

Course details

dates:

6th Feb – Introduction & overview
20th Feb & 6th March – **Letter 1**
(20th March*) - 3rd April – **Letter 2**
1st & 15th May – **Letter 3**
5th & (19th June*) – **Letter 4**
17th July & 7th August – **Letter 5**
21st August & 4th Sept. – **Letter 6**
16th October & 6th Nov. – **Letter 7**
20th Nov. & 4th Dec. – **Letter 8**
to be cont. 2011 & 2012

* date/location to be confirmed

location:

Michael Centre ('library' room)
37a Wellington Park Drive
Warranwood

to bring:

notebook, tarot deck, colouring pencils

expected format (variation will occur):

4:00 - 4:20: quiet reflection on card imagery
4:20 - 6:00: presentation & discussion

The **first session** (with J-M.) on each letter will provide an overview and raise points therein; the **second session** (with Lynne) is expected to be a participative discussion.

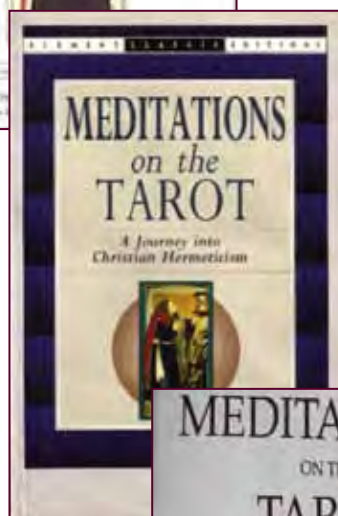
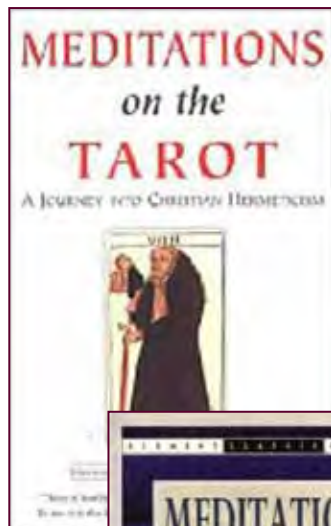
contact details (e.mail preferred):

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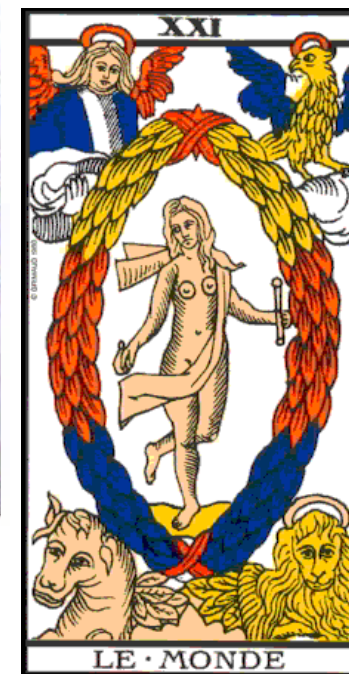


TAROT

2010-2012

FORTNIGHTLY SESSIONS ON
MEDITATIONS ON THE TAROT

1ST & 3RD SATURDAYS (EXCEPT SCH'L H'DAYS) 4-6 PM
COST: \$10 (\$5 CONC.) PER SESSION



WITH JEAN-MICHEL DAVID
& LYNNE KLUGMAN

Meditations on the Tarot is one of those rare books that contains a vast breadth and depth of spiritual insight, referencing not only – though predominantly – the key Western Esoteric Traditions, but also aspects from Eastern sources.

The book is divided into twenty-two letters that were published post-humously, written in the latter part of the 1960s from an ‘Unknown’ Author (UA) to his readers (‘UA’ is an appellation becoming increasingly common when referring to its author, and reminiscent of the Martinist ‘Unknown Philosopher’). Such ‘letter’ style is not unusual, and is found in some classic Russian and mediaeval Christian texts – for example *The Cloud of Unknowing* (Penguin Classics).

The UA clearly comes from a Christian perspective, but not one which would be expected from any exoteric church – though I have been informed that the previous Pope had a copy of the German translation of the work!

Each letter is an exegesis of one of the trumps, with the final letter making implications for the rest of the deck. Though the author clearly refers to the Marseille deck in the text, he also states (p 260):

The twenty-two Cards of the Major Arcana of the Tarot being an organism, a complete whole, it is not a question of diverse and disparate origins of particular Cards, but rather of the degrees of their evolution or transformation. For the Tarot, also, is *not a wheel*, a closed circle, but rather a *spiral*, i.e. it evolves through tradition and ... reincarnation

Reading the book is certainly a journey, not so much because it takes the reader along well traveled paths (which it does, being firmly grounded in *tradition*) – but rather because the reader is lead far and wide to a very diverse and broad range of other authors – some well known, such as Drs Steiner or Jung, others not as

well, such as Dr Carton or Prof. Mebes.

The classics are also extremely well interwoven, and relevant quotes from such important esoteric, spiritual and hermetic texts as the *Kore Kosmu*, the *Bible*, the *Zohar*, the *Vishvasara Tantra*, the *Hermetica* (amongst others), as well as quotes from or references to Wirth, Origen, Papus, Bergson, Goethe, Kant, Eliphas Lévi, Nietzsche, d’Olivet, Péladan, Philip de Lyons, Plato, Albertus Magnus, and Sts Anthony, Teresa, John of the Cross, Augustine, Bonaventure, Francis of Assisi, Thomas Aquinas, and the Buddha (in addition to those previously mentioned, ie, Steiner *et al.*). Each quote or reference is carefully selected and artfully placed.

Of Tarot’s history, the UA states (ibid.):

The authors who saw in the Tarot the ‘Sacred Book of Thoth’ (Thoth = Hermes Trismegistus) were both right and wrong at the same time. They were right in so far as they traced back the history of the *essence* of the Tarot to antiquity, notably to ancient Egypt. And they were wrong in so far as they believed that the Tarot had been *inherited* from ancient Egypt, i.e. that it had been *transmitted* from generation to generation subject to minor iconographic changes.

This work ranks amongst the classics of mysticism, gnosis and magic – the three pathways into Hermeticism. For all serious Tarot enthusiasts, and for all aspirants walking the Occidental Spiritual paths, I would recommend it without reservation, and invite you to share with others a journey of discovery into the book’s incredible wealth.

Each session will begin with a quiet time for reflection on the card image upon which the Letter is based, followed by, alternately, either a presentation introducing some of the sources used by the author of the work, or a **discussion** based on the content, its insights, and, when appropriate, its consequences.

You will need:

- a copy of *Meditations on the Tarot*;
- the *Grimaud Marseille* deck (used in the book);
- writing materials (including pencils) and notebook (for notetaking *as well as for sketches*).

About Jean-Michel David & Lynne Klugman

Jean-Michel has taught Tarot since the late 1980s. He was the principal organiser of the 2005 *International Tarot Conference*, a founder of the *Association for Tarot Studies*, and main instigator behind *Tarotpedia*. He is also listed on the *Who’s Who* of Tarot on the German based Trionfi.com and has also featured on ABC’s Radio National with Rachel Kohn.

Lynne first began serious study of the Tarot in 1992. She has an enduring and deep interest in Christian Hermeticism and is currently facilitating workshops for Robert Powell (who lectures & writes on Christian Hermeticism & translated the *Meditations on the Tarot* into English) in Melbourne and supporting the foundation of Sophianic inspired work in Australia. She has run many esoteric study groups and promotes the celebration of annual festivals, including the 13 Holy Nights.

Expression of interest form (please write clearly):

Name:

Postal or email address:

Contact tel.: