

What is the Future asking of us?

November
13 - 17
2023



Emerson
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What is the Future Asking of Us?

Alumni Gathering 2023

Programme Overview

- **Gathering Opening** - Our Welcome & Opening Session will begin at 19.30pm on Monday 13 November followed by a lecture by John Meeks
 - **Morning Opening Sessions** - We will begin each morning with half an hour of singing followed by reflection on the previous evening and sharing of initiatives from Alumni
 - **Workshops** - All participants are invited to choose from a rich array of workshops.
 - **Evening Events** - In the evenings there will be a series of events which all participants are warmly invited to join.
 - **Mon 13th** Welcome and Lecture
 - **Tues 14th** Panel Discussion
 - **Wed 15th** Lecture
 - **Thurs 16th** Social Evening
 - **Gathering Closing** - On Friday morning we will all enjoy a sharing of the fruits of the workshops before the Closing Plenum.
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Evening Presentations & Events

Monday evening

- **Welcome and Introduction** -Damian Mooncie and Linda Churnside
- **Talk by John Meeks** “ Ralph Waldo Emerson and the Spirit of Emerson College”

Tuesday Evening

- **‘Sharing some questions’** panel & plenum conversation

Wednesday Evening

- **Talk by Dr Michael Evans** “Seeds of a Mystery Medicine in the British Isles 100 years ago and now.”

Thursday Evening

- **Social Evening** co-ordinated by Paul Matthews
- **Dancing** with Claire and Andy Duncan, music, and whatever people would like to bring. Bring your instruments if you would like to play. Poetry, dramatic presentations, or whatever you would like to bring.

	Mon 13 Nov	Tues 14 Nov	Wed 15 Nov	Thurs 16 Nov	Fri 17 Nov	
9.00						
		Sharing Initiatives	Sharing Initiatives	Present & Future of Emerson Damian Mooncie	Closing plenum - Sharing the fruits of the Gathering and looking ahead	
10.00		Workshop 1	Workshop 5	10.30 Workshop 9		
		Tea Break taken between 10 and 11 when appropriate				
		Workshop 2	Workshop 6	Workshop 10	Laying The Foundation Stone	
12.45	Lunch					
14.00	Arrivals & Registration	Workshop 3	Workshop 7	Workshop 11	Departures	
15.30	Tea Break taken between 15.30 and 16.30 when appropriate					
16.00 - 17.30	Arrivals & Registration	Workshop 4	Workshop 8	Workshop 12		
18.15	Supper					
19.30	Welcome & opening session Linda Churnside & Damian Mooncie John Meeks - Ralph Waldo Emerson and the Spirit of Emerson College	Flute solo with accompaniment Claire Duncan and Sylvia Trench Sharing some questions' - Panel discussion on the theme introduced by Damian Mooncie	Flute solo with accompaniment Claire Duncan and Sylvia Trench Dr Michael Evans - Seeds of a Mystery Medicine in the British Isles 100 years ago and now	Flute solo with accompaniment Claire Duncan and Sylvia Trench Social evening Hosted by Paul Matthews with Claire and Andy Duncan Musical contributions and dancing		

Workshops

Dr Michael Evans - Destiny Learning

Tues, Weds, Thurs - Sessions 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12

Dr Michael Evans - The Physical Expression of the Human I - Observation of Human and Animal Skeleton

Tues, Weds - Sessions 3, 4, 7, 8

Vivian Gladwell - Clowning is a state of playfulness - that brings us to experience a child-like, naïve and vulnerable state of being. Paradoxically we grow, learn and are strengthened through reconnecting playfully with what makes us most vulnerable.

Tues, Weds, Thurs - Sessions 3,4,7,8,11,12

John Meeks - Are the Ancient Myths of the Stars and Planets Still Relevant Today? A deeper exploration of the ancient stellar myths can show that they are not only eloquent in themselves, but have the potential to awaken a new perception of the cosmos and of our own place within it.

Tues, Weds, Thurs - Sessions 4, 8, 12

Dr Kenneth Gibson - Extracts from Life - Explorations in Human Biography. This workshop will explore biographical extracts from individuals in literature, history and culture. This will prepare us to investigate and eventually write our own 'extracts from life' through various activities such as conversation, group work and sharing.

Tues, Weds, Thurs - Sessions 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12

Annie Blampied-Radojcin - A Wonderful Urgency - The only thing we know for sure about our future, is that one day, we will die. By facing this truth open heartedly, we can welcome our fears, and thus release them. We can think about where we are going across the Threshold and thus discover the paradox of being able to live our daily life with more contentment and fulfilment. In these three days, we will consider our mortality in practical, spiritual and artistic ways, remembering the support of our angels in all we do.

Tues, Weds, Thurs - Sessions 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 10

Daniel Docherty - The Golden Ratio - Holding the theme of the gathering in mind, we will take a philosophical and practical journey into the timeless mysteries of the Golden Ratio. This 'Divine Proportion' teaches us that future, past and present can potentially be held in exquisite harmony and beauty. It is a practice of building meaningful relationships; a vital practice in these fractious times. The focus of our explorations will revolve around the construction and painting of golden mandalas, gently led by Daniel Docherty in the warm space of Sacred Art of Geometry Studios.

Tues, Weds - Sessions 1, 2, 5, 6

Paul Matthews - Writing Creatively Together - loving words, permitting fantasy, attending to each other. Whose word could be truthful enough for the Stone to accept it? Who could have beauty enough to speak for the Rose? Who could be innocent enough to utter what's at the heart of a wolf or a goldfish? Who could be grounded in love enough to sound what is most deeply human? It could be you.

Tues, Weds, Thurs - Sessions 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 10

Mary-Anne Paterson - A Mystery of Art - All art, Steiner said, originated in the mysteries of Hibernia. Artistic impulse has to permeate all knowledge, all education; and, in its essence, as imagination, must also permeate social and economic life.

In late summer 1923, following his encounters with megalithic pre-history Druid sanctuaries at Penmaenmawr Ilkley and Anglesey and giving his unique series 'lectures to the British' Rudolf Steiner then founded in London The Anthroposophical Society in G.B.

Returning inspired with a renewed energy to Dornach, he made a large drawing in pastel 'The Druid Stone Sketch' which he later gifted to Ita Wegman. Celebrating its Centenary and bridging into the new, we will work with pastels and healing plant colours to create our own understanding of this Art work.

Fri - Sessions 9, 10, 11, 12

Roi Gal-Or - Only time will tell - Through the eyes of European, Western culture, it seems that the privileged and comfortable story it has been living has arrived at a point in time when old structures and long-held certainties are collapsing.

Where do we go from here? What is the future asking of us?

In this workshop, through thought-provoking and playful exercises we will open spaces for meaningful and honest conversations, exploring ways of navigating creatively through the uncomfortable uncertainties of these times. We will be turning to stories, the great companions, teachers and shifters of humanity for wisdom, new images and inspiration.

Tues, Weds - Sessions 1, 2, 3, 5, 6

Katherine Beaven - Wellness in Daily Life

Tues - Session 3

Katherine Beaven - The Living Temple of the 5 Star in Eurythmy

Thurs - Sessions 9, 10

Richard Heys - The Arc of Colour: Exploring the Landscape of Colour

Join me for two sessions and step into the immersive, colourful world of the studio – painting in the beautiful surrounds of Emerson College.

In this process-led workshop I will demonstrate and share techniques and approaches to the dynamics of painting. We'll explore 'Presence' in abstract painting, deepening colour space and exploring structure. We'll build compositions, experience differing colour moods and relationships by focusing on wholeness.

- In the first session I will introduce my work and demonstrate my process then lead people into painting.

- In the second session I will share the work of certain artists and demonstrate again and then lead people into painting.

Tues, Weds - Sessions 3, 4, 7, 8

Richard Heys - Open Studio Sessions where Richard will be present to discuss and show his work.

Tues, Weds - Sessions 1, 2, 5, 6

Booking

- To book online please go to emerson.org.uk and go to the booking calendar for 13 - 17 November 2023.
- Alternatively you can book by phoning the College between 9.00 - 1.00 and pay by card over the phone on 01342 822238.
- Or, you can email bookings@emerson.org.uk to make the booking and then pay by bank transfer or by card.

The cost of the Gathering is as follows:

- Conference Fee £200
- Single bedroom with all meals Monday supper until Friday lunch £408
- Lunch and Supper only for Monday evening to Friday lunch £108
- Or Lunches only Tuesday to Friday £64
- Early arrival on Sunday after Supper, with breakfast and lunch Monday £91
- Late departure on Friday with Supper on Friday and breakfast on Saturday £86

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