



FACULTEIT DER GEESTESWETENSCHAPPEN  
*Afdeling Geschiedenis, Europese Studies &  
Religiestudies*

**HISTORY OF HERMETIC PHILOSOPHY  
AND RELATED CURRENTS**

**REPORT 2023**



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## **1. General overview**

The HHP group has flourished in 2023, with individual and collective projects, publications, conferences, and teaching activities. Our classes continue to attract a good number of students. Quite often, especially for the MA program, our courses are full to capacity, and there are waiting lists for students who apply after the maximum number has been reached.

The group continues to produce high-quality research and to be involved in international scholarly networks, both specifically related to the study of esotericism and in neighbouring fields. Our strategic collaboration with the Centre for Comparative Studies of Civilisations and Spiritualities (CCSCS) at the Giorgio Cini Foundation goes on. The main aspect of this collaboration is a series of conferences that we started a few years ago. They usually take place in November at the premises of the Foundation in Venice, and the resulting papers are published in book form or as special issue of a journal. This year, we co-organised and co-sponsored (with the generous contribution of the GHF Foundation) a conference entitled “Occultural Transfers between North and South”. We plan other conferences and forms of collaboration with the CCSCS in the years to come.

Among the most interesting new projects that have been launched this year, we should mention the collaboration with the Center for the Study of World Religions (CSWR) at Harvard Divinity School, the Warburg Institute, and the CCSCS for a postdoctoral fellowship in Spirituality and the Arts. This is based on a one-year paid postdoctoral fellowship offered by the CSWR, which can be complemented with a period of two months at the three other partner institutions respectively: the Warburg Institute, the Cini Foundation, and of course our HHP Centre in Amsterdam. Initially, it was not easy to handle the administrative and practical challenges of such a new construction, involving four research institutions located in different countries, but in the end the program could successfully be launched, with the first call for applications, in the Spring of 2023. Amsterdam will host its first fellow in the Spring next year. We hope to be able to continue with this program also in the coming years.

Our Winter and Summer Schools continue to be very successful, with students attending



from every part of the world. Marco Pasi and Christian Greer are the co-directors, with Mriganka Mukhopadhyay as associate coordinator for a second year in 2023. All HHP staff members are invited to contribute to the teaching and the related activities.

Our media coordinator Ninian Nijhuis is still in charge of managing our social media accounts, which have a crucial role in the dissemination of information about our projects and activities. At the end of the year, we reached a peak of 24.000 followers on Instagram. Our website is also functioning very well and remains our primary vehicle for presenting information about our Centre to the outside world. Apart from our official media channels, I would also like to mention our longstanding collaboration with HHP alumna Stephanie Shea and her [Rejected Religion](#) podcast series. Stephanie participates regularly in our media meetings and has often contributed to the promotion of our events and initiatives. We also have a useful collaboration with HHP alumnus Earl Fontainelle and his [Secret History of Western Esotericism Podcast](#) (SHWEP). In 2023 we have renewed our collective subscription to the podcast, which is available to our students and is much appreciated by them

Finally, the HHP Student Association has been active in the organisation of lectures and events.

## **2. Staff**

The composition of our group has remained the same in 2023 as in 2022. There are therefore no particular changes to mention here.



### 3. Teaching: courses and levels of participation

*2022-2023, 1st semester, block 3*

BA

Secrets of the West 3: Research Project (W.J. Hanegraaff). 18 students

MA

Visions of the Occult: Introduction to Western Esotericism (HHP Winter School), 17-28 January 2023 (M. Pasi, J.C. Greer, P.J. Forshaw, W.J. Hanegraaff, D.M. Burns, L.W.I. Saif). 22 students

*2022-2023, 2<sup>nd</sup> semester, block 1*

BA

Islam (L.W.I. Saif): 36 students

MA

Islamic Esotericism: From Sufism to the New Age (L.W.I. Saif): 13 students

*2022-2023, 2nd semester, block 4-5*

BA

Western Esotericism in the Early Modern Period (P.J. Forshaw). 24 students

Western Esotericism from the 18th to the 20th Century (M. Pasi). 18 students

Religious Studies: History and Philosophy (D. M. Burns). 8 students

MA

Renaissance Esotericism: Occult Philosophies (P.J. Forshaw). 20 students

Occult Trajectories: Modern esotericism and politics (M. Pasi). 16 students

Ancient Judaism: Religion, Ethnicity, Politics (D. M. Burns, I. Zwiep). 6 students

Religious Experience (D. M. Burns). 9 Students

*2022-2023, 2nd semester, block 6*

MA

Arcane Worlds: New Frontiers in the Study of Esotericism, HHP Summer School, 2-20 July, 2023 (M. Pasi, J.C. Greer, M. Mukhopadhyay, P.J. Forshaw, W.J. Hanegraaff, D.M. Burns, L.W.I. Saif, J. MacMurphy, D.J. Rose, B. Kettelle, G. Dalla Grana). 24 students



*2023-2024, 1st semester, block 1-2*

BA

Secrets of the West 1: Culture and Counterculture before Modernity (W.J. Hanegraaff). 49 students

Secrets of the West 2: Counter and Counterculture in the Modern Period (W.J. Hanegraaff). 49 students

Ancient Mediterranean Esoteric Traditions (D.M. Burns). 24 students

Introduction to Medieval Esotericism (L.W.I. Saif). 21 students

Islam (L.W.I. Saif). 37 students

MA

Platonic Underworlds: Ancient Gnosticism (D.M. Burns). 19 students

Nature and the Supernatural (P.J. Forshaw). 17 students

Spirituality and Religion: Theories, Concepts, and Methods (M. Pasi). 23 students

Introduction to Western Esotericism and Spirituality (W.J. Hanegraaff). 20 students

Islamic Esotericism and its Medieval Legacies (L.W.I. Saif). 19 students

Dutch research schools (RMA/Ph.D.)

Coptic: An Introduction (D.M. Burns). 9 students



## 4. Research

### 4.1. Research output (academic)

*Dylan M. Burns*

“The Import of the Gnostic Apocalypses from Nag Hammadi for the Study of Early Jewish Mysticism,” in: *Reimagining Apocalypticism: Apocalypses, Apocalyptic Literature, and the Dead Sea Scrolls*, ed. by L. DiTommaso and M.J. Goff, Atlanta: SBL Press, 2023, 503-536.

“More Greek Philosophers Among the Copts: The Notes of Some Philosophers (MONB.BE) and the ‘Wisdom that is Outside’ in Pseudo-Evodius of Rome’s Homily on the Passion and Resurrection,” in: *Parabiblica Coptica*, ed. by I. Miroshnikov, Tübingen, Mohr Siebeck, 2023, 31-52.

“The Nag Hammadi Codices and Graeco-Egyptian Magical and Occult Literature,” in: *The Nag Hammadi Codices as Monastic Books*, ed. by H. Lundhaug and C. Bull, Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2023, 279-316. (open access)

“(No) Providence Among the Manichaeans? Divine Care in the Kephalaia of the Teacher,” in: *The Medinet Madi Library of Manichaean Codices at 90: Papers from the Symposium at the Chester Beatty Library in Dublin, 18–19 October 2019*, ed. by J. BeDuhn, P. Dilley, and I. Gardner, Leiden-Boston: Brill, 2023, 96-122.

Review of Eric Crégheur (ed. and tr.), « *Les Deux Livres de Iéou* » (*MS Bruce 96,1-3*). *Les livres du grand discours mystérique, Le livre des connaissances du Dieu invisible, Fragment sur le passage de l’âme* (2019), in: *Vigiliae Christianae* 77 (2023): 565-575. (open access)

Review of David G. Robertson, *Gnosticism and the History of Religions* (2021), in: *Reading Religion* (31 January 2023). (open access)

*Giulio Dalla Grana*

“From Mazzini to Towiański: Affinities and Divergences of a Religious Revolution”, in: *Towianizm. Fenomen i dziedzictwo*, ed. by Ewa Hoffmann-Piotrowska and Karol Samsel, Warszawa: Wydawnictwa Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego, 2023, 264-289.

“Andrzej Towiański. Between Catholic Esotericism and Political Messianism”, *Religiographies* 2:2 (2023): 37-58.

“Fight and Contemplation. The Towianists amid the European Revolutions of 1848”, *The Polish Journal of the Arts and Culture*, n.s. 17:1 (2023), 13-31.

*Wouter J. Hanegraaff*

“Generous Hermeneutics: Hans Thomas Hakl and Eranos,” *Religiographies* 1:2 (2023), 59-75.

“Close Encounters with the Third Kind: A Hermetic Theory of Imaginal Consciousness,” *Transcultural Dialogues* 13 (2023), [www.fondationalaindanielou.org](http://www.fondationalaindanielou.org).

[ed.], special issue “Translating Esotericism”, *Correspondences* 11:1 (2023). In



collaboration with Mriganka Mukhopadhyay.

“Translating Esotericism: Scepticism, Optimism, Agency,” in: Hanegraaff and Mukhopadhyay (eds.), “Translating Esotericism,” special issue, *Correspondences* 11:1 (2023), 1-30. In collaboration with Mriganka Mukhopadhyay.

“Translating Esotericism: German and Dutch,” in: Hanegraaff and Mukhopadhyay, “Translating Esotericism,” *Correspondences* 11:1 (2023), 67-73.

“Магнетска гноза: Сомнамбулизам и потрага за апсолутним знањем” [Magnetic Gnosis: Somnambulism and the Quest for Absolute Knowledge; Serbian translation by N. Radulovic], *Поља* 68: 543 (September-October 2023), 64-80.

“Livros-textos e introduções ao esoterismo ocidental” [Textbooks and Introductions to Western Esotericism, Portuguese translation by J.F. Batista Segundo and E. Ribeiro Teles], *Rever: Revista de Estudos da Religião* 23:2 (2023), 167-194.

#### *Brennan Kettle*

Review of Yves Mühlmatter and Helmut Zander (eds.), *Occult Roots of Religious Studies: On the Influence of Non-Hegemonic Currents on Academia around 1900* (2021), in: *Nova Religio* 26:3, (2023), 131-133.

#### *Hedvig Martin-Ahlén*

“Who Created The Paintings for the Temple?”, in: *Anna Cassel: The Saga of The Rose*, ed. by Kurt Almqvist and Daniel Birnbaum, Stockholm: Stolpe Publishing, 2023, 157-161.

“Hilma af Klint and Rudolf Steiner: An Ambiguous Encounter”, in: *Hilma af Klint & Piet Mondriaan: Forms of Life*, ed. by Nabila Abdel Nabi, Briony Fer and Laura Stamps, London: Tate Publishing, 2023, 100-103.

“Hilma af Klint en Rudolf Steiner: een geheimzinnige ontmoeting”, in: *Hilma af Klint & Piet Mondriaan: Levensvormen*, ed. by Nabila Abdel Nabi, Briony Fer and Laura Stamps, Den Haag: Tate – Kunstmuseum den Haag – Hannibal, 2023, 100-103.

#### *Mriganka Mukhopadhyay*

[ed.], Special Issue “Translating Esotericism”, *Correspondences* 11:1 (2023). In collaboration with Wouter J. Hanegraaff.

“Translating Esotericism: Scepticism, Optimism, Agency,” in: Hanegraaff and Mukhopadhyay (eds.), “Translating Esotericism,” special issue, *Correspondences* 11:1 (2023), 1-30. In collaboration with Wouter J. Hanegraaff.

Review of *Many Mahābhāratas*, ed. by N. Shapiro Hawley and S.S. Pillai (2021), in: *Religious Studies Review* 49, no. 2 (2023), 253.

Review of *Innovations in Esotericism: from the Renaissance to the Present*, ed. by G.D. Hedesan and T. Rudbøg (2021), in: *Religious Studies Review* 49, no.1 (2023), 88.





*Marco Pasi*

[ed.], "Hans Thomas Hakl and His Library", special issue of *Religiographies*, 2:1 (2023), 131 pp.

[ed.], *Religious Dimensions of Conspiracy Theories. Comparing and Connecting Old and New Trends*, Abingdon-New York: Routledge, 2023, 294 pp. In collaboration with Francesco Piraino and Egil Asprem

"Formas de pensamiento *a posteriori*. La Teosofía en el arte moderno y contemporáneo", in: Daniel Birnbaum et al., *Hilma af Klint, visionaria*, Girona: Atalanta, 2023, 105-128.

"Hans Thomas Hakl: Reminiscences and Reflections on the Challenges of Studying Esotericism in Problematic Contexts", in: M. Pasi (ed.), "Hans Thomas Hakl and His Library", special issue of *Religiographies*, 2:1 (2023), 7-15.

"Introduction", in: Francesco Piraino, Marco Pasi, and Egil Asprem (eds.), *Religious Dimensions of Conspiracy Theories. Comparing and Connecting Old and New Trends*, Abingdon-New York: Routledge, 2023, 1-11. In collaboration with Francesco Piraino and Egil Asprem.

*Dell Rose*

"Durch die Physik: Franz von Baader's 'New' Physicalism," *Arcana Naturae*, 3 ("Occultes Médecines", 2022), 9-31.

"Avalonian Baháism: Esotericism, Orientalism, and the Search for Direction in Early Twentieth Century Britain," *Aries*, (published [online](#) as advance article, 2023), 1-27.

*Liana Saif*

[with Charles Burnett], "The Aping of Culinary Recipes in Magical Texts: The Case of the *Flos naturarum* and the *Kitāb al-Istijlāb* (Liber de quatuor confectionibus)", in: *The Recipe from the XII<sup>th</sup> to the XVII<sup>th</sup> Centuries: Europe, Islam, Far East*, ed. Bruno Laurioux and Agostino Paravicini Bagliani, Firenze: SISMEL, 2023, pp. 117-148.

"Physiognomy: Science of Intuition", in *Routledge Handbook on the Sciences in Islamicate Societies. Practices from the 2<sup>nd</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> to the 13<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> Centuries*, ed. by Sonja Brentjes, New York: Routledge, 2023, pp. 180-193.

## 4.2 Other publications

*Corey Andrews*

"Comenius: Man of our Times", in: *Comenius lectures spirituelles yearbook*, June 2023.

"Amsterdam as Haven for Religious Refugees in the Early Modern Period, conference report, in: [H-Soz-Kult](#), 4 March 2023.

*Wouter J. Hanegraaff*

"Esoterik und Demokratie: Einige Klarstellungen," Bundeszentrale für Politische



Bildung, 8 February 2023 (available online [here](#)).

“A Poem at the Edge of Reality,” *Creative Reading*, 4 December 2023.

*Hedvig Martin-Ahlén*

“Who Created The Paintings for the Temple?”, *Engelsberg Ideas*, 2023 (available online [here](#)).

*Marco Pasi*

“Varieties of Modern Enchantments”, in: *Hilma af Klint & Piet Mondriaan: Forms of Life*, ed. by Nabila Abdel Nabi, Briony Fer, and Laura Stamps, London: Tate Publishing, 2023, 112-113.

“Vormen van moderne betovering”, in: *Hilma af Klint & Piet Mondriaan: Levensvormen*, ed. by Nabila Abdel Nabi, Briony Fer and Laura Stamps, Den Haag: Tate – Kunstmuseum den Haag – Hannibal, 2023, 112-113.



## 5. Lectures, conferences, and public activities

*Corey Andrews*

### Conference Papers

“Pansophia Comeniana & Rosicruciana: On the Consideration of Rosicrucian Influence on Comenius' Pansophia: 1600-1680”, paper presented at “Scientiae: Disciplines of Knowing in the Early Modern World”, Prague, 7-10 June, 2023.

“Comenius in Amsterdam: Patronage, Pansophy, and Rembrandt”, presented at “Comenius, Comeniologie, Comeniusforschung: Konvergenzen und Differenzen”, Mannheim, 9-11 November 2023.

### Lectures

“Alchemy and the Body”, lecture for the “WhyNot” festival at the Embassy of the Free Mind, November 2023.

### Interviews and Media Appearances

Participated as a ‘theology and religion expert’ in the Rijksakademie film “Dead Minutes”, filmed by Tom Kemp, summer 2023.

Participated in the ‘Ritman Library’ documentary sequel, filmed and produced by Artoldo Pictures, early summer 2023.

“[Imagine film festival](#)” podcast episode 2 on “Alchemy, Cinema, and Identity”, Fall 2023.

*Dylan M. Burns*

### Conference Organisation

Co-organiser (with Luciana Soares Santoprete, Eric Crégheur, George Kamanolis, and Anna van den Kerchove) of the workshop series “Les Platonismes de l’Antiquité tardive: interactions philosophiques et religieuses”, 2023.

Co-organiser (with Luciana Soares Santoprete) of panels on “Gnosticism and Later Platonism” at the research group “Philosophy, Theology, Aesthetics, Religion: From Antiquity to the Renaissance (Forum for Advanced Studies, Gaetano Massa)”, Rome, 2023.

### Invited Lectures

“Ancient Gnostic Philosophy of Nature,” presented to the KU Leuven Institute of Philosophy and De Wulf-Mansion Centre for Ancient, Medieval and Renaissance Philosophy lecture series “Leuven Colloquia on Ancient Platonism,” Leuven, December 2023.

“Natural Problems in the Paraphrase of Shem (NHC VII,1) and Poimandres (CH 1),” presented to the workshop “Laws of Cosmic Regularity,” in Bern, September 2023.

“The Jew as Theological Opponent in the Coptic Sermons Attributed to Proclus of



Constantinople,” presented to the APOCRYPHA (ERC-funded project) workshop in Rome, June 2023.

“A Numenian Heritage? Doctrines of Multiple Intellects in the Coptic Gnostic Corpus,” presented to the conference “Filosofia, Teologia, Estetica e Religione fra Antichità e Rinascimento,” in Rome, June 2023.

“*Voces Magicae* and the Coptic Gnostic Corpus,” presented to the workshop “Structuring Magic,” Leiden, February 2023.

#### Conference papers

“Mysteries of the Letters of the Greek Alphabet: A Byzantine Treatise on Lettrism,” ESSWE conference, Malmö, June 2023.

“Nous in the Platonism of the Valentinians,” presented to the conference of the International Society of Neoplatonic Studies, Catania, June 2023.

*Giulio Dalla Grana*

#### Conference organisation

Organisation of the panel “Christian Esotericism in the European ‘Long Nineteenth Century’: Practices and Techniques of Diffusion” at the 20th annual conference of the European Association for the Study of Religions (EASR), Vilnius, September 2023.

#### Invited lectures

“L’eredità sconosciuta di una dottrina dimenticata. Uno sguardo su Andrzej Towiański”, UniEdu3, Milan, April 2023.

#### Conference papers

“Exaltation through Piety: Towianist Rites and Practices”, ESSWE9 Conference, Malmö University, June 2023.

“Preaching and Publishing: Towianist Techniques of Proselytization”, 20th annual conference of the European Association for the Study of Religions (EASR), Vilnius, September 2023.

“Jakob Boehme and the Polish Emigration in Nineteenth-Century Paris”, presented at the conference “Jacob Böhme: Wirkung, Rezeption, Kontexte. Moderne und Postmoderne”, Nysa, Poland, 2023.

*Peter J. Forshaw*

#### Invited lectures

“Hermes and ‘the Ancient Theology’ in the Renaissance”, keynote lecture presented at “The Renaissance Symposium: The Ideas, Figures, and Influence of Renaissance Humanism”, Florence, 18 November 2023.



“Introduction to Alchemy”, presented at “Culture Matters: Kunst und Wissenschaft der Alchemie”, Schweizerische Studienstiftung, Basel, 28-29 October 2023.

“Alchemy”, lecture for the “Imagine Film Festival”, De Hallen, Amsterdam, 26 October, 2023.

“The Magic of Alchemy”, lecture for the Allard Pierson Museum, Amsterdam, 22 October, 2023.

“Emblema, Symbola, Hieroglyphica in the Works of Michael Maier (1568-1622)”, EMPHASIS, London, 1 July 2023.

“Communicating Chymistry: Michael Maier’s Emblema, Symbola, and Hieroglyphica”, Scientiae Conference, Prague, 7-10 June 2023.

“The Doctrine of Signatures of Natural Things: The Language of Nature”, lecture for the Allard Pierson Museum, Amsterdam, 31 May 2023.

“Medieval Alchemy in the Christian West”, Royal Society of Chemistry, London, 28 February 2023.

#### Media and online activities

Active with Instagram account @petrus.malus to help with HHP social media. (Currently 60,000 followers).

#### Other activities

Webinar: “Theo- and Mytho-Alchemy”, *Psychology and Alchemy*, CAJS: Centre of Applied Jungian Studies, 16 September 2023.

*Wouter J. Hanegraaff*

#### Conference organisation

“Entheogenic Humanities,” conference co-organised with Jeffrey J. Kripal, Esalen Center for Theory and Research, Esalen, California, 6-11 August 2023.

#### Invited lectures

Untitled contribution to the workshop “Situatdness, Politics, and the Study of Esotericism”, ETH Zürich, Switzerland, 4-5 May 2023.

“Hermes, Hermeneutics & the Humanities.” Keynote lecture presented at the FRESO conference “Sciences et ésotérisme: Représentations, Interactions, Usages”, Paris, 12-13 May 2023.



“Hermetic spirituality and Entheogenic Humanities,” opening lecture for “Entheogenic Humanities”, conference at the Esalen Institute for Theory and Research, 6-11 August 2023.

“Hermetic Freedom and Human Dignity” presented at the conference “What the Name ‘Freedom’ stands for: The Story of Icarus and Other Contemporary Misfortunes”, Eranos Foundation, Ascona, Switzerland, 7 September 2023.

“Swedenborg, Oetinger, and Kant: Reflections Seventeen Years after its Publication,” invited lecture for the workshop “Imprints of a Mind: Recognizing Swedenborg’s Influence in Cultural History”, De Hermitage, Amsterdam, 10 September 2023.

#### Interviews and media appearances

“Hermes Yesterday and Today,” roundtable with Justin Sledge, Embassy of the Free Mind, 17 November 2023. (available online [here](#))

*Tjalling D. Janssen*

#### Conference papers

“Soteriology, Reciprocity and Practice in the *Liber de nymphis*,” ESSWE9 Conference, Malmö University, June 2023.

*Brennan Kettelle*

#### Conference papers

“‘The Henchmen of Lilith’: Spiritually-Mandatory Heterosexuality and the Demonization of Queerness in the Sex Magical Teachings of Samael Aun Weor,” ESSWE9 Conference, Malmö University, June 2023

*John MacMurphy*

#### Conference Papers

“*Shem Ha-Mephorash*: The Divine Names and their Deadly Kabbalistic Applications,” ESSWE9 Conference, Malmö University, June 2023.

*Hedvig Martin-Ahlén*

#### Invited lectures

“The Infamous Studio Visit. Truth and Fiction in the Story of Hilma af Klint and Rudolf Steiner”. Lecture at the Rudolf Steiner House, London, June 2023.



### Interviews and Media Appearances

[“After the Sudden Heralding of Hilma af Klint, Questions and Court Fight”](#). Interview in *New York Times*, August 28, 2023.

[“Var Hilma af Klints konst egentligen ett lagarbete?”](#). Interview in *Tidningen Vi* (swe), November 24, 2023.

[“Undangömda målningar hittades på vinden”](#). Article with mention of my research in *Svenska Dagbladet* (swe), December 8, 2023.

[“Spirited Away: Who painted Hilma af Klint’s otherworldly visions?”](#). Review in online magazine *ArtForum* of the book *Anna Cassel: The Rose Saga*, April 19, 2023.

### Conference organisation

“Art and Esoteric Practice”. Panel organised for the ESSWE9 conference, Malmö University, June 2023.

### Conference papers

“Spontaneous Influences”, paper for the ESSWE9 conference, Malmö University, June 2023.

*Mriganka Mukhopadhyay*

### Invited Lectures

“Bengali Translation of the Ramayana,” Jagiellonian University, January 2023.

### Conference papers

“Theosophical Movement and Indian Art: Connected Histories,” Theosophy and Art conference, London, July 2023. (online)

“The Curious Case of Bharat Samaj Puja: Entangling Nationalism and Vedic Revivalism through Theosophical Ritual,” ESSWE9 conference, Malmö University, June 2023.

“Teaching Esotericism at Universities,” Workshop on Esotericism and Politics, University of Zurich, May 2023.

“Occult Roots of Indian National Congress: Religious Nationalism and Alignment of Ideologies in India”, Conference on “Antiliberal Internationalism”, University of Amsterdam, January 2023.

*Marco Pasi*

### Conference organisation

Organisation of the international conference “Occultural Transfers between North and South”, Fondazione Giorgio Cini, Venice, 1-2 November 2023. In collaboration with Francesco Piraino and Giuliano D’Amico.



### Invited lectures

“The 1913 Stockholm Exhibition: Theosophical Receptions of New Forms of Art”. Invited lecture for the symposium “Exploring Hilma af Klint’s Spiritual Quest Through Art”, Rudolf Steiner House, London, June 2023.

### Conference papers

Response to the panel “Art & Esoteric Practice” at the ESSWE9 conference, Malmö University, June 2023.

“Breaking the Seals: Transatlantic Feminism and Esoteric Exegesis in Victoria Woodhull and Lady Caithness”. Paper presented at the 20th annual conference of the European Association for the Study of Religions (EASR), Vilnius, September 2023.

“‘When you eat of it your eyes will be opened’: Some Reflections on Esotericism and Food”. Paper presented at the Stockholm Gastronomy Conference, Stockholm University, November 2023.

### PhD examining committees

Member of the examining committee for the PhD dissertation by Aliya Say: “Art, Spirit, and Plants: On Botanical Abstraction, Vegetal Ontology, and Mystical States”. Defended at Aarhus University on 14 March 2023.

Member of the examining committee for the PhD dissertation by Olivia Cejvan: “Arts and Crafts Divine. Teaching and Learning Ritual Magic in Sodalitas Rosae Crucis”. Defended at Lund University on 25 March 2023.

Member of the examining committee for the PhD dissertation by Samanta Viziale: “Authorial Concealment and Transculturally Inspired Art: The Case of Theosophy”. Defended at the University of Turin on 13 June 2023.

Member of the examining committee for the PhD dissertation by Piero Latino: “La Rose initiatique. Des Fidèles d'Amour à la littérature européenne des XIX et XX siècles”. Defended at the Sorbonne University on 13 December 2023.

### Interviews and media appearances

Interview for the article by Aureliano Tonet, “Un personnage instrumentalisé à l'ère de la post-vérité”, *Le Monde*, 27-28 August 2023, p. 26 (print version). Also published online with the title: “A l'ère de la post-vérité, Aleister Crowley voit ses affabulations se retourner contre lui”, available [here](#)).

*Dell Rose*

### Conference organisation

Organisation of the panel “Practical Matters: Funding Research on Esotericism”, ESSWE9 Conference, Malmö University, June 2023.

Organisation of the conference “Imprints of a Mind: Recognizing Swedenborg’s Influence in Cultural History”, Amsterdam, November 2023. With support from the Centre for the





History of Hermetic Philosophy and Related Currents (Amsterdam) and the Swedenborg Bibliotheek (Den Haag).

#### Conference papers

- “Millenarianism in the Early Swedenborgian Community”. Parliament of the World’s Religions, Chicago, 2023.
- “The Holy Flying Cigar: Receptions of the Airship in Western Esotericism”, ESSWE9 Conference, Malmö University, June 2023.
- “‘An Eruption of Myth’. D’Annunzio’s Fiume, Martinism, and the Politics of Esoteric Vision”, Štátná hodina VIII (Happy Hour VIII), Brno, 2023.
- “‘The Satanic Tyranny of Money:’ August Nordernskiöld, Alchemy, Slavery, and the Tradition(s) of Political Swedenborgianism”, presented at the conference “Imprints of A Mind: Recognizing Swedenborg’s in Cultural History” Amsterdam, November 2023.
- “A Kingdom of Light: Jakob Böhme, Franz von Baader, and the Search for Political Regeneration in Nineteenth-Century Germany”, presented at the conference “Jakob Böhme: Wirkung, Rezeption, Kontexte. Moderne und Postmoderne”, Nysa, Poland, 2023.

#### Media Appearances

- “Cultural Receptions of Emanuel Swedenborg”, Rejected Religion Podcast, E27. Available online [here](#).

*Liana Saif*

#### Conference organisation

- Organisation of the international conference: “Science and Craft: The Relations between the Theoretical and Practical Sides of Esoteric Disciplines in al-Andalus and Their Link with Craft”, The Warburg Institute, London, 10-13 January 2023.
- Co-organisation with Andreas Kilcher of the workshop: “Situatdness, Politics, and the Study of Esotericism”, ETH Zurich, 4-5 May 2023.

#### Invited lectures

- “The Entanglement of Jewish and Islamic Magic in the Twelfth Century”, Waseda University, Tokyo, 16 September, 2023.
- “Understanding Islamic Esotericism”, Keio University, Tokyo, 15 September, 2023.
- “Esotericism and The ‘Islamisation of Knowledge’: Historical approaches and pedagogical Ramifications”. Presented at the “Pedagogy and Esotericism” conference, organised by the East Asia Network for the Study of Esotericism. Tokyo, Kokugakuin University, 20 September 2023.
- “Methods and Skills: Islamic Philosophy”, with Andreas Lammer, invited by Christoph Lüthy. Nijmegen, Radboud, 27 September 2023.



### Conference papers

- “The Astral Craft in the Arabic Pseudo-Aristotelian Hermetica”, ESSWE9 Conference, Malmö University, 26 June 2023.
- “The (De)-Esotericisation of Talismanry in the Jābirian K. al-Nukhab (‘The Compendium’)", ESSWE9 Conference, Malmö University, 27 June, 2023.
- “The Professionalisation of Talismanry in the Jābirian K. al-Nukhab”, presented at the conference “Science and Craft: The Relations between the Theoretical and Practical Sides of Esoteric Disciplines in al-Andalus and Their Link with Craft”, The Warburg Institute, London, 12 January 2023.
- “The Angelic Turn of Astral-Hermetic Magic in the Twelfth Century: The Case of Abū Ya‘qūb al-Sakkākī (1160-1229)”, Renaissance Society Annual Meeting, Puerto-Rico, 11 March 2023.



## 6. Editorial activities

*Dylan M. Burns*

(co-editor of book series) “Nag Hammadi and Manichaean Studies” (Brill).

(editorial board) *Aries: Journal for the Study of Western Esotericism* (Brill).

(editorial board) *Early Christianity* (Mohr Siebeck).

(editorial board) *Gnosis: Journal of Gnostic Studies* (Brill).

*Peter J. Forshaw*

(editorial board) *Aries: Journal for the Study of Western Esotericism*. Leiden/Boston, Brill.

(editorial board) *Ambix: Journal of the Society for the History of Alchemy and Chemistry*. London, Maney.

(editorial board) *Correspondences: Online Journal for the Academic Study of Western Esotericism*.

(editorial board) *História Revista*.

(advisory board) *Magic, Ritual, & Witchcraft*, Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania Press.

(editorial board) “Universal Reform: Studies in Intellectual History, 1550-1700”, Aldershot, Ashgate.

(editorial board) “Apocalypticism: Cross-Disciplinary Explorations”, Bern, Peter Lang.

(editorial board) “Oxford Studies in Western Esotericism”, Oxford - New York, Oxford University Press.

*Wouter J. Hanegraaff*

(editorial board) *Religion*. Elsevier.

(editorial board) *Aries: Journal for the Study of Western Esotericism*, Leiden - Boston, Brill.

(editorial board) *Religion Compass*, Section “New Religions”.

(advisory board) *Aegyptiaca: Journal of the History of Reception of Ancient Egypt*.

(advisory board) *Journal of Contemporary Religion*. Carfax

(advisory board) *Nova Religio*. University of California Press.

(general editor) “The Brill Esotericism Reference Library”, Leiden – Boston, Brill.

(editorial board) “Aries Book Series: Texts and Studies in Western Esotericism”, Leiden – Boston, Brill.

(advisory board) “Oxford Studies in Western Esotericism”, Oxford - New York, Oxford University Press.

(member research council) “Scripta Classica”.



*Mriganka Mukhopadhyay*

(review editor) *Correspondences: Journal for the Study of Esotericism*.

*Marco Pasi*

(editorial board) *Aries: Journal for the Study of Western Esotericism*. Leiden / Boston: Brill.

(editorial board) *Annali di Storia dell'Esegesi*.

(editorial board) *Politica Hermetica*.

(editorial board) *The Pomegranate: The International Journal of Pagan Studies*.

(editorial board) *International Journal for the Study of New Religions*.

(editorial board) *Pessoa Plural: An International Journal of Pessoa Studies*.

(editorial board) *e-Rhizome. Journal for the Study of Religion, Culture, Society and Cognition*.

(editor in chief) "Aries Book Series: Texts and Studies in Western Esotericism," Leiden – Boston, Brill.

*Liana Saif*

(editorial board) *Aries: Journal for the Study of Western Esotericism*.

(advisory board) "Brill's Islamic Translation Series", Leiden – Boston, Brill.

(associate editor) *Journal of Early Science and Medicine*.

(editorial board) *Correspondences: Journal for the Study of Esotericism*.