



'The Fire of Love' - 22 - 24 May

Whitsun Conference of The Christian Community in Sydney
Joanna Panagiotopoulos | John Seed | Lisa Devine | Vanessa Snaith Gardiner

Sacrament - Deep Ecology - Lecture - Conversation - Painting - Speech/ Drama/ Mask

The fire that appeared over each apostle's head at Whitsun heralded the international **language of love** that allows all human beings to speak with each other, yet not lose their individuality. Although Whitsun can be understood as the most uniquely human festival in the Christian cycle, the new consciousness that it brings must necessarily remake our relationship with the Earth: **our destiny, and the Earths' are entwined.**

'I believe in advaita (non duality), I believe in the essential unity of man, and for that matter, of all that lives. Therefore I believe that if one man gains spirituality, the whole world gains with him, and if one man fails, the whole world fails to that extent...' (Ghandi)

Legendary Australian eco-warrior and Deep Ecologist, John Seed will join us to speak of 'the ecological self'. Come and hear what the spiritual arm of the environmental movement has found: that the chasm between what human beings think and what human beings do - which is causing so much damage to the Earth - is healed through the courageous facing

of despair in their feeling life. **This is the quest for love in action.**

The conference will be enriched by artistic sessions: **Speech/ Drama/ Mask with Joanna Panagiotopoulos, & Painting with Vanessa Snaith Gardiner.** Appropriate to the Whitsun theme, ample time for outward conversation through facilitated circles and leisurely meals, and inward conversation through the sacraments with **Rev. Lisa Devine** are included. All conference attendees are also invited to our regular Sunday program, including a **Whitsun festival.** Come explore what it is to **be human.**

*Spirit of love
That flows against our flesh
Sets it trembling
Moves across it as across grass
Erasing every boundary that we accept
And swings the doors of our lives wide
This is a prayer I sing:
Save our perishing earth!*

*Spirit that cracks our single selves —
Eyes fall down eyes,
Hearts escape through the bars of our ribs
To dart into other bodies —*

*Save this earth!
The earth is perishing.
This is a prayer I sing.*

*Spirit that hears each one of us,
Hears all that is -
Listens, listens, hears us out -
Inspire us now!
Our own pulse beats in every stranger's
throat,
And also there within the flowered ground
beneath
our feet,
And - teach us to listen! -
We can hear it in water, in wood, and even
in stone.
We are earth of this earth, and we are
bone of its
bone.
This is a prayer I sing, for we have
forgotten this
and so
The earth is perishing.*

(Barbara Deming)

**Artwork by Vanessa Snaith Gardiner*

Venue

The Christian Community in Sydney
27b Lewellyn St Balmain, NSW,
2040

***Please allow time to park if driving!**

Program

Friday 22 May

5pm: Registrations open

5.30 - 6.30pm: Dinner

6.30 - 8pm: Lecture: Deep Ecology & the Conservation of Nature (John Seed)

8 - 8.30pm: Close of Day service

Saturday 23 May

9 - 10am: The Act of Consecration of Man (Communion service)

10 - 10.30am: Morning tea

10.30 - 11.30am: Conversation

(Lisa Devine)

11.30 - 1pm: Speech/ Drama/ Mask (Joanna Panagiotopoulos) or Painting (Vanessa Snaith Gardiner)

BEGINNERS WELCOME TO BOTH WORKSHOPS

1 - 2pm: Lunch

2 - 3.30pm: Speech or Painting cont.

3.30 - 4pm: Afternoon tea

4 - 5pm: Conversation/ showing (Lisa, Joanna, Vanessa)

5 - 6.30pm: Dinner

6.30 - 8pm: Lecture (Lisa Devine)

8 - 8.30pm: Close of Day service

Sunday 24 May

10 - 11am: The Act of Consecration of Man

11 - 11.30am: Morning tea

11.30 - 12.30pm: Whitsun festival

Cost

*Full conference (all talks & workshops, Fri dinner, Sat lunch & dinner, morning & afternoon teas) - \$150

*Lecture only - \$30 per lecture

*Workshop only (both sessions) - \$40

*Fri dinner or Sat lunch only -

\$10 per meal

*Saturday dinner only - \$25

*Sat morning or afternoon tea only - \$5 per meal

Concessions available upon request, please get in touch

Limited amount of shared accommodation at the church, first in, best dressed - \$20 for both nights

Local billets as requested and available - \$20 for both nights

For external accommodation we recommend www.glebevillage.com. Costs range from \$23 (shared room) to \$65 (own room) with variants in between. The 433 bus will take you there and back in twenty minutes, see www.transportnsw.info

Please book so we can cater accordingly:

Email: sydneyccnewsletter@gmail.com

Text or call: Vaike 0437 973 193

Payments to: BSB 112 879

ACC 165 196 945

Or cash on the day

The Christian Community is a worldwide movement for renewal of the religious impulse, that seeks to open the path to the living, healing presence of Christ in the age of the free individual. Rudolf Steiner was foundational to its beginnings. More: www.thechristiancommunity.net

More on **John Seed, Deep Ecology and the Rainforest Information Centre:** www.rainforestinfo.org.au/johnseed.htm

More on **Creative Speech:** www.creativespeech.org/?q=node/10

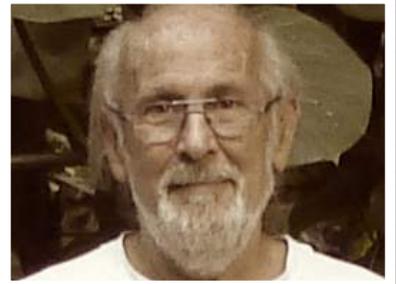
More on **Chekhov** method acting: www.michaelchekhovactingstudio.com/technique.htm

More on **Anthroposophical Art Therapy:** www.anthromed.org/Article.aspx?artpk=487

This conference has been organised by Domenica Conte, Pam Jackson & Vaike Neeme, on behalf of the committee of The Christian Community in Sydney.



JOANNA PANAGIOTOPOULOS
CREATIVE SPEECH ARTIST &
CHEKHOV METHOD ACTOR



JOHN SEED
DEEP ECOLOGIST
RAINFOREST ACTIVIST



LISA DEVINE
PRIEST OF THE CHRISTIAN
COMMUNITY



VANESSA SNAITH GARDINER
ANTHROPOSOPIHICAL ARTIST
& ART THERAPIST

