

VIRTUAL DAMANHUR

JOURNAL

YEAR XXXV

March 2010



Damanhur Damjrl in the light of blossoming springtime

Damanhur, draws from community resources and innovative approaches to develop the Transition to Resilience curriculum. Also, Damanhurians were present at the Mid-Atlantic Conference on Childbirth with Michel Odent in Las Palmas, Canary Islands.



Filmmaker Keith Busha with Formica and crew

Greetings and welcome to the March edition of the Virtual Damanhur Journal. As Spring Equinox approaches, primroses and violets make their first appearance in the sunlit fields. We are celebrating new synergetic connections and valuing the resources of the earth, now and for the future.

In this edition, read about the second Learning Partnership meeting in Utrecht, Netherlands. This collaboration of diverse organizations, including



The community of Venwoude in Utrecht

Explore the world of Love and Dreams: read an excerpt of Falco's writing featured in the book, "Love of the Fifth Spiritual Paradigm," with spiritual masters writing on the subject of love in all its multifaceted forms. Filmmaker Keith Busha's "Dreams of Damanhur," recently released on DVD, offers an enchanted and visionary view of Damanhur.

Damanhurians are participating in and supporting candidates for the upcoming Piedmont regional and local elections, with hopes for the official recognition of intentional communities, and for ecological building solutions, renewable energy and sustainable tourism.

Damanhur in the World



The Learning Partnership team at the Quality Center in Utrecht, Netherlands

Learning Partnership 28 February - 5 March 2010

Damanhur participated in the second Learning Partnership encounter in Utrecht, Netherlands, with the Center for Human Emergence hosted at the seminar spaces of the Venwoude community (<http://www.venwoude.org>). Learning Partnership is a collaboration between eight different European realities to create a two-year curriculum on "Transition to Resilience," changing current urban environments into ones that are more sustainable. Resilience is the capacity of responding to world concerns in a positive way, making the most of resources and consuming less while living a satisfying life.

The curriculum is intended for change agents, universities, non-governmental organizations and city administrations.

Each of the six Learning Partnership meetings shall be hosted by one of the participating organizations, and the first was held at Damanhur in January 2010. The one in Utrecht was hosted by the Center for Human Emergence at the Venwoude community. Some members of Venwoude came to Damanhur about 13 years ago in 1997 to learn about community structures during a moment of dynamic growth for their community, successfully applying Damanhurian systems within their context.

Macaco Tamerice attended the meeting in Utrecht as representative of Damanhur. She shares, "The encounter was a very fruitful and pleasant experience, held in an atmosphere of collaboration amongst highly motivated people. We shared a lot of information connected to tools and learning processes." Learning Partnership integrates the diverse approaches, theories and methodologies originating each of the organizations to create flow into a new design.

HERE ARE THE ORGANIZATIONS AND THEIR TOOLS:



Results of Learning Partnership synergy

Damanhur:

the community experience of Damanhur

Findhorn Foundation:

the community experience of Findhorn

The Permaculture Academy:

Dragon Dreaming, developed by John Croft and inspired by the philosophy of native Australians, a method to create successful projects, bringing four areas into equilibrium ~dreaming

Global Ecovillage Network (GEN Europe):

Ecovillage Design Education, a curriculum on how to create community based on four main areas ~ economy, ecology, social and worldview

The Hub (Brussels):

The Art of Hosting, new communication technologies and skills to create synergy amongst professionals

Center for Human Emergence:

Spiral Dynamics, a way of thinking about the complexities of human existence and understanding the evolutionary status of a society

Transition Town Movement (Totnes and Ireland):

Transition Town, a model for converting urban environments and creating ecological and autonomous communities with solidarity-based social structures, able to develop resilience and reduce carbon dioxide emissions

During the course of the meeting, the participants entered into a mode of effective collaboration aimed at creative solutions and new synergies. One of the most significant outcomes was the sense of creating a new society through collaboration. The focus was not about each viewpoint being right or wrong, but rather finding the most fitting solution for a particular question. As a result of this meeting, the group has clear ideas for the structure of the curriculum, and they shall begin writing the curriculum during the next Learning Partnership meeting.

Each Learning Partnership encounter features an organized outing, and in Utrecht, the group went to visit the Quality Center women's refuge, in contact with the Center for Human Emergence with applied Spiral Dynamics. The Center supports 60 women refugees from various cultural backgrounds on their way toward integration into Dutch society. Each of the women has a one-on-one relationship with a Dutch mentor, who offers support in navigating social support systems in the Netherlands. Macaco noticed similarities between the approach at the Quality Center and the Damanhurian philosophy, with its emphasis on the effectiveness of going directly to what is needed and valuing that which works in practice.

Mid-Atlantic Conference on Birth

26 - 28 February 2010



Tridacna, Daniela and Esperide with Michel Odent

Esperide, Daniela and Tridacna have participated in the Mid-Atlantic Conference on Birth and Primal Health Research in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain, 26 - 28 February 2010. The patron of the event was French doctor Michel Odent, well known for over 50 years of work in promoting natural childbirth and postpartum conditions, in which the needs of women and children are respected. According to Odent, a harmonious birth is the basis of a joyous existence, one that guides the newborn toward a pathway of evolution.

Odent shall be one of the featured speakers at the World Summit on Birth to be held at Damanhur 5 - 9 May 2010. (<http://www.perladonna.net>)

At the conference in Las Palmas at the Canary Islands Convention Centre, 260 participants from 34 different countries were present, representing many professions in the area of birth and early infancy. The conference focused on the figures of the obstetrician, midwife and doula, and the importance of the

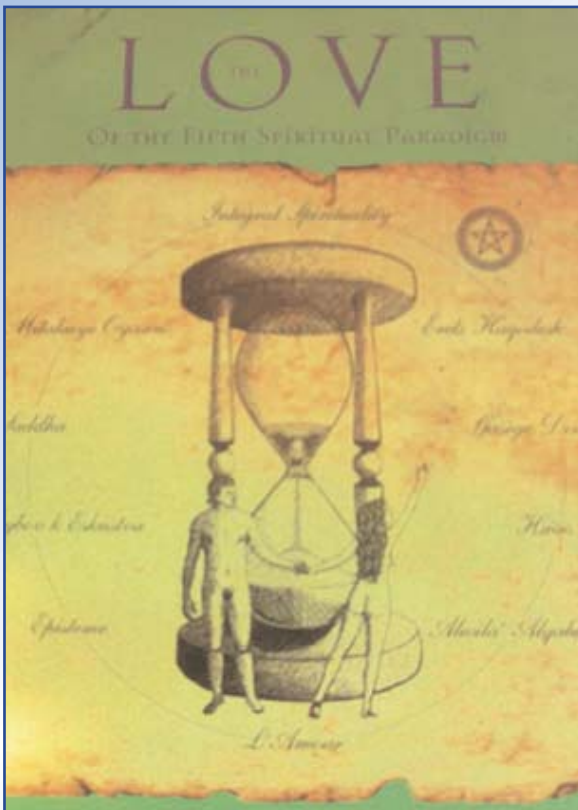
mother-baby connection. Also present were gynecologists, pediatricians, scientists and researchers, coming together and recognizing the value of women's role in the sacred event of childbirth.



The Mid-Atlantic Conference on Birth in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria

Damanhur in the Press and Media

The recently-published book on Love with writings by Falco



Love of the Fifth Spiritual Paradigm

Falco's (Oberto Airaudi's) writings on the topic of love, edited by Esperide Ananas, are featured in the book "The Love of the Fifth Spiritual Paradigm," recently released in publication by the Oracle

Institute Press. The volume is an international collection of over 70 stories, essays and poems written by past and present spiritual guides who speak about love in its various forms. Falco's writings, entitled "Gift of Love, Luminous Calling: Here I Am to confuse Your Heart," offer the poetic titles of selected Selfic paintings interspersed with text discussing various forms of love: the love that connects people with each other, for instance, and divine love as a force that unites everything in the universe.

The book is organized in themed chapters: Love of Earth, Love of Animals, Love of Family, Love of Community, Romantic Love, Love of Learning, Love of the Arts, Love of Self, Love of Freedom, Spiritual Love, Unconditional Love, and the Love of God. While Falco's writing was originally intended for the "Love of Community" chapter, the beauty and completeness of text prompted the editors of the book to place it within "Unconditional Love." Here is an excerpt of the text:

This heightened concept of Love is characteristic of the Divine, and when we are capable of expressing it, we pass from the animal state onto a path of realization and enlightenment. ... At this time, the human race is a "bridge species" between the material plane and the spiritual plane. As such, we are the bearers of a Divine seed which is realized

when, on the path of discovering, recognizing, and nurturing the God contained in each one of us, we are able to express unconditional Love.

On the ideal path that leads us from evolution to enlightenment ... we will pass through various states of learning and applying the concept of love. The path inevitably involves relating to others, so the first act of Love cannot be a casual thing, but must be an act of will. How can we express Love and attend to others except by feeling Love? How can we transform ourselves, even at an organic level into something able to express Divine Love, while still remaining inside the world of form?

To succeed in become aligned with the "other" in the realm of matter, we must first understand the complexity of the spiritual realm. We also must interpret the true value of things, for what can be more precious than another living being? And from this point of view, what can be more precious amongst living beings than other sentient beings? There cannot be anything else.

With the heart, and Love,
and the complete force born out of pure
dedication,
real worlds are generated ...

I show new roads of power, inner and yet
plainly shown,
universal, galactic,
portals that lead to other Universes ...

In the meeting of oneself, the whole
of creation,
humanity and difference,
the completion of souls who have
the courage to seek,
to search for and find one another ...

Love is also contemplation of the All ...

The Open Temple in Damjil filmed for
"Dreams of Damanhur"



A gathering in the Damjil amphitheatre

Dreams of Damanhur: A film by Keith Busha

Filmmaker Keith Busha of Obscura Films has recently released "Dreams of Damanhur" (<http://www.dreamsofdamanhur.com>) on DVD. Keith came to visit Damanhur in 2005 with the intention of filming the Damanhurian art. When he arrived, he discovered that art is one piece of a much larger and fascinating story. After many visits and



Scenes in the Temples of Humankind

research, the self-proclaimed "road-weary skeptic" opened to the wonders of Damanhur, creating a multi-layered journey in film. He assembled an accomplished team in making "Dreams of Damanhur," including writer/producer Lori Butterfield, director/writer/producer Gareth Harvey, and cinematographer Duane Empey. The film features scenes from the Temples of Humankind, Damjil and the Open Temples, the Music of the Plants, research laboratories and everyday life in Damanhur.

What's Happening in Italy

Regional and Local Elections

28 - 29 MARCH

Damanhur supports candidates running for office in the upcoming elections of the Piedmont region of Italy and the towns of Baldissero Canavese and Vistrorio.

At the regional level, Damanhurians are supporting the Mercedes Bresso's re-election as President of the region, after her initial five-year term of service, and Luca Robotti, from the "Left, Ecology and Liberty" party, who has included the law for recognizing intentional communities in his electoral program.

In Baldissero, Damanhurians Lucciola Capelvenere and Salamandra Glicene are running in the "Democratic Union" candidate list, promoting the values of environmental care, ecological solutions for building construction, energy conservation and sustainable tourism.

In Vistrorio, the "With You, For the Country," party is presenting Tasso Peperone as candidate for Mayor, as well as other Damanhurians on the running list. The campaign is focused on conscious use of resources, renewable energy, managing and protecting the land, and developing the local economy.

Course Calendar

ENROLLMENT OPEN - seminars@damanhur.it

OLAMI DAMANHUR UNIVERSITY

+39.124.512236 +39.124.512205

March - 20 - 21 Contact with the Cosmos

April - 3 - 4 Astral Travel

May - 24 - 25 Past Lives Research (register by May 2)

27 - 28 Inner Senses

29 - 30 Astral Travel

June - 19 - 20 Contact with the Cosmos

26 - 27 Past Lives Research (register by June 3)

