

MOVEMENTS OF THE SOUL

DuVersity Event May 9-12 2019

Claymont Society for Continuous Education, West Virginia, USA

Movements of the Soul follows on from our previous event at Claymont, *The Language of Gesture* – with a major new element engaging us in the making of *sacred images* through movement. This requires us to realise we are bodily because it is through this that there can be real acts of worship. Word, breath and movement can combine and fuse to lose their partiality as, according to Gurdjieff, thinking, feeling and sensing can coalesce into a new body of individuality.



As in *The Language of Gesture* we will use some Gurdjieff movements to direct us in meaningful ways. For example, we will work at the rarely performed *Litany of Five Prayers* in conjunction with excursions into the sacred gestures of the Abrahamic, Buddhist and Shamanic traditions as well as glimpses of modern forms. We also aim to reconstruct and enact some of the rituals described in Gurdjieff's scenario for *The Struggle of the Magicians*.



The theme of sacred images and worship dates back to John Bennett's work and his self-avowed task of contributing to the arising of forms of worship appropriate for our times.

He hinted that this work would invoke a sacred image of *Unconditioned Nature*, the Nature that is *really* there but which we have to *be able to see*. By what *acts* can we make *contacts* with true Nature? This is not a matter of having pictures in mind but more a matter of creating something in the body.

In a DuVersity event, we strive to merge diverse elements and avoid ideological bias and conditioning, in an open-ended participative performance. Everything is connected though it may not seem obvious at first. The way of understanding utilizes knowledge and experience but is not confined to them. We may come to see how gesture can give concrete form to our *will*, bridging worlds.

Here is a *provisional list* of contributors *not as yet fully confirmed*; and the people listed here have talents that spread to other areas and are not confined to their single description.

Anthony Blake: director

Molly Knight Forde: pianist

Bhati Diaz: movements

Steven Rhodes: beginnings

Jesai Jayhmes: performance

Darlene Franz : chanting



Dates: May 9-12, 2019. The seminar will begin with dinner on Thursday evening and end with lunch on Sunday.

**Location: The Claymont Society for Continuous Education
Charles Town, WV 25414
(See www.society.claymont.org for more information about the Claymont Society)**

The cost of the event including lodging and meals is \$495. (\$450 if registered and paid before March 15, 2019.)

For more information and to register:

Please contact Matt Zenkovich – zenkm1428@gmail.com