

Association for the Study of Esotericism and Mysticism

in collaboration with:

Vladimir State University (Vladimir, Russia)

H. Skovoroda Institute of Philosophy (National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Kyiv)

Research Center for Mysticism and Esotericism (St. Petersburg, Russia)

Centre for Religious Studies and International Spiritual Relations (Donetsk, Ukraine)

Third International Conference

Mystic and Esoteric Movements in Theory and Practice

(Religious Studies • Philosophy • Cultural Studies)

STUDYING INTERPRETATIONS OF ESOTERICISM AND MYSTICISM

3 - 5 December 2009, Vladimir

Because of intense public interest in 'new religiosity', esoteric and occult currents as well as in consequence of changes in the Religious and Cultural Studies paradigms, new approaches towards the research of Esotericism and Mysticism have appeared and have been intensively discussed over the last two decades. Academic institutes and societies studying these topics and developing new categories, terms and classifications are on the rise. Western European scholars of religion particularly focus on the issues of the appropriateness of phenomenological and hermeneutic methods, as well as on the application of various types of discourse analysis. At the same time, the humanities studying esotericism, mysticism and their implications in 'new religiosity' in the post-soviet world are just beginning to break ground upon this subject. Conference organizers hope that this scholarly forum will significantly contribute to the cause of development of this promising area of research. The study of the interpretations of esotericism and mysticism prevalent within the esoteric and mystic environment itself, in their public perception and within academic circles may lay ground for further development of the study of mysticism and esotericism in Russia and other post-communist countries.

Session and paper proposals dealing with the study of this phenomenon through various academic disciplines are invited. Papers can be submitted on the following suggested sub-themes (but are not limited to these):

- phenomenology and hermeneutics as methods for the study of esotericism;
- philosophical interpretations of mystic experience;
- historical development of categories, notions and symbols of esotericism;
- character and social structures of "secret societies";
- theory & method in the study of mysticism and esotericism;
- mysticism and esotericism in the contemporary world;
- self-presentations of esoteric societies.

Conference Languages - Russian & English

Application Form

Applications for the conference are to be sent to esoterra2009@mail.ru before **01.11.2009**, filled out in the following manner:

1. Full name:
2. Date of birth:
3. Academic degree:
4. Place of work:
5. Current position:
6. Contact phone:
7. Electronic address:
8. Paper title:
9. Need of accommodation (yes/no):
10. Need of an official invitation from the Organizational committee (yes/no):
11. Need of technical equipment for your report presentation (yes (please, specify what equipment you exactly need)/no):
12. Short paper abstract (approx. 200 words)

The decision on the applications will be made within a week after the deadline via E-mail.

Conference Fee

The conference fee is **20 euro** (for participants who are not from countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States). The fee is to pay upon registration.

Addresses of the Conference

Addresses of the Conference: Vladimir State University, ul. Gorkogo 87.

Conference E-mail

esoterra2009@mail.ru

The Organizing Committee

Chair: Natalia Markova (Vladimir, Russia)

Members: Prof. Dr. Evgeny Arinin (Vladimir, Russia), Prof. Dr. Andrey Zabiako (Blagoveschensk, Russia), Dr. Igor Kozlovsky (Donetsk, Ukraine); Dr. Mikhail Smirnov (St. Petersburg, Russia), Dr. Ekaterina Elbakyan (Moscow, Russia); Dr. Yury Zavhorodniy (Kyiv, Ukraine); Dr. S. Kapranov (Kyiv, Ukraine); Dr. Sergey Pakhomov (Saint-Petersburg, Russia); Vadim Zhdanov (Erlangen, Germany); Andrey Kondratiev (Moscow, Russia).