

Born Under Saturn By Rudolf Wittkower

‘Examines ‘melancholia’ as a philosophical, medical, and social phenomenon in early modern art. Argues that, despite advances in art and science, the topos of the dispirited intellectual continues to function metaphorically as a locus for society’s fears and tensions’.-Provided by publisher.

In these remarkable lectures, Rudolf Steiner reestablishes the human being as a participant in an evolving, dynamic universe of living spiritual beings: a living universe, whole and divine. He does so in concrete images, capable of being grasped by human consciousness as if from within.

A single lecture taken from the volume Life Beyond Death

The Moment of Death And The Period Thereafter

The Jesuit Contribution

Architectural Projects in Seventeenth-century Italy

The Character and Conduct of Artists: a Documented History from Antiquity to the French Revolution

Kundalini

Man’s Life on Earth and in the Spiritual Worlds

These lectures show the factors in life on earth that will influence one’s experiences during life after death, as well as elements of the spiritual world that will affect one’s future life on earth. Steiner also speaks of the influence the living may have on the souls of the dead.

This third essay collection by America’s leading essayist brings together her most important critical writing from 1972 to 1980, in which she explores some of the most influential artists and thinkers of our time.

Eleven Lectures Delivered In Berlin Between January 6 And June 11, 1908.

Ten Lectures Given in Berlin Between 5th November, 1912 and 1st April, 1913

Art as Seen in the Light of Mystery Wisdom

Ross Penhall’s Vancouver, Surrounding Areas and Places That Inspire

Saturn and Melancholy

Processes and Principles

INITIATION SCIENCE

Sir Kenneth Clark wrote in the Architectural Review, that the first result of this book was “to dispose, once and for all, of the hedonist, or purely aesthetic, theory of Renaissance architecture,’ and this defines Wittkower’s intention in a nutshell.

This is a book about the personalities of artists from ancient times to the beginning of the Romantic Age. The authors set out to discover whether there is such a thing as the artistic personality and, if there is, how it can be described. To answer this question they have drawn from sources both famous and obscure an abundance of case histories for the lives of painters and sculptors, and the result is a book which Meyer Schapiro has describes as “an enthralling story of the changing behavior, fortunes, and ideas of artists through the centuries.” As the Wittkowers show, artists are frequently peculiar, but they are seldom peculiar in the same ways. Rubens and Titian, for example, lived eminently reasonable lives, while Michelangelo quarreled with everyone.

Some painters were eccentric to the point of insanity. Some artists were spendthrifts, others were misers; some were celibate and others quite the opposite. The Wittkowers deal with such topics as the changing relationship between artists and their patrons; artists’ attitudes to their work; ‘genius, madness, and melancholy’; artists and the law; the economic and financial position of artists; and artists’ ambitions, feuds, and rivalries. Born Under Saturn, however, does more than prove a thesis. It is an illuminating book, full of vivid and authoritative studies of the personal characteristics, the habits of work and the ways of life of scores of painters and sculptors.

‘It is a cosmic law that what has once taken place can never vanish, but must reappear later in a metamorphosed form. Every thought, feeling and action brought about by man does not only affect the world around him but will re-appear in the future...’ (From the Preface) This course of lectures was originally offered as private, strictly verbal instruction to a select group of esoteric pupils. In an atmosphere of earnest study, Rudolf Steiner ‘translated’ from the Akashic Script valuable concepts of human and cosmic knowledge into words of earthly language - content that is often not to be found in his later lectures. Although working within the Theosophical Society, Steiner was an independent spiritual teacher: ‘... I would only bring forward the results of what I beheld in my own spiritual research.’ The manifold, exact and detailed descriptions of the events of evolution in these lectures form a background to the evolving figure of the human being. The mighty event of the moon leaving the Earth, vividly described, took place - according to Rudolf Steiner - in order to provide an environment suited to human progress. The wonderful moment when the higher being of man descended in a bell-like form and enveloped the lower human body, still on a level with the animals, depicts what eventually provided human beings with a body suited to the development of the self or ‘I’. Spiritual beings and the great initiates led humanity along the path it was destined to tread. Rudolf Steiner presents a sweep of occult knowledge,

including the phases of planetary evolution, various myths and symbols, human physical and spiritual organs, illness, reincarnation, and much more. Also included are unexpected insights into specific phenomena such as dinosaurs, bacteria, radiation, black and white magic, the Sphinx and Freemasonry.

Born under Saturn

Studies in the History of Natural Philosophy, Religion, and Art

The Character and Conduct of Artists

The Sculptor of the Roman Baroque

Lecture Given in London, 2nd September 1923 on the Day of the Foundation of the Anthroposophical Society in Great Britain

The Dark Side of Genius

Adapted for publication from the Charles T. Mathews lectures, 1971-72 by George R. Collins and Margot Wittkower.

With the aid of over 180 photographs, this book studies what unites and separates sculptors across the centuries. It looks at the masters of Archaic Greece, the Middle Ages, through the great names of Michelangelo, Cellini and Bernini to Rodin, Brancusi and Henry Moore. By studying their working methods and techniques, the author discloses their artistic ideas and convictions, thereby opening up new avenues of approach for the spectator.

Within the Mystery cultures of ancient history, art, science and religion formed a unity that offered direction and spiritual nourishment to the broader society. Today, art, science and religion can again be reunited. However, as Marie Steiner indicates in her introduction to these lectures, these aspects of our culture need rejuvenation through fresh spiritual understanding and knowledge. Art cannot be renewed through compromise, but only by returning to the spiritual foundations of life. As she says: “The remedy lies in unlocking the wisdom of the Mysteries and presenting it to humanity in a form adapted to contemporary needs.” In these wide-ranging lectures, Rudolf Steiner offers spiritual insight for the modern day into a revitalised world of the arts. His themes include: the relation of art to technology, the moral experience of the worlds of colour and music, the legendary Norwegian Dream Song of Olaf Åsteson, and the relationship between the various arts of architecture, sculpture, painting, music, poetry, eurythmy and the human being.

Spiritual Perception and the Higher Element of Life

Rosicrucian Wisdom

Atlantis and Lemuria

Baroque Art

The Spiritual Hierarchies and the Physical World

This lecture was given on the day of the foundation of the Anthroposophical Society of Great Britain. It is therefore especially important for English-speaking people. It contains the following verse: I gaze into the Darkness./In it arises Light/Living Light /Who is this Light in the darkness/It is I myself in my reality./This reality of the I/Does not enter into my earthly life./I am but a picture of it./But I shall find it again/When with good will for the Spirit/ shall have passed through the Gate of Death.

The work of Rudolf Steiner is unique in the way it combines esoteric teaching with practical suggestions for the development of social life. Indeed, Steiner is best known today for the application of his ideas in areas such as education, medicine and agriculture. But none of this could have developed without the coherent and profound body of spiritual knowledge which stands at the very core of Steiner’s work. In Rosicrucian Wisdom - one of his most complete introductions to modern spirituality - Steiner speaks out of the stream of Rosicrucian teaching. But rather than borrowing old ideas from historical tradition, Steiner presents a wholly new contribution arising from the results of his own experiential research. He talks of the Rosicrucian path as being appropriate for the modern spiritual seeker, but warns that Rosicrucian teaching should not be taken as abstract theory. Rather than remaining in the head or even the heart, spiritual ideas should reach into daily action, transforming all aspects of life. Steiner goes on to describe many facets of spiritual truth, including the law of destiny, the fact of life after death, ways of developing spiritual vision, humanity’s past and future evolution, and much more.

A rare art history classic that The New York Times calls a “delightful, scholarly and gossipy romp through the character and conduct of artists from antiquity to the French Revolution.” Born Under Saturn is a classic work of scholarship written with a light and winning touch. Margot and Rudolf Wittkower explore the history of the familiar idea that artistic inspiration is a form of madness, a madness directly expressed in artists’ unhappy and eccentric lives. This idea of the alienated artist, the Wittkowers demonstrate, comes into its own in the Renaissance, as part of the new bid by visual artists to distinguish themselves from craftsmen, with whom they were then lumped together. Where the skilled artisan had worked under the sign of light-fingered Mercury, the ambitious artist identified himself with the mysterious and brooding Saturn. Alienation, in effect, was a rung by which artists sought to climb the social ladder. As to the reputed madness of artists—well, some have been as mad as hatters, some as tough-minded as the shrewdest businessmen, and many others wildly and willfully eccentric but hardly crazy. What is certain is that no book presents such a splendid compendium of information about artists’ lives, from the early Renaissance to the beginning of the Romantic era, as Born Under Saturn. The Wittkowers have read everything and have countless anecdotes to relate: about artists famous and infamous; about suicide, celibacy, wantonness, weird hobbies, and whatnot. These make Born Under Saturn a comprehensive, quirky, and endlessly diverting resource for students of history and lovers of the arts. “This book is fascinating to read because of the abundant quotations which bring to life so many remarkable individuals.” – The New York Review of Books

Our Dead

FOUNDATIONS OF ESOTERICISM

Under the Sign of Saturn

Allegory and the Migration of Symbols

Born Under Saturn

Art and Architecture in Italy, 1600 to 1750

Although Steiner did not often speak or write about love explicitly, love is at the very heart of his whole body of work and the foundation of his hopes for humankind and the Earth. Steiner teaches that, without love, nothing is possible; with love, however, we can do everything. Love is always “love of the not-yet.” To love is to create; it is to selflessly enter the current of time that flows toward us from the future. Reality, true knowledge of reality, is impossible without love. Only through love can we truly know as we are know, can we encounter the world and its beings in a living way. Without love, knowledge becomes manipulation, domination, control; the world becomes a space of dead things. But, when we know through love, we enter into a pattern of dynamic, potentially redemptive relations and the world becomes a living world of beings working for the good. This collection gathers all of Rudolf Steiner’s main lectures and writings related to love. From earthly love to the nature and function of spiritual love, these pieces are essential reading for anyone concerned with the future of humanity and the Earth. Love and Its Meaning in the World is essential reading for anyone who’d like to gain a deeper understanding of our true mission as human beings and the purpose of evolution on Earth. Chapters include: “The Division of the Sexes” “Lucifer and Christ” “The Mission of Reverence” “The Buddha’s Teaching of Compassion and Love” “Faith, Love, and Hope” “Love & Its Meaning in the World” “‘I’-Feeling, the Soul’s Capacity to Love, and Their Relationship to the Elemental World” Love mediated by the senses is the wellspring of creative power, of what is coming into being. Without sense-born love, nothing material would exist in the world; without spiritual love, nothing spiritual can arise in evolution.

When we practice love, cultivate love, creative forces pour into the world.... For human beings, love is the most important fruit of experience in the sensory world. Once we really understand the nature of love, or compassion, we will find that love is the way spirit expresses its truth in the world of the senses.... “We may even say that, in love, the spiritual world awakens in the physical. The more truly a soul inhabits the spiritual worlds, the more it experiences lovelessness and lack of compassion as a denial of spirit itself.” –Rudolf Steiner

A collection of 120 paintings by renowned artist Ross Penhall that celebrates the identity and spirit of Vancouver. Also included are paintings of inspirational places across Canada, the US and Europe, including the California Coast, the Prairies and the Italian countryside. Ross Penhall’s Vancouver combines stunning imagery, tribute and personal history to create a portrait of the city through an artist’s eyes. Ross Penhall was born and raised in Vancouver, where he has had two separate and successful careers as a fire captain and now as an internationally recognized painter. Visitors and residents alike will look at Vancouver in a new way after they see it from Ross’ unique perspective. Whether it’s a row of hedges on the corner of someone’s yard or the cascading rocks at Spanish Banks, Ross finds endless inspiration in the city where he lives. In addition to paintings of Vancouver, there is a chapter on Surrounding Areas that focuses on the scenery of the Interior, Vancouver Island and Coastal British Columbia. The final chapter, Places That Inspire, includes paintings of the Pacific Northwest of the United States, the Canadian Prairies and landscapes from Ross’ travels abroad. For lovers of art, for lovers of Vancouver and for anyone who looks for beauty in the everyday world, Ross Penhall’sVancouver is a book that will continue to captivate readers long after they first open it.

This is a new release of the original 1944 edition.

The Character and Conduct of Artists : a Documented History from Antiquity to the French Revolution

The Gospel of St. John

Law as a Means to an End

An Introduction

Cosmic Memory

The Magic and Science of Jewels and Stones

An important contribution to our thought about human society. A classic, long out of print.

Born Under Saturn/The Character and Conduct of Artists*New York Review of Books*

In Hindu tradition, the concept of kundalini refers to a form of primal energy located at the base of the spine. Through traditional Eastern methods, efforts were made to ‘awaken’ the kundalini in order to achieve transformed consciousness. Rudolf Steiner offers an entirely new perspective, integrating the kundalini idea into his spiritual philosophy. This anthology contains all relevant comments and notes by Steiner on the theme, highlighting how his thinking evolved. At the same time, it accentuates the differences - and similarities - between Western and Eastern spiritual paths, and in the process reveals what is new and original about Steiner’s esoteric teachings. In contrast to most yoga traditions - which cultivate the energy rising from the lower life centre - the Western path of esoteric schooling starts in our upper centre of consciousness, in thinking and the ‘I’. From there, the centre of experience is shifted downward, from the head to the heart. After development of the ‘new heart centre’, as Rudolf Steiner describes it, forces can be guided consciously and, through specific exercises, the ‘kundalini snake’ can be fully awoken. In his detailed introduction, editor Andreas Meyer distils the perspectives and instructions from Steiner’s complete works, presenting a valuable synopsis for our understanding and practice of Saturn today. Chapters include: ‘The Meaning of Meditation, and the Six Exercises’; ‘Developing and Cleansing the Lotus Flowers’; ‘The Snake Symbol’; ‘The Kundalini Fire’; ‘The Kundalini Light’; ‘Developing the New Heart Organ’; ‘The Reversal in Thinking and Will’; ‘Specific Aspects of Kundalini Schooling’; ‘Transforming Physical Love and the Division of the Sexes’; ‘Breathing, the Light-Soul Process, and the New Yoga Will’; ‘The Polarity of Light and Love’ and ‘Transforming the Kundalini Fire into Fraternity’.

The Melancholic Persona in Art, Ca. 1500-1700

the character and conduct of artists : a documented history from antiquity to the French Revolution

Sculpture

Art and Visual Perception

Gian Lorenzo Bernini

Nationalism and Culture

This work tells the history and civilization of the submerged continents of Atlantis and Lemuria, which are chapters from the Akashic records. Contents: from the Akashic records; our Atlantean forefathers; transition of the Atlantean into the Aryan root-race; Lemurian era; woman in the third root-race; humanity before the decision of sex; beginnings of sex duality, the origin of good and evil; man’s first ancestors; first, or polar, race; second, or hyperborean, race.

In the best tradition of ancient wisdom literature, Cosmic Memory reconstructs, from the akashic record, events that span the time between the origin of the Earth and the beginning of recorded history. This spiritual research includes a profound investigation of the origins, achievements, and fate of the Atlanteans and Lemurians--the remarkable “lost” root races that developed the first concepts of “good” and “evil,” manipulated natural forces, laid the foundation for human legal and ethical systems, and defined and nurtured the distinctive yet complementary powers of men and women that brought humankind, many centuries ago, to its highest artistic, intellectual, and spiritual attainments. Through this discussion of our true origins, Cosmic Memory offers a genuine foundation for our lives, allowing us to realize our real value, dignity, and essence. The reader is shown our human connection with the world around us as well as our highest goals and true destiny. This is a key volume for understanding Rudolf Steiner’s early development as a Theosophist and how his ideas, terminology, and formulations during that time fit into the development of his anthroposophic epistemology and Christology. Contents: Contemporary Civilization in the Mirror of the Science of the Spirit From the Akash Chronicle Our Atlantean Ancestors Transition of the Fourth into the Fifth Root Race The Lemurian Race The Division into Sexes The Last Period before the Division into Sexes The Hyperborean and Polarcan Epoch Beginning of the Present Earth: Extrusion of the Sun Extrusion of the Moon Some Necessary Points of View On the Origin of the Earth The Earth and Its Future The Life of Saturn: The Life of the Sun Life on the Moon The Life of Earth The Fourfold Man of Earth Answers to Questions Prejudices arising from Alleged Science (1904) This volume is a translation of Aus der Akasha-Chronik (GA 11). “Rudolf Steiner shows that the insoluble link between humanity and cosmos is the fundamental basis of evolution. As human beings have participated in the development of the world we know today, so their achievements are directly connected with the ultimate destiny of the universe. In human hands rests the freedom to shape the future course of creation. Knowledge of our exalted origins and of the path we have followed is indispensable if we are to evolve a future worthy of responsible human beings.... Through a study of Steiner’s writings, one can come to a clear, reasonable, comprehensive understanding of human beings and their place in the universe.” --Paul M. Allen

During Whitsum 1908, seven years after he had given the world the first intimation of the consequences of his turn-of-the-century Christ-experience in Christianity as Mystical Fact, Rudolf Steiner began his great task of renewing humanity’s understanding of the true meaning of the Mystery of Golgotha. Accordingly, he turned to the deepest, most spiritual Gospel: that of the Initiate, St. John. In this lecture cycle, readers will find that the incarnation, death and resurrection of the Divine Word or Logos reveals the mission of the earth to be Love. We learn the secret of the raising of Lazarus, of the Seven Degrees of Initiation, of the IAM sayings. Listening to Rudolf Steiner, we come to understand that the Gospel of St. John is a continuing spiritual presence - to be recalled, meditated, and permeated with one’s life. Doing so, we realize that our task - the task of human beings - is to become ourselves Virgin Sophias, receptive to the Holy Spirit. All of Steiner’s work, as Marie Steiner writes in her introduction, was to “pave the way to Christ.” Indeed, at the conclusion of these lectures Rudolf Steiner said: “It will come to be understood that Christianity is only beginning its influence, and will fulfill its real mission only when it is understood in its true, spiritual form.” And he added: “The more these lectures are understood in this sense, the better they will be understood as they were intended.”

Answers to Questions

Born under saturn, by rudolf and margot wittkower

The Influence of Spiritual Beings Upon Man

Gothic Vs. Classic

Essays

Man as a Picture of the Living Spirit

In an astonishing series of lectures on the science of spiritual knowledge, Rudolf Steiner begins by addressing an audience in Dornach, Switzerland - where, only months earlier, his architectural masterpiece, the first Goetheanum, had been destroyed by fire. He discusses the nature of our planetary system, revealing the planets that are characterised by freedom and those that determine destiny. The spirits of the moon live in seclusion, preserving ‘original wisdom’ and reflecting powers connected to sexuality, whereas the sun creates harmony. Jupiter is ‘the thinker’, whilst the spirits on Saturn act as ‘living memory’. Speaking in London, Steiner states that the things that happen to people in sleep are more important than anything that occurs during waking hours! Human beings, he says, must learn to see themselves as an image of spirits and spiritual activities on earth. In a break from the theme, and returning to Dornach, Rudolf Steiner reports on his recent visit to England and Wales, where he attended an educational conference in Ilkley, a Summer School in Penmaenmawr and a school for the disadvantaged in the East End of London. Steiner speaks of the particular atmosphere he experienced in West Yorkshire and North Wales, where remnants of Druid spirituality live in the surroundings. The latter theme emerges strongly in the next lectures, which examine the Druid priest’s sun initiation and perception of moon spirits. The Druids investigated the secrets of the universe, influencing both social and religious life. Steiner also describes the mythic being of Woden, who signified the birth of intellectuality and the subsequent fear of death - which, he asserts, can be healed by the Mystery of Golgotha. In the final section, Rudolf Steiner discusses: ‘The past, present and future development of the human mind’. Again, he references the importance of Druid culture, noting that the ground plans of the stone circles in Penmaenmawr are similar to that of the first Goetheanum. He also points to the crucial roles of the ancient Mysteries and Christ’s deed in human development.

Saturn and Melancholy remains an iconic text in art history, intellectual history, and the study of culture, despite being long out of print in English. Rooted in the tradition established by Aby Warburg and the Warburg Library, this book has deeply influenced understandings of the interrelations between the humanities disciplines since its first publication in English in 1964. This new edition makes the original English text available for the first time in decades. Saturn and Melancholy offers an unparalleled inquiry into the origin and development of the philosophical and medical theories on which the ancient conception of the temperaments was based and discusses their connections to astrological and religious ideas. It also traces representations of melancholy in literature and the arts up to the sixteenth century, culminating in a landmark analysis of Durer’s most famous engraving, Melencolia I. This edition features Raymond Klibansky’s additional introduction and bibliographical amendments for the German edition, as well as translations of source material and 155 original illustrations. An essay on the complex publication history of this pathbreaking project - which almost did not see the light of day - covers more than eighty years, including its more recent heritage. Making new a classic book that has been out of print for over four decades, this expanded edition presents fresh insights about Saturn and Melancholy and its legacy as a precursor to modern interdisciplinary studies.

The remarkable discussions in this volume took place between Rudolf Steiner and workers at the Goetheanum, Switzerland. At Rudolf Steiner’s instigation, the varied subject-matter was chosen by his audience. He took their questions and usually gave immediate answers. The astonishing nature of these responses - their insight, knowledge and spiritual depth - is testimony to Steiner’s outstanding ability as a spiritual initiate and profound thinker. Accessible, entertaining and stimulating, the records of these sessions will be a delight to anyone with an open mind. In this particular collection, Rudolf Steiner deals with topics ranging from sunspots to strawberries! He discusses, among other things: Lemuria and Atlantis; Chinese and Indian cultures; raw food; vegetarianism; children’s nutrition; manure and soil; hardening of the arteries; the sense of smell; planetary influences; weather and its causes; creation of the world; origin of the human being; Saturn, Sun and Moon; Darwinism; earth strata and fossils; Biela’s comet; star wisdom; evolution of human culture; lightning; and volcanoes.

From Sunspots to Strawberries

and the Development of the Human Mind

A Biography of William Hazlitt

Love and Its Meaning in the World

Between Death and Rebirth

Zodiac, Planets, and Cosmos : Ten Lectures Held in Dusseldorf, April 12-18, 1909 : Notes by Participants from Question-and-answer Sessions, April 21-22, 1909