livengood

With Scott Livengood, President/CEO Krispy Kreme Doughnut Corporation. Hear the visionary thinking and tactical plan that took Krispy Kreme from a \$50 million company to a \$2 billion company.

The Quest for the Green Man

John Matthews

The Green Man is one of the most ancient figures in Folklore, Myth and tradition. He has transcended his origins in the deepest past of human memory to become wholly current in today's world. No other figure has the power to make us look about us at the ruin of nature; no other voice speaks as clearly and directly to us of our spiritual relationship to the environment. In this workshop we will explore some of the principle aspects of the Green Man and experience his energy for ourselves through guided meditation. (CEUs Available)

Workshop

The Road to Elfland

Ari Berk, Brian Froud

Faery artist Brian Froud, and writer and poet Ari Berk discuss and explore the Faery Otherworld through picture and story. Their collaborations, such as the book *The Runes of Elfland*, are unique in their synthesis of word and image. As in a medieval manuscript, we find glowing, fantastical images surrounded by words, at the same time and in the same place that we find inspiring tales framed by gnomic figures, labels, and borders. Their images and tales offer landmarks, in a truly literal sense — inspired by letters written on and by the land, the ancient script of wood and stone, and the songs of the storied lands.

Storytelling

Sobonfu Somé

Sobonfu Somé, whose name means “keeper of the rituals,” shares stories from her native African land of Burkina Faso, one of the world’s poorest countries yet one rich in spiritual life and custom. (CEUs Available)

6:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Participatory Drumming with Drum Café

Join your fellow presenters and attendees for a group drumming ritual before the banquet, care of Drum Café.

7:30 PM – 10 PM

Campbell Celebration Banquet

A celebration of Joseph Campbell’s centenary with a feast, film and personal stories from Joseph Campbell’s friends.

10 PM – Late

Musical Entertainment (check back soon to see the full line-up)

FRIDAY — *Metamorphosis*

Now here is an action the gods left to us. Oh, steady eternal archetypes ever faithfully themselves, we who are small, we and the creatures, the plants, the ground, the rocks, we were vouchsafed metamorphosis, a miracle, a burden, a curse: change or die.

This must be the origin of humor.

This day is dedicated to transformation and transgression, evolution and seduction, animals, shamans, money, media, sorcery, sacrifice and aging.

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM

Wake Up Well — Participatory Activities (see Main Conference Schedule for descriptions)

Choose from among a number of activities to help you start the day: dream sharing, tai chi, and dance.

9 AM – 10:30 AM

The Mythic Morning

Welcome by Honora Foah

The Big Story: "Why the World Doesn't End: Myth, Danger and the Transformation of the World" by Michael Meade (CEUs Available)

Workshops and Presentations

11 AM – 12:30 PM

Business That's Relevant

Scott Livengood, Joey Reiman, Carol Pearson

Join the CEO of Krispy Kreme, the CEO of BrightHouse, and the author of *The Hero and the Outlaw: Building Extraordinary Brands through the Power of Archetypes* as they discuss building a successful business and brand using the work of Joseph Campbell and the hero's journey as a model.

Consciousness and Mythology

Huston Smith, Richard Smoley, Greg Stafford

Mythology is the language of the soul. It relates our spiritual origins, pre-human memories and the secrets of existing in the living world. Some myths speak to us personally. If we speak back we can engage in a dialogue that moves us towards health, happiness and personal development. (CEUs Available)

Death and the Outback

Mark Byrne

"There is nothing. It scares me", confesses the tourist Hiromitsu in *Japanese Story*. Red sand, endless space, threatening or mysterious Aborigines: from the journals of early explorers to recent novels, films and news reports, the outback has been Australia's mythological crucible. The overarching theme in these narratives has been the outback as a place of emptiness and disappointment, fear and death — but also of potential transformation. Everyone has their own outback, their own desert places. What are we being asked to surrender, and what might come out of this archetypal process? (CEUs Available)

Drawing Down the Myth

An informal "living room" conversation in three groups led by artists and writers concerning their methods of developing visualizations of myth, folklore and fairy tales. "How does the artist draw the unseen"?

Group 1: Brian Froud, Meinrad Craighead, John Matthews, Alan Lee, Charles Vess, (CEUs Available)

Group 2: Charles De Lint, Gerald McDermott, Delia Sherman, Jane Yolen,

Group 3: Ari Berk, Holly Black, Wendy Froud, Caitlin Matthews, William Todd-Jones, Terri Windling

Muhammad's Mythic Journey

Michael Vannoy Adams

Muhammad flew on the back of a fabulous animal all the way to Jerusalem, climbed up a ladder through all seven heavens to the presence of Allah, and then flew all the way back to Mecca — all in just one night. Miracle? Dream? Out-of-body experience? This presentation will include a slide show of Muhammad's mythic journey. (CEUs Available)

The Singing Flute: A Sound Healer's Journey

Ulla Suokko

Allow the internationally acclaimed Finnish concert artist and cosmopolitan bard, Ulla Suokko to escort you through a musical-magical journey from ancient times to the present moment. An interactive, informative, intimate and transformational exploration on music's inherent powers through times and tales.

Transgression: Unorthodox Therapy

Ginette Paris

Non-traditional techniques of therapy are often the most healing. Ginette Paris discusses unorthodox treatments that work, with audience participation about their own experiences. (CEUs Available)

Using the Future to Create the Present

Betty Sue Flowers

This workshop will explore the ways that scenarios and other forms of narrative shape our personal myths and the myths of our culture. (CEUs Available)

Woman in the Attic: The Work of the Archipelago Theatre

Ellen Hemphill. Nor Hall

Ellen Hemphill, Artistic Director of Archipelago Theatre and teacher of a unique style of voice and gesture for the artist and lay person, and Nor Hall, writer, psychologist and artist, have been writing theatre performances for the last 8 years. In this session they will show video clips, speak of their past work and the current project they are working on, and offer a brief introduction to the voice and movement and image work that is the basis for the performances. (CEUs Available)

Videos and discussion, and brief group work.

The Big Conversations

2 PM – 3:30 PM

Aging as Metamorphosis

Coleman Barks, Nor Hall, James Hillman, Jane Yolen

Why is transformation a necessity? What goes? What stays? What's new?
(CEUs Available)

Cloning, Techno-Totemism and the Double

Eddie Gamarra, Rob Kall (mod), Tim Renick, Bradd Shore

How do the old archetypes assert themselves as new forms arise? What are the new archetypes that are trying to be born? (CEUs Available)

Metamorphosis

Ari Berk (mod), Mickie Lemle, Wendy Doniger, William Doty, Alan Dundes

Does myth catalyze or control metamorphosis within a culture or the world?

Workshops and Presentations

4 PM – 5:30 PM

Animal Metamorphosis

Charles De Lint, Carolyn Dunn, Terri Windling

The Animal People were the first people in a number of Native American traditions, and shapeshifters who take on animal forms can be found in myths around the globe. Folklore is full of animal bride/bridegrooms, tricksters, deities, and guides; contemporary fiction (such as Louis Erdrich's *The Antelope Wife* and Charles de Lint's *Someplace to be Flying*) update these tales for a modern age. How do such tales shape our relationship to the animal world? We'll discuss the human-animal connection in mythic fiction, poetry, art, shamanism, and spiritual traditions.

Artist as Shaman

Ari Berk, Brian Froud, Caitlin Matthews, William Todd-Jones

From the painted caves of Chauvet to the modern works of visionary painters, writers, musicians, and dancers, the work of artists has always involved ecstasis and quest, journeys into the Otherworld for inspiration. This conversation will explore and speculate on the contemporary and traditional uses of these pathways into Wonder. (CEUs Available)

Authentic and Powerful Branding: Archetypes and the Mapping of Meaning

Carol Pearson

In a world hungry for meaning, integrity sells. The secret to breakthrough brand strategies is to identify your real archetypal values, have absolute fidelity to them — not only in how you present your enterprise but in how you do business. This session, based on Carol S. Pearson and Margaret Mark's *The Hero and the Outlaw: Building Extraordinary Brands Through the Power of Archetypes* and facilitated by author Carol Pearson, will get you started identifying the archetypal story that is right for your brand. (CEUs Available)

From the Garden of Eden to Noah's Ark: The Metamorphosis of Sin

Rabbi Yossi New

The battle of good & evil began on the first day that Adam and Eve graced the face of the earth. It continued until evil prevailed and caused the Great Flood. G-d promised never to destroy the world again. We will explore the changes G-d made to his creation to insure that evil would never again dominate and rule man. (CEUs Available)

Little Red Riding Hood Redux

Susan Eldridge, Deborah Ott

This workshop explores the story of Little Red Riding Hood as a cautionary tale and a hero's journey. Workshop participants and dancers will engage in a collaborative process of dance-making that challenges our culture's limited creativity when imagining lives and roles for aging women. Alternate endings for the tale will be explored and a new way of interpreting "change of life" will be embraced in which "flow" becomes a metaphor for vitality. (CEUs Available)

Movement workshop

"Mad Cowboy" film

Michael Tobias

Ecologist/filmmaker Michael Tobias, winner of the 2004 Parabola Focus Award, offers Mythic Journeys participants a preview of his latest (and most powerful) work. Tobias follows rancher/author Howard F. Lyman on his advocacy campaign to make the international public aware of the dangers of industrialization and abuse of livestock and poultry. As the camera accompanies the cattleman who no longer eats meat, the viewer meets many of those worldwide who are committed to a more humane treatment and growing of our food supply.

Joyce Carol Oates Reading and Commentary

Joyce Carol Oates

The acclaimed author reads and comments on her work.

The Pomegranate Seed — An Exploration of Appetite, Body-Image and Myth in Modern Culture.

Cosy Sheridan

National award-winning songwriter and performer, Cosy Sheridan, will perform Act II from her one-woman-show "The Pomegranate Seed" in a concert-format. This work explores a modern interpretation of the myth of Persephone's abduction to the underworld, as well as the pomegranate seed that women (and men) are fed by the media and the beauty and diet industry. We meet modern Persephone who falls in love with a biker named Hades. He takes her on a cross-country ride into an underworld of lost innocence. Through her dark journey of grief and hardship, Persephone finds her fuller self, and finds compassion for who she was and who she will become. Paralleling the Greek myth of Persephone, who was held captive by Hades in the underworld, this modern Persephone learns how to turn the food of death into the seed of her own rebirth. Told in monologue and songs, this workshop performance is an example of how to find Great Story (to paraphrase Jean Houston) in our smaller stories.

Religion and Transformation: Revisiting Ancient Faiths

Shelley Rabinovitch

This discussion looks at the resurgence of pre-Christian religious traditions across Europe, with a discussion about the mythologies they draw from. As well we will discuss specific reconstructionist mythic movements such as Celtic, Hellenic, Druid, Asatrur (Norse), Wiccan, and Sumerian reconstruction (among others). (CEUs Available)

Transitions as Liminal and Archetypal Situations: the Stuff of Personal Mythology

Jean Shinoda Bolen

Insight makes midlife psychologically and spiritually significant. Awareness that life is least half over may be ushered in by a crisis that can mark the end of a phase of our lives and the beginning of the next. Whether by choice or by circumstance, major transitions are a time of liminality and opportunity for soul growth or soul loss. For women, major phases are ushered in by pregnancy and menopause. In this workshop, archetypal stories and personal mythology will come together through Jean Shinoda Bolen's storytelling and a guided meditation. (CEUs Available)