Books by Anthony Blake

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**EARLY WORKS**

Based on transcriptions from a seminar held at Claymont Court, West Virginia, this is an experiential as well as theoretical exploration. Its frame of reference is taken from the ideas of G.I. Gurdjieff and J. G. Bennett. It explains the concept of three kinds of time and how they relate to life, dreams, progress and spirituality. And it includes exercises and discussions that bring the concepts into living experience. The text is enriched with remarkable drawings by Phyllis Peltz Bolton. Written in 1979, this book remains relevant as an exposition of Bennett’s ideas on time.

‘Intelligence’ is a mosaic of thoughts mirroring the multifaceted myriad sparks of intelligence itself. It offers no theories, only the cosmic dust of visions. As varied as the stars, intelligence is not a mental faculty but the very stuff of the universe. More complex than the biosphere, more whole than any thought, it makes meaning everywhere and in every moment. The book is cast in the form of a set of interlocking aphorisms, an implicit hypertext.

Here are various glimpses of the ‘fourth way’ initiated by George Gurdjieff, not in any logical order but echoing Ouspensky’s idea of ‘fragments of an unknown teaching’. They are composed of talks, conversations and musings occurring over a decade or so. Using many illustrations, the book has the form of a mosaic of impressions.
MAJOR STUDIES

The enneagram, an ancient diagram first popularized by G. I. Gurdjieff, represents the evolution of any process and is thus a remarkable tool for analyzing and understanding many different areas of endeavor. Drawing on the teachings of John Bennett, a major interpreter of the Gurdjieff Work, the author shows how using the enneagram can enhance our powers of intuition, our capacity to see situations holistically, and our ability to find connections between different regions of knowledge and experience. After discussing in detail the fundamental ideas woven into the symbol, the author applies the insights in the enneagram to a series of topics ranging from the solar system to sex, from science fiction movies to the Lord’s Prayer.

The Supreme Art of Dialogue attempts to integrate diverse perspectives on the dialogue process, including the spiritual and the scientific and is itself a kind of dialogue incorporating many points of view. It has four main sources. Each contrasts with each of the others in contrasting ways, and engages with the others reciprocally: Structural Communication developed for educational purposes in the 1960s; further developed eventually into LogoVisual Technology; Dialogue, free-floating conversation not directed to the future but to the present moment; N-logue, structured conversation based on the number of participants N, usually articulated and observable for small numbers up to 4; ILM based on listening to complex sounds, especially music, that are more highly structured than speech in form. The dialogue process is of supreme importance in human life yet only now is it beginning to be acknowledged. The late Patrick de Mare always insisted that dialogue was mind and that mind was that between brains.

We are bound to hold beliefs or images of the world and ourselves that exceed available evidence. They will tend be limiting and blinkered but sometimes also heuristic and inspiring. It is probably not a good thing to remain inside any set of beliefs for long, so we might as well exercise our ‘belief muscles’ and see just what we can think of or imagine as possible without bothering over much about what we might approve of in terms of our past conditioning. Hence the idea of a ‘Gymnasium of Beliefs’.

The theme of Higher Intelligence can now, in the 21st century, be seen equally as science fiction or mysticism, as a question of technology or of religion, and it is reflected in innumerable realms of discourse, each in its own way. Beliefs about aliens, artificial intelligence, angels, galactic influences, ancient wisdom, and many other things continue to proliferate, often with scant regard to either plausibility or contrary evidence but remain stimulating and challenging.
Following in the footsteps of spiritual pioneers George Gurdjieff and John Bennett and in accord with modern philosophers including Leibniz, Kierkegaard, Heidegger and others, Anthony Blake combines experimental phenomenology with systematic enquiry to read experience in a way that reveals new kinds of thinking. The Reading of Experience was the first in a series of seminars in which Blake furthered the research and lines of enquiry initiated by Bennett in his magnum opus *The Dramatic Universe*.

Describes how a new world comes out of seeing and thinking differently. These talks from three seminars held in Baltimore in the 90’s follow themes inspired by John Bennett’s writings. Bennett regarded his writings, including his magnum opus *The Dramatic Universe*, as mere footnotes to Gurdjieff’s All and Everything. These talks in their turn are footnotes to Bennett’s. They explore what it is to act and create. The author has continued over decades an enquiry into the meeting points of Gurdjieff and Bennett’s esoteric teachings and the ideas of modern philosophy, psychology and physics. They are based on taking seriously the uncertainty and incompleteness of our knowledge and recognising the enigma of our apparent existence.

This book is the third compiled from seminars in the Baltimore Series that began with *The Reading of Experience* and continued with *Making a New World*. The series was increasingly experiential, and introduced techniques based on music and dialogue. Concepts such as Time, Presence, Creation and so on were presented as phenomena to participate in rather than think about. The idea of the Present Moment was one of John Bennett’s most important insights. It means far more than the fleeting impression we call ‘now’. Reaching inside the present moment means to see through the shadows of existence.
Throughout recorded history humans have used simple qualities of number to guide understanding. In the mid-twentieth century John Bennett, taking his cues from Gurdjieff’s magnum opus *All and Everything*, the categories of Charles Sanders Peirce, Pythagoras and modern trends in structural thinking and design, outlined a scheme of multi-term systems based on the integers 1 to 12. In this book the author, a student and collaborator of Bennett, goes deeply into the meaning of the first two systems, the monad and the dyad.

Anthony Blake explores the deep structure of the triad in many fields and gives guidance on how to think triadically. The book is composed of two collections of essays one of which is based on a course of seminars. Though based on the Gurdjieff-Bennett tradition the book ranges widely - for example, into physics and Hinduism as well as Christianity and number theory. It combines attention to formal detail with in depth understanding of fields of experience.

One, Two, Three and Four – these small numbers are hardwired into us and probably guide our thinking about everything. We share them with the animals at an instinctual level. But to delve down into the primordial depths of these apparently simple numbers takes time and a mass of information. They were the basis of John Bennett’s system of thinking he called Systematics, in which every integer has a meaning in an unlimited progression: the first four ‘elementary systems’ set the stage for the discovery of deeper structures of meaning. Based on a seminar held in 2014, this book draws together many threads and opens a way to embracing and appreciating the immense wealth of meaning to be found everywhere if we can allow ourselves to be simple in a precise way.

Gurdjieff told Ouspensky, “A great deal can be found by reading. For instance, take yourself: you might already know a great deal if you knew how to read”. This Index shows the ideas in their various contexts as they emerged over the years, by following their chronological appearance.
Audio Recordings by Anthony Blake

BEELZEBUB’S TALES TO HIS GRANDSON

MEETINGS WITH REMARKABLE MEN

LIFE IS REAL, THEN, ONLY WHEN ‘I AM’

VIEWS FORM THE REAL WORLD (EARLY TALKS)

IN SEARCH OF THE MIRACULOUS
Also available:

Herald of Coming Good, Glimpses of the Truth, Struggle of the Magicians - G I Gurdjieff

Mount Analogue – Rene Daumal

Mr God, This is Anna – Fynn

Waiting on God – Simone Weil

Cloud of Unknowing – Anon

Gilgamesh – trs.Mitchell

And poetry:

Everlasting Gospel, Marriage of Heaven and Hell, The Mental Traveller, Milton - William Blake


Duino Elegies (two versions) - R. M. Rilke

I Sing the Body Electric, Song of Myself - Walt Whitman

Sonnets – Shakespeare

The recordings are available on disk but also as downloads.

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