

✦ INNER
GARDEN

ANNUAL REPORT 2016

Pinus Lambertiana





PREFACE

ALCHEMY WAS HISTORICALLY (and some would argue still is) a Master/Apprentice practice as with most Artisanal crafts, especially those with a mystical side to their craft. As a result, the vast body of Alchemical knowledge, experience and methods has been lost by each transition (death) of a Master Alchemist or has remained scattered across the ages with no central repository where seekers may access and from where they may learn. Thus, unlike its Indian counterpart, Western Alchemy's collective experience remained scattered and fragmented, except perhaps for the legendary libraries of Hellenic Alexandria or the Bait Al Hikma (House of Wisdom) of Abbasid Baghdad.

A key mission for the Inner Garden Foundation as set down in its Articles of Association is the collection and dissemination of practices within the Alchemical Tradition. Essentially, this means creating a consolidated repository of Alchemical knowledge that preserves the labour of individual Masters yet still honors and facilitates the Master/Apprentice *modus operandi*. The aim is not to promote a certain doctrine or path but to foster a custodianship of knowledge that serves all those who are sincere seekers of our Art and as a resting place for the life long work of those Alchemists and seekers.

For the Inner Garden Foundation, the year 2016 contained significant developments toward this custodianship of Alchemical lore. Both in regards to the lifelong work of other Alchemists and in the publication of valuable Alchemical literature our Foundation has made significant steps toward its mission as a repository of Alchemical knowledge. You can read of this below, in the list of activities during 2016.

In addition and further to the goal of dissemination of knowledge, the time is right to begin the development of a new course in lab Alchemy that covers more ground than the classic or 20th century traditional classes (LPN/PON, PRS, GAP). This is not envisioned as a substitute and does not invalidate other courses, but the idea is to present a more practical (for the modern lab) and pedagogically focused course that is centered on building lab dexterity and familiarity with the Alchemical methods of operation rather than presenting only a collection of recipes for the production of specific magestries. Once the fundamentals are mastered, then the student can resort to the recipe books or other Alchemical literature. We hope this new course will bring students up to a new and standardized level of competency in both theory and in practice.

Of course, we would not be Alchemists if we did not continue to explore the frontiers of the unknown. In 2016 this included a variety of domains falling under the broad heading of Alchemy: the dynamic realms of the **Green Language**, of Initiation, of different states of consciousness, of experimentation with spagyric oneirogens and dreamstates, various paths to the Philosopher's Stone, with Inner Work through Vision Quest as well as the publication of some of our findings in an academic journal dedicated to exploring exceptional experiences and subjectively anomalous experiences — pushing the envelope of understanding inner forms of Alchemy.

Speaking of frontiers, I completed my own personal journey with Vision Quest around the summer solstice of 2016. So it's been a most special year for me. I cannot for the life of me describe it nor summarize it, but I can say that it was a rather difficult journey for me and yet the most rewarding endeavor I have ever undertaken. It was a saga as great, haunting and dramatic as any mythical journey I have ever read. I do not know why I received this great privilege but I am very grateful to have been guided by a remarkable Guide of Inner Work, Br. Ib Iluamah. With his robust yet gentle guidance, I died, was dismembered, crossed the Styx into the darkness of Hades, then was resurrected and sent to Elysium. This is truly the stuff of Legends. My advice to our members undertaking this journey, you have at your hands one of life's greatest treasures and it is unforgiving. There can be no falling behind, no capitulation. You cannot give it "your best shot" or "try your best." Do it or the opportunity vanishes. This is the Egyptian Initiation, the Orphic Legend, the Eleusinian Mystery right in front of you.

Luke Skywalker: 'All right, I will give it a try'
Yoda: 'NO! Try not. Do or Do Not, there is no Try'

Ibn Hamda





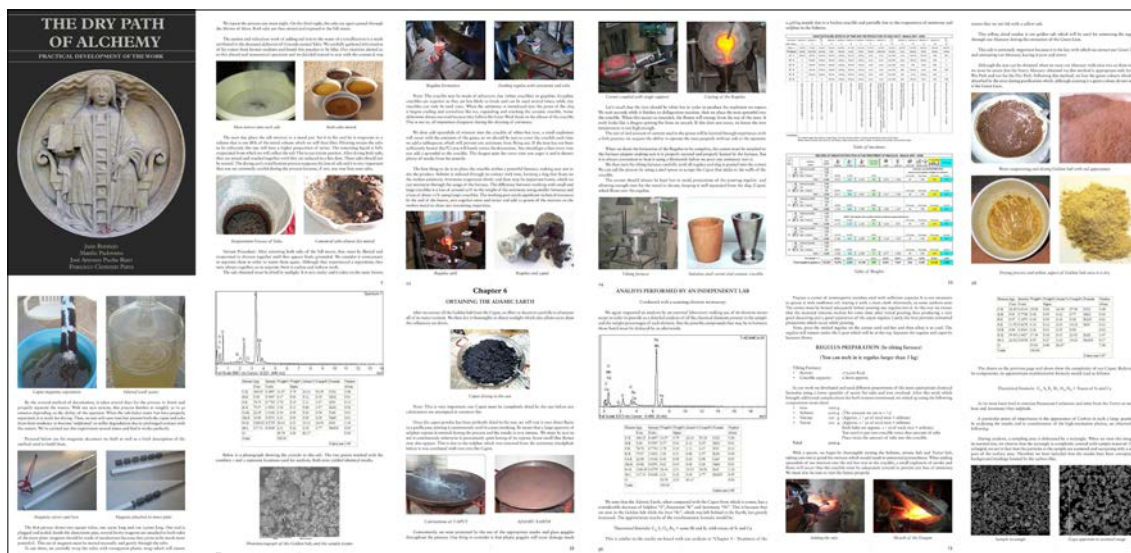
Dreams have always had a prominent place in Alchemical lore. The *Songe Verde* in the *Mutus Liber*, and the masterful comment of Canseliet on this particular Jacob's Dream is one of the more poetic examples of the intimate relationship between the Land of Dreams, the central concepts of Alchemy and the Green Language or Language of the Birds, be it in the Lab or in the Oratory. In this light, a group of **Gardeners** entered the realm of oneirogens — the study of substances, practices, and experiences that promote and enhance dream states. Some typical western dream herbs were investigated such as Snowdrops, Valerian, Artemisia, Rosemary, Solomon's Seal, Solanaceae, and Wormwood, as well as a number of cross-continental herbs like the famous *Calea Z.* and lesser known *Calliandra Angustifolia*. To enable a form of comparison, records were kept of dream rate, number of dreams, story length, lucid or extraordinary content, hours of sleep, etc. A small malachite stone was made available for those involved in this work. The stone is reminiscent of a Dream Stone or 'Totem', the exact nature of which is in the eye of the beholder. A short video featuring the stone can be viewed [here](#).



The significance of dreams and the Green Language for Inner Work Alchemy is beautifully illustrated by this year's publication *Psychoanalysis and Guided Imagery: The Directed Waking Dream*, by Dr. R. Desoille. This seminal work by one of the pioneers in the field of the Waking Dream ventures into the experimental mental imaging technique also known as Directed **Waking Dream** (*Rêve Eveillé Dirigé*, or RED). In Desoille's later work the influence of Jung is particularly visible, an influence that echoes in our own Inner Work programme known as Vision Quest. More than half of Jung's writings have not been published yet. Among which Jung's *Black Book* which, if it will be published,

will shed new light on Jung's *Red Book* and which will certainly heighten the interest in the field of Inner Work that Vision Quest encompasses. Gardener I.I. has decided to lift a tip of the veil that shrouds this area of intrigue in an article published in the 2016 winter edition of the peer reviewed *Journal of Exceptional Experiences and Psychology* (JEEP), titled *Initiation, the Guardian, and Jung's Red Book*. Jung's *Red Book* has provoked much reflection as to what kind of audience it is actually directed towards. The article ventures beyond the current discipline of psychology to explain how the book can be understood as a visually rich and sharp, yet clear to understand, first-hand account that essentially illustrates an esoteric process which Alchemists have spoken of as **Initiation**.

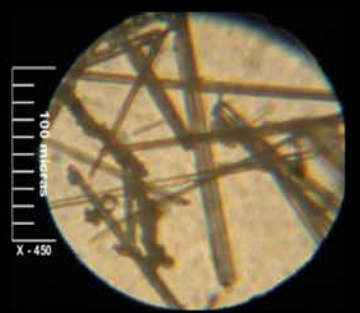
One of the most exciting collaborative efforts involved a profound tract on outer Alchemy. Under the lead of Br. Noor Al-Ayin and Sr. Orenda, an English translation was made of the book *The Dry Path* which was originally written in Spanish by Juan Bermejo, Manlio Padovano, José Antonio Puche Riart and Francisco Clemente Parra.



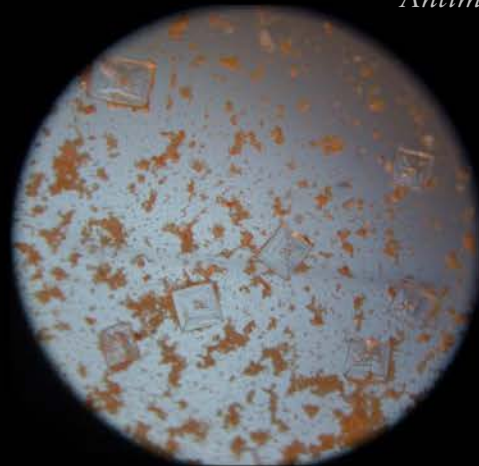
In 2010, Inner Garden first discussed the possibilities of translation and publication of this book. At the time, preference went out to a hardcover edition and since Inner Garden was at that time unable to offer this, the project eventually ended up with the publishing house of Salamander & Sons. After closure of this publishing house early this year, Inner Garden was granted the singular permission to translate and distribute this extraordinary book among the more active students within the walls of the Inner Garden Foundation exclusively. The image above shows a collage of this masterpiece and its wealth of diagrams, tables, and its detailed 'walk-through' of a path to the Philosopher's Stone called The Dry Path. This book beautifully complements last year's publication of Canseliet's commentary to the **Mutus Liber**. Those who may have had trouble interpreting the curly calligraphy in Canseliet's writings will find this book elucidating. *Mayor respeto* to the above mentioned Spanish collaborative.



The Red Lion



Flowers of Antimony



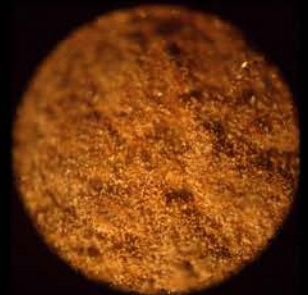
Pyramid shaped crystals of the Green Lion



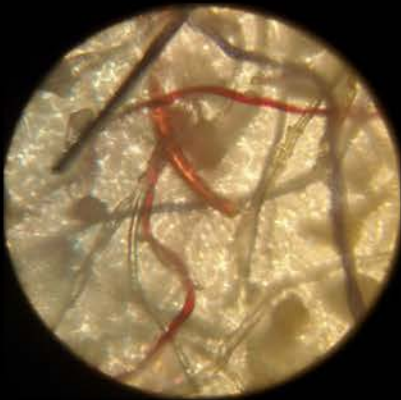
The Green Lion of Canseliet



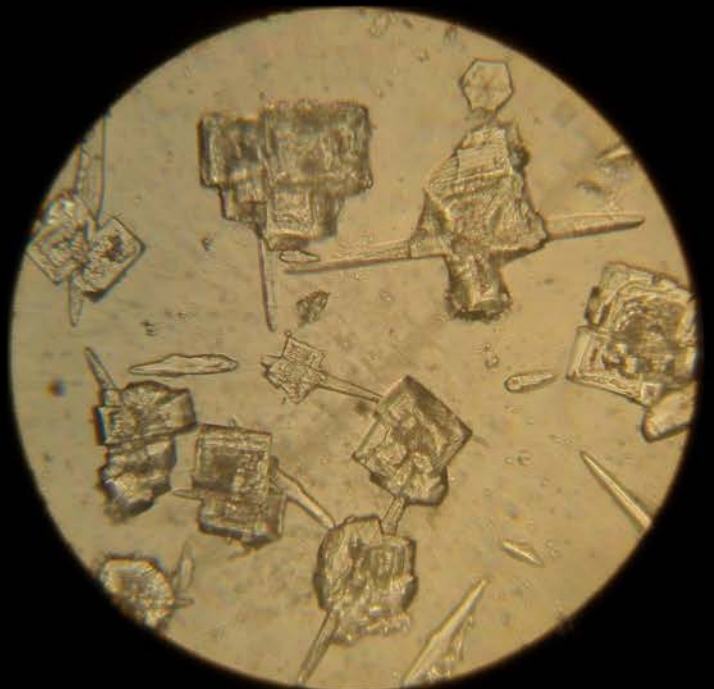
Golden Sulphur



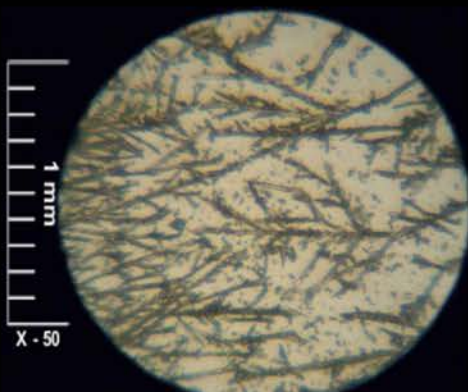
Stone of the Third Crown



Filament crystals of the Green Lion

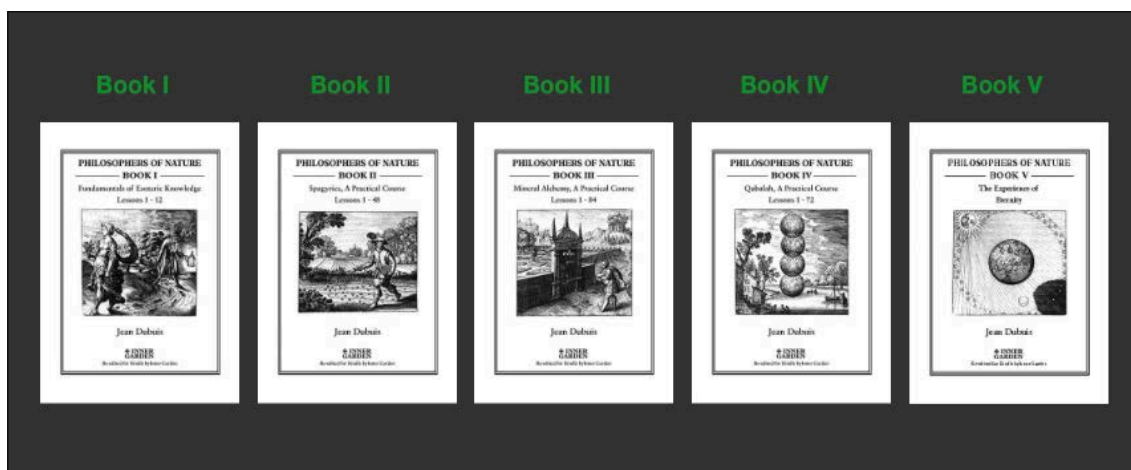


Crystals of the First Crown



Golden Salt

The Dry Path Up Close



Most long term students of Alchemy treasure on their bookshelves or in their digital libraries a course that was originally compiled by Jean Dubuis and distributed among members of the **Philosophers of Nature**, an association based in France that was active during the last quarter of the 20th Century. Whereas the French original of these lessons has always been available for free through the [Portae Lucis Association](#), the English version by Triad Publishing could no longer be acquired. In order to continue to provide the Alchemical community with the profound legacy that *Les Philosophes de la Nature* has left us, and in honour of the charitable example set by Jean Dubuis, Inner Garden transcribed the course and offered it as a Kindle version for the nominal amount of \$ 1,- (the minimum price set for any Kindle book on Amazon). This re-edition includes a preface by Patrice Maleze of Portae Lucis who soon followed suit with the addition of a free .pdf version of the original English course on the above mentioned site.

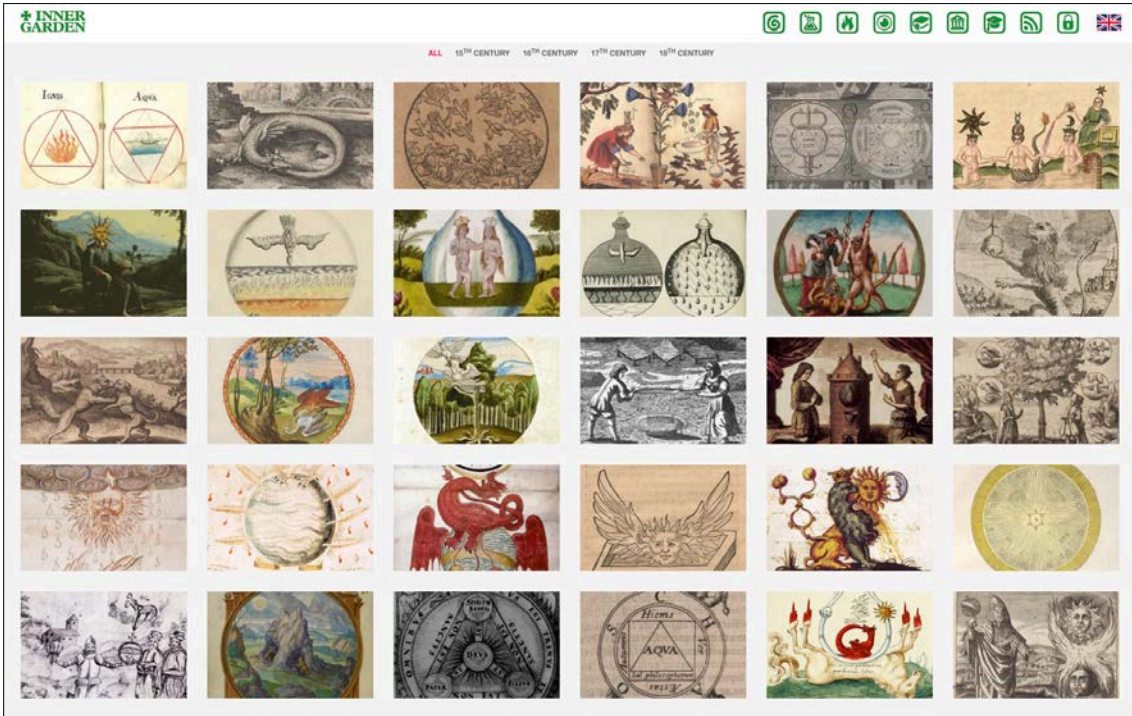
The study of Alchemy, up to a certain point, lends itself well for individual study. Inner Garden believes in the value of associating as a Hermetic Brotherhood but also appreciates the intention of those who want to proceed on their own without any formal membership and without any ties to an institution. For those seekers, this complete course will surely be of interest.

*Believe nothing simply because you have been shown
the written testimony of some ancient sage.
Believe nothing based on the authority
of Masters or Priests.
Only that which matches your own experience,
which after thorough study
agrees with reason and is conducive to the good,
is what you can accept as being true
and live up to in your life.*

Siddharta Gautama (Buddha)



The old Inner Garden website has been upgraded to a more responsive site. Also, it has been secured with a TLS protocol, more commonly known as SSL Cipher. The motivation to bar unwanted onlookers or intruders remains as valid today as it was when Alchemists of old developed their sympathy for Ciphers, hence the upgrade to HTTPS. In addition a number of other security issues were fixed, for which we thank Br. Arcanum Divinum. Thank you Br. JML for donating the SSL certificate.



Br. Crescere expanded our imagery collection, a lovely tribute to the rich imagery and symbolic language found in many Alchemical manuscripts.

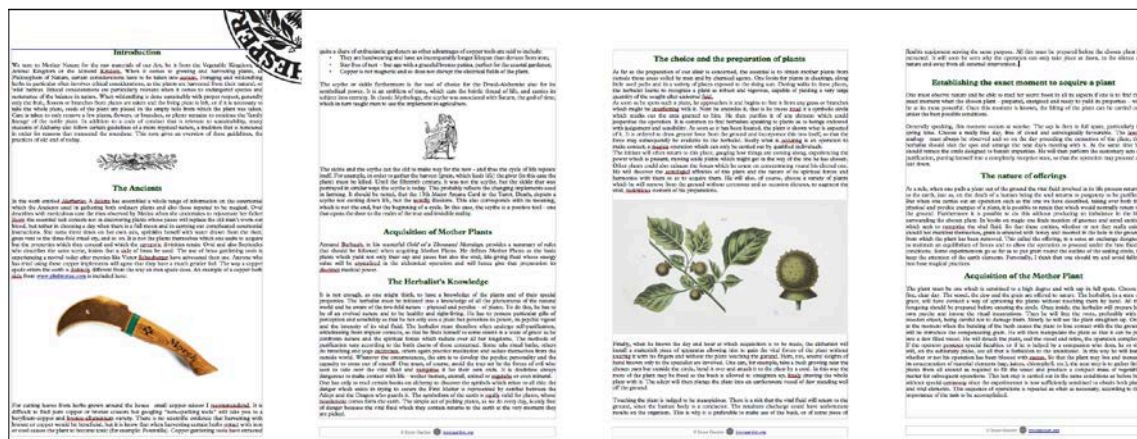
Br. Siber, thank you for the translation work.

The following two notes were released in the Candidate section as additions to our initial Herbal Course:

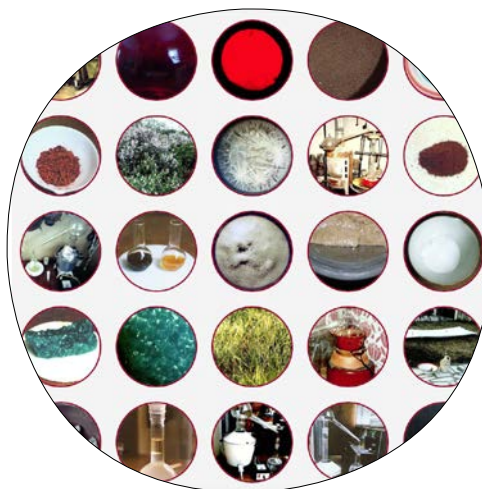
| Note | Subject | Author |
|-------|------------------------------------|-----------|
| N003+ | Distillation of Wine and Vinegar | Ibn Hamda |
| N004+ | Spagyric Tinctures by Fermentation | Ibn Hamda |

In the Partner section, the following notes were released:

| Note | Subject | Author |
|------|------------------------------------|--------|
| N035 | Harvesting Herbs | Moreh |
| T100 | Path to the Stone – Lab vs Oratory | Moreh |
| T101 | Vagabond of Dreams | Moreh |

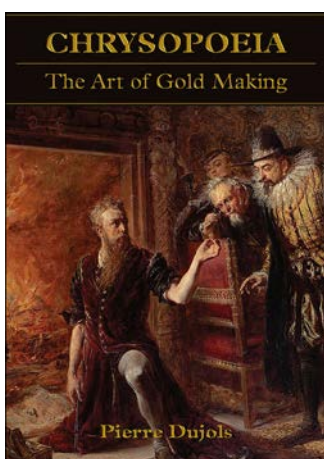


One of the most dedicated Alchemists of our time, Rubellus Petrinus, granted permission to the Foundation to include a broad selection of his practical articles on Alchemy on the Inner Garden web. We are grateful to be able to safeguard the long-time preservation and transmission of these pearls of wisdom and hands-on guidelines on the practice of traditional lab Alchemy.





PUBLICATIONS



Chrysopoeia, E-book

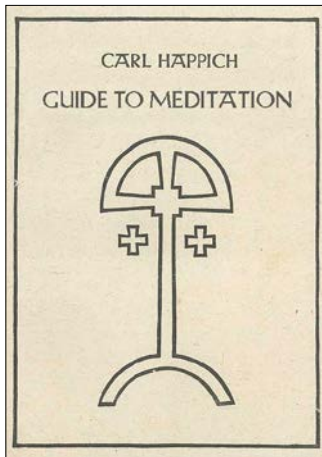
In this tome the renown Alchemist Pierre Dujols de Valois explains in good detail — in clearer terms than many Masters of old — the operations of traditional laboratory Alchemy that are required to make the Philosopher's Stone.

Pierre Dujols provides ample instruction on how to make the White and Red Stones. This book on the Art of Gold Making will be of interest for the more advanced students of Alchemy who operate in the mineral realm of Alchemy.



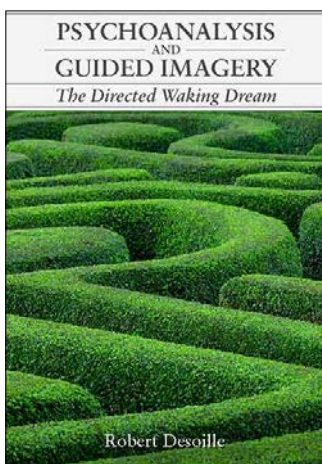
Chivalry, E-book

This book reveals a side of knighthood that seems to have been overlooked by main stream historians. Pierre Dujols was known as one of the more advanced practical Alchemists of the early 20th century. He had a keen interest in the chivalric tradition which is not surprising considering the more than coincidental link between knighthood and Alchemy that has been found throughout history. In this unfinished manuscript Pierre Dujols unravels a secret tradition that has been an undercurrent of Mystical and Knightly Orders.



Guide to Meditation, E-book

Carl Happich was involved in a unique discipline of meditation that provides a profound passageway to the **Inner Realm**. The meditation method elaborated in this book consists of a number of subsequent stages of visualizations that were carried out against the backdrop of certain predetermined scenes such as a meadow, a mountain, and a chapel. These meditations formed a point of departure for both diagnostic and therapeutic purposes which quickly gained merit.



Psychoanalysis and Guided Imagery, E-book

In 1923, Robert Desoille met Colonel Eugène Caslant who introduced him to an experimental mental imaging technique, which Desoille later developed into the method of the 'Directed Waking Dream.' This pioneering work describes the domain of the Waking Dream and its authors, most notably Dr. Desoille, provide ample evidence of the range, depth and impact that this unexplored terrain can have in the practice of psychoanalysis. With this book, Inner Garden Press presents the first English language translation of Desoille's work.



In 2016 the Foundation admitted ten Candidate Partners. Our welcome goes out to Agastyar, Anima Mundi, Arcanum Divinum, Binah, Daras Aur, Disce Mori, Isis-Maria, Noor al-Ayin, Porteur de Lumière, Voliticus Piscis.



A copy of the Inner Garden Foundation Balance Sheet is available on request for donors to the Foundation. We would like to thank all of those who contributed their time and effort in transcribing, translating and compiling research notes and lessons, and those who supported our aims with financial donations. Thank you Br. Ararat.



