

✦ INNER
GARDEN

ANNUAL REPORT 2011



Beneficial Herbs – Roerich, 1941



Preface

The path of alchemy sometimes appears to be almost like a gateway to another dimension. A dimension under the aegis of wisdom, beauty, silence, and of life in its purest essence. It is in this dimension that we attempt to perfect an art that is at the same time a philosophy and a science.

In 2011, a group of students enthusiastically set out on this path and worked their way through the herbal laboratory alchemy course, each at their own pace. A few worked through the entire curriculum up to the 10th lesson on the Opus Minor. As our students experienced, the work with a small selection of beneficial herbs can lead to surprising results.

In addition to the Herbal work a small research group has started a study of the Aurea Catena Homeri, and deepened our understanding of both the theory and practice of this monumental text. The Herbal work and the water work of the Aurea Cateni both underline the adagium “All things are full of Gods”. This was the adagium of master Thales in a former age of the Philosophers of Nature.



Thales of Miletus

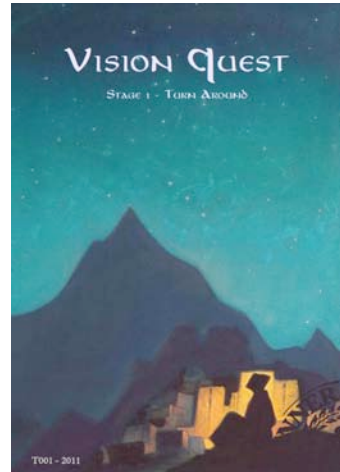
Hence the reference to alchemy in our deed of foundation as “[...] the actualization of man and nature [...]”. Through our art we try to purify a matter from its gross parts and thus bring out an innate quality, a divine spark, and bring that into wholeness.

These are lofty words, but the fact is that most of us feel they have only just begun this work. I enjoy to see how our small group helps to encourage one another to continue to take steps forward in this exciting journey.

Moreh

Activities 2011

Complementary to the course on external alchemy, Inner Garden now offers a course in internal alchemy called “Vision Quest”. Through this course, the student develops a better understanding of the Mind and how it operates. The course is based on an ancient tradition that has surfaced – albeit fragmentary - in the writings of many philosophers. For example, the alchemist, physician and philosopher Gerhard Dorn has left some interesting MS in the 1600s. Ibn Arabi could be mentioned as a guide that lived further back in time. In more recent times, elements of this tradition have trickled down to the academic world - for instance the field of psychology. Carl Happich elaborated a similar but simplified method in the first half of the 20th century.



The course is available for members of Inner Garden. Only a first introductory lesson can be downloaded from scribd at www.scribd.com/innergarden. Two guides have dedicated themselves to coaching students through this journey of the Hidden, namely Br. Parusha and Sr. Eostre-Asteria. As we progress, the course will continue to evolve and be subject to further polishing. Five students have been admitted to this course in 2011. Currently there is one seat available.

A few students of Inner Garden have started to practice and research a form of alchemy that is tentatively called Body Alchemy. It concerns a form of Neigung as taught by the elusive school of the Magus of Java. Some see this as internal alchemy, others stress the physical processes and phenomena involved. One could reason there is truth in both, hence the term Body Alchemy.

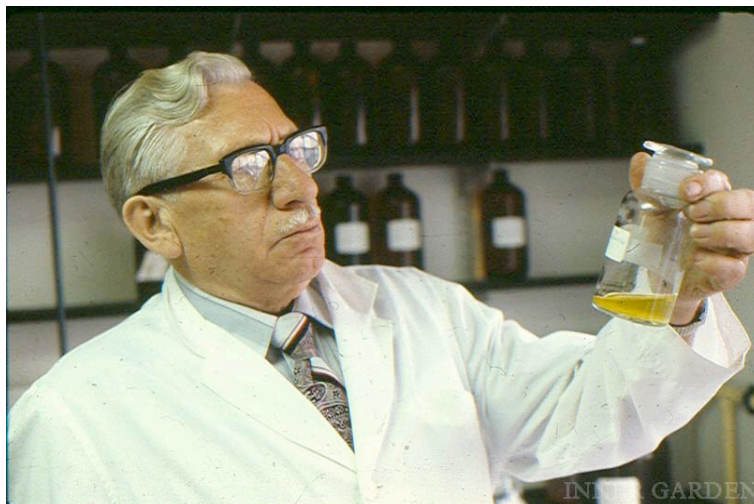


Acquisitions

Dr. D.A. Schein MD has donated a library of research notes, reports of spagyric experiments, scans of rare documents and pictures, all mostly from the 1970s and 1980s, when he was involved in the works of the Paracelsus Research Society (renamed in 1980 to Paracelsus College¹). Apart from an interesting body of research notes, this archive includes many pictures of the school and its staff, its equipment, brochures, etc.



We believe this digital archive is invaluable as a historical record on the activities of the Paracelsus Research Society, which was founded by Albert Riedel (Frater Albertus).



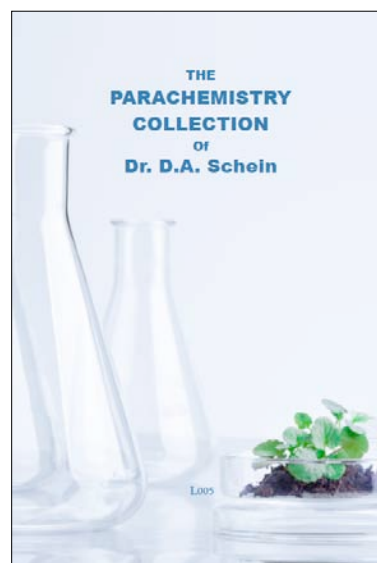
Inner Garden intends to take care to preserve this material in order to

¹ The College's curriculum of teaching is taught up to today by a surviving branch of the school in Australia, under the inspiring direction of Rik Danenberg and Jeannie Radcliffe. See: www.paracelsuscollege.com.au.

safeguard part of the heritage of this dynamic group.

In addition to above mentioned library and digital archive, Dr. Schein has also donated a number of valuable documents to the Foundation, which include set of the rare “Quinta Essentia” magazine. We have seen only one set (which was less than complete: nr. 4 to 17) being offered by an antiquarian for well over USD 500,--

Dr. Schein has been one of the main contributors to this magazine, with a series of articles on practical alchemy, spagyrics, parachemistry, and medicine. Throughout 2010 and 2011, the Foundation has transcribed and translated a selection of articles, as well as some unpublished writings and presentations of Dr. Schein. These are bundled in our publication “The Parachemistry Collection of Dr. D.A. Schein”.



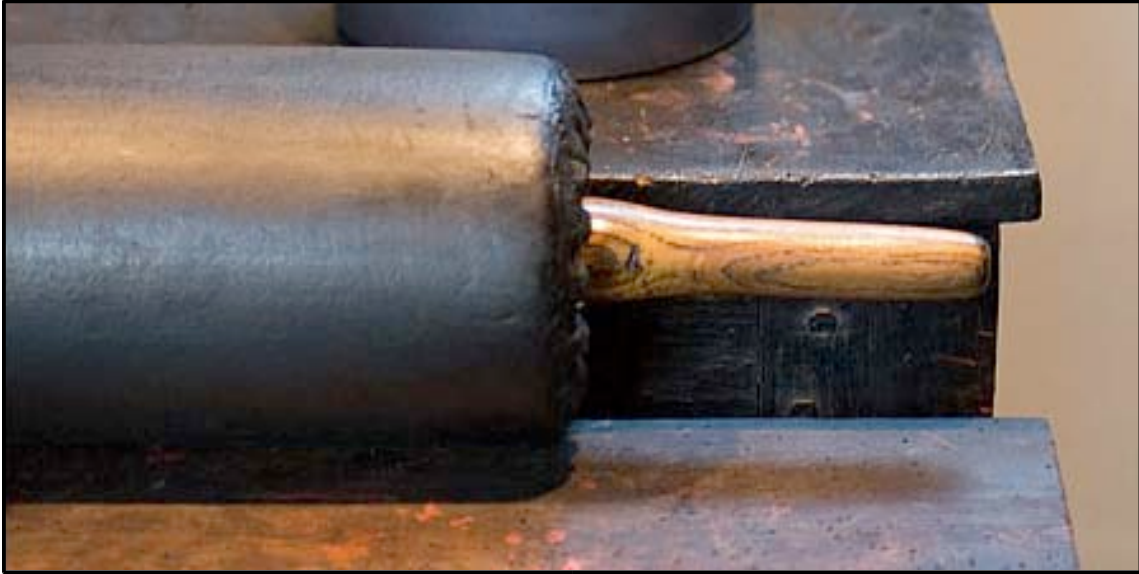
An upcoming project could be to publish or upload a supplement in which research notes and material of a more technical nature are bundled.

Through Dr. Schein we also received an interesting archive of old manuscripts and scans of manuscripts that were collected by Hans Nitzel and Bill van Dooren as part of the RAMS collection. Some of these works are included in the digital library as published by Andrew Kettle at www.ramsdigital.com. However, there is also a body of mainly German MS that still waits to be transcribed and translated.

The Foundation has acquired scans of the complete works of Goossen van Vreeswyck and has started translation of the book, “The Red Lion”.



Publications



Title	Author	Binding
Collected writings of Dr. D.A. Schein	D. Schein MD.	Ebook
Vision Quest (only one sample lesson is published for the general public, namely on scribd)	Moreh	Ebook



Our donation to Nature:

50% of the revenue from our publications is invested in green funds or nature conservation organisations such as The Nature Conservancy or Friends of the Earth International. As Philosophers of Nature we aim to preserve life and help to protect the earth and its creatures.

Research

For a list of notes and research papers see note A999.

Partners



In 2011, three Partners have been admitted to Inner Garden: Br. Parusha, Sr. Eostre-Asteria and Br. Serephah. These Partners have demonstrated ample experience with internal and external alchemy, and have committed considerable time to the furthering of various activities of the Foundation. We welcome our first Partners and are happy they have joined as associates of our Foundation.

In light of the rich tradition of our Art, this event did not pass without due homage to tradition. Following the custom as upheld by the Elder Brothers, the 'patent' of Partnership was printed by block print with a brass plate. Instead of the customary vellum, Inner Garden has chosen archival cotton paper from Fabriano.

Annual Account

A copy of our Balance Sheet is available on request for donors to the foundation. We would like to thank all donors and all those who contributed their time and effort in transcribing, translation and compiling research notes and lessons. Special thanks goes out to Sr. Orenda for the transcribing the essays of Dr. Schein. With regard to donations-in-kind we like to thank:

- Dr. David Schein for the complete set originals of Quinta Essentia and for part of RAMS Archive (mostly from Hans Nitzel and Bill van Dooren);
- Beat Krummenacher for his publication permission (in house);
- Mr. Ramos for donating the GAP curriculum;
- Salamander&Sons for its generous donation of Stibnite.

