

Agnes Hidveghy

COSMOLOGY, SPIRITUALITY AND ART



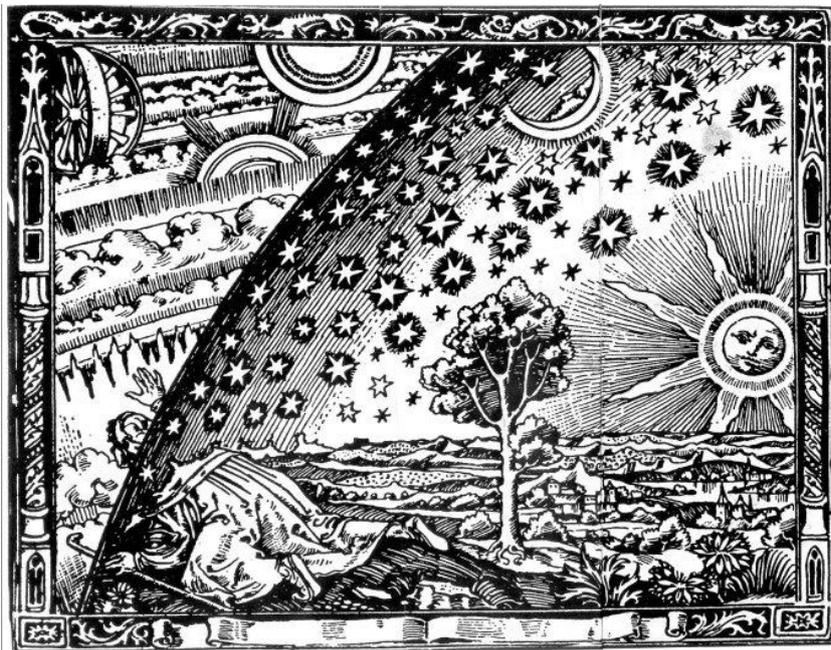
Holy Art as Supporter of Knowledge

Cosmology, Spirituality and Art

Translation: Reijo Oksanen

COSMOLOGY: THE COSMIC INFORMATION SYSTEM

Only a cosmology, which acknowledges the Unity of all Being, which is compatible with the structures and processes of outer cosmos, rooted in the basic structures of mathematics and geometry and at the same time describes the inner world of man, deserves to be called Cosmology.



What is Cosmology? What should we study it for?

The expression Cosmology is used today only in the natural sciences. If it is used in the sense of the old traditions, it often meets an inner blockade. One imagines either a cloudy, old system which is the result of superstition, or one feels overstrained by ciphers and geometry. It may be that someone dismisses cosmology as an interesting theory, but useless in our everyday lives. If one succeeds in overcoming such blockages, then a new

world of understanding opens, full of wonders of connections and correlations. In the beginning it perhaps gives the impression of an interesting theory, but over time, one can discover a dynamic, living reality, which is the creative instance beyond the manifestations we experience.

A common thread runs through in all great cultures: the interest in cosmology. Great efforts were made at all times to study its laws and procedures. In this context, astronomical observations were important - which were also used in everyday life. The observatories were not only built to calculate the right time for sowing and harvesting, but primarily to recognize universally valid relationships in the heavens. The movements of the stars, the sun and the moon contain information that is also valid for life in general. Social structures and their processes obey the same laws as those of the solar system; the processes of the two are synchronized in time. Everything that appears in the world of matter switches with its own possibilities, in its place in the hierarchical order, in this cosmic rhythm. In every philosophy of antiquity, in every significant religion and spiritual tradition, cosmology is a fundamental element. Camouflaged in different pictures you will find the same structures and connections everywhere.

Between the visible world of matter and the creative origin is a hierarchy of acting forces, which create the forms. As Plato said, it is possible to get to know these "invisible" worlds. Today, with

our understanding of what information is and how it works, we come closer to the original meaning of the word: informare (Latin) = to give form, to shape, to model.

If you know the cosmological code of one system, you can understand another system better. The same applies to systems of different dimensions: from an atom to the Milky Way and to the whole universe. The same code is valid for living organism and it is also the key for individual structures and processes of the psyche. It is described by this short definition:

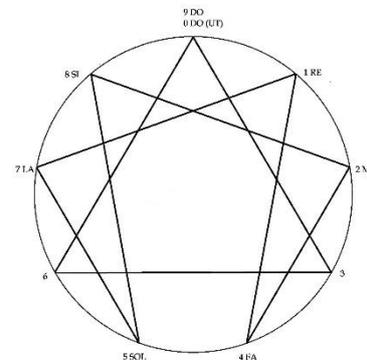
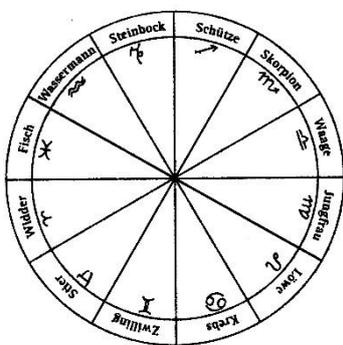
Man in the cosmos – cosmos in man.

The basic of Cosmology is built of three systems, which are connected and in interaction with each other: The sphere of twelve – we know it as the Zodiac – the sphere of seven – as in the octave – and the Enneagram, as a Cosmogram. They are not man-made, constructed structures, but arise from the objectivity of mathematics and geometry, which are valid throughout the universe. These structures were known in antiquity, taught in the Middle Ages in Europe and applied in practice. According my research, they are present in Greek art from the 6th century BC up to Rembrandt's school in the 17th century.

The numbers three and four form the basis of all three systems mentioned above.

In all cultures, "the earth" is assigned the number four, as a square, a cross or a cube. The number three can be found everywhere for the wholeness as heaven, Earth and the connection between them. In Christianity this is known as the Holy Trinity. We experience them with our present understanding as matter, energy and information that connects the two.

- Twelve of the quality is the result of 3×4
- Seven of the octave is $3 + 4$
- The structure of the enneagram is created by dividing one by seven ($3 + 4$).



Studying the interconnections of these structures opens channels of cognition and awakens our innate inner orientation, which is not available under the conditioning we have received. It can become a great help in the complexity of daily life as well as on the spiritual path.

Nowadays, in the beginning of the age of Aquarius, when old traditions are destroyed or disappear, we are not born into given structures. Orientation is missing, which is mostly not consciously registered. The consequences are chaotic social conditions, insecurity, fear and violence. It is the task of the generations of this transitional period to build new, safety-giving structures. Reshad Feild has spoken of 700-year impact from our efforts: That is a third of a world month of around 2,100 years. It is the time the new idea needs to build up its structures, then follow 700 years of blooming time and in the third 700 years the energies of decadence are already active. (See more: Agnes Hidveghy, planet earth on the cosmic revolving stage)

Supportive structures can only emerge from the knowledge – which means understanding of own experiences – of the creatively working ideas. Everything else remains fruitless struggle on the surface. Change in the life of humanity can arise only from the source, from the knowledge of the creatively acting cosmic information system. This is the essential spirit of the age of Aquarius. In the world of appearances only those endeavours are supported and fed with enough energy, which are according the spirit of the time.

At this point I would like to give a brief description about cosmological ideas. There is a detailed description of this theme in my book (Der Kosmische Auftrag, Edition Astronova), including the numbers as qualities.

The Twelve

The twelve is the closed circle of the ideas, which are resting in themselves. This "dimension of twelve" is eternal within creation, without change; from its beginning to its end. Its essence is the creative potential, the source of all manifestations. The difficulty of understanding them is that we can only perceive and grasp their manifestation in time. Thus, the recognition of their nature remains imperfect, already bound to a special kind of manifestation.

The Sevenfold Octave

The ideas, which are resting in themselves, are transformed according to the law of the octave down into processes in time. From appearance to disappearance – birth-death – everything is going through a process, which has in essence always the same seven basic qualities. In the seven-day structure of the week, we live the sifting of course, we know the sevenfold refraction of the white light, certainly we have heard of the seven levels of creation and in our musical octave it has become audible and familiar. There are always different octaves running in our lives at the same time - for example: breath, cooking a meal, day, partnership and life from birth to death – all these and a lot more overlap simultaneously. This fact makes it difficult to recognize a single octave with its basic structure. In addition, there is the difficulty that we often do not start octaves clearly and more often do not finish clean.

The Enneagram

The Enneagram joins the Octave with a higher dimension. The Enneagram shows how processes in linear time are related to a higher dimension and how the linearity of a law can be broken through this connection. The Enneagram also shows which inner processes are necessary to complete a process from start to finish in a clear way. Through the Enneagram we can get some understanding how recurring situations make sense. The development in spirals can be well seen in it.

COSMOLOGY AND SPIRITUALITY

When it is true, that man entails the whole cosmos, then the cosmos itself can describe best what man is about.

The lack of orientation in the inner cosmos of man is greater than ever in our time. Religions, which have given orientation and support in their pictorial expressions in the Pisces-World-Month of the last 2'000 years, became more and more degenerated, emptied, abused. Even if they have been built on their roots in truth – their forms have been petrified or crumbly – their time has expired. They are powerless, they disintegrate rapidly, or they are destroyed by rude forces. There are countless belief systems worldwide, built on limited concepts, nesting themselves in the gaps

left behind by religions. They create confusion with their theories and practices built on half-truths and made up with imaginations. They captivate people in fruitless concepts and leave them alone in their heart. They cannot awaken the dignity which man can give only through the knowledge of his role in the cosmic happening. There are few approaches that are sustainable, such as in Buddhism, especially the imageless branches, or the individuation process according to CG Jung. The cosmology is missing in all these.

If someone wants to go from one place to another, then it is necessary for him to set on the way. If he does not yet know the way, then he has to orientate himself about the way and either seek a knowledgeable guide or get a map. And before he starts the journey, he has to prepare for the challenges, maybe even learn languages, get the necessary papers. He has to have enough money and good health. Once he has arrived at the destination, he can throw the card away and he no longer needs the guide.

In the world, it goes without saying that we prepare for the way. For the Way (from now on I will call the spiritual path "the Way" for the sake of simplicity) we also need to prepare ourselves. It is not a pleasant Sunday walk in a springtime landscape! The Way begins only when we have found our heart's desire and know where we want to go. It is a new territory that we enter. On the Way it is the same as in the world: we need either a guide or a map.

Cosmology is a reliable map. This gives the orientation necessary, when we go through processes of transformation on our Way, meet foggy fields, feel alone and have the impression that we are not moving from the spot. Our inner reality is mapped in cosmology. Of course, the map is not the living landscape. It needs to be read, understood, so that we can verify its information for ourselves. Or that we can correct our imaginations.

The objectivity of each cosmology depends on the extent to which it universally describes the reality behind the manifestations and their processes. When we study spiritual traditions, we find cosmology everywhere. The elements of it are dressed in pictures. In pictures, which describe the definite quality of experience with an analogy. To get their content, we have to undress these images. In turn, the soul understands only the language of images. Therefore, the spiritual traditions have been handed down in narrated pictures, in stories for future generations. Around the world. Where a culture could create art, works of art emerged in which cosmology played a key role in the pictures. Holy art contains knowledge, that is why it was valued for thousands of years as "great art". These works can be "read".

SPIRITUAL TRADITION IN ART

The soul understands only the language of images. Great works of art were created to address the soul directly through beauty.

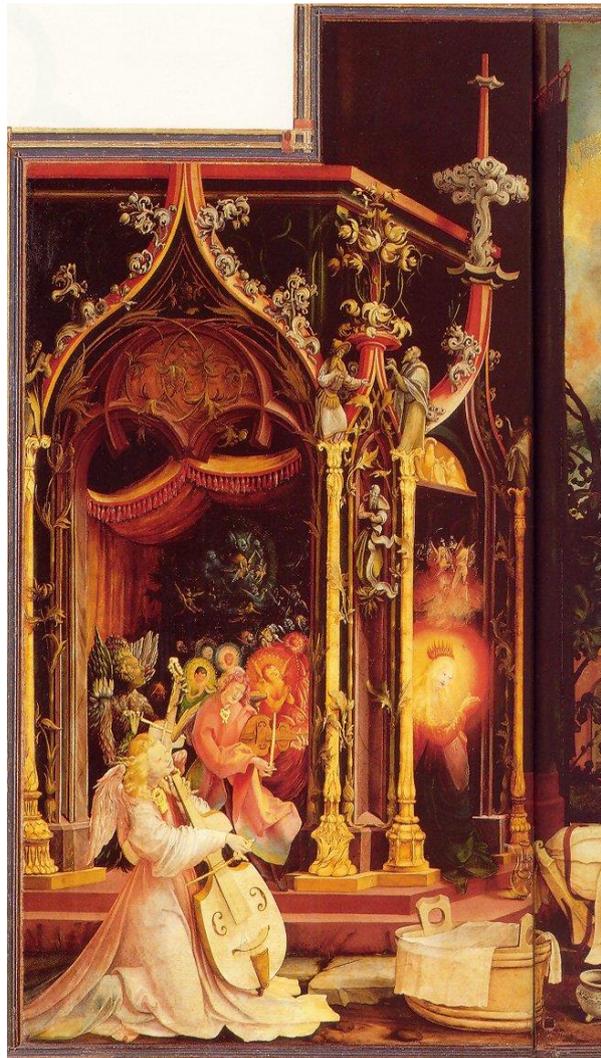
A translation work is necessary to understand the knowledge of ancient traditions, which are dressed in the language of images, to make it usable in this way for us today. The problem of today is that we have lost contact with the language of images. This means that the channel to our soul is blocked or interrupted, because the soul receives food only through images. The unconscious communicates in dreams through images and creation appears with all impressions and experiences for each person in images. Our life takes place in the inner world – in the inner cosmos.

An example: In Christianity, it is said that the four evangelists are the supporting pillars of the Church. Translated for our understanding today this means: The four elements carry the buildings

of the form. That needs further translation, so that we can get the meaning of this statement. That would mean something like this: The body, the subjective emotional world, the objective mental world, and the will carry the human structure as it appears here in the incarnation. As is known, a roof can only be stably supported if all parts of the supporting structure are reliable. A psychology based on this knowledge could already make a big change. However, that is only a stone in the mental "pillar".

This theme is not limited to our western cultural space but valid worldwide. I would like to illustrate this with the example of Ganesha, the elephant-headed God of wisdom and fortune of the Indians.

A popular depiction of Ganesha is where he rides a mouse and his round belly is girded with a snake. What is the story behind this presentation? Ganesha, the epitome of wisdom, has been overeating round, sweet honey cakes. His stomach became so heavy that he could not walk anymore. A little mouse just came by and Ganesha asked her to serve as a mount. The mouse agreed. So, they went off. Everything went well until a snake crossed their path. The little mouse was scared to death, stumbling and Ganesha fell on his stomach. His belly, which was full to bursting, was torn open in the fall. Ganesha got angry and grabbed the snake, tying up his ruptured belly. This way all three rode on.



It is an exhilarating story. A big interrelation, valid for everybody, is packed in it. Wisdom alone can eat itself full of "round, sweet truths." But she does not get further like this. This is the problem today with the many, highly intuitive children of the Aquarian Age. However, intuition alone is not enough. The mind must be sustainable, well-nourished with knowledge. Relying solely on stored information in your head leads only as far as to the snake, which stands for processes of transformation. All creation myths tell us this. The Way continues with only all the three if wisdom can recognize the opportunity. Only through the transformation process "with all three" there is a Way of growth.

About 2'000 years ago, there was a similar energy field on the planet, comparable to that of our time; the transition from Aries World Month to the Pisces World Month. At that time also, the outdated forms had become empty and the new was only beginning to emerge. A good example

of this is the God of transformation of the Greeks, Dionysus, the forerunner of Christ. His mysteries included knowledge, cosmology in the broad sense, which is attested by many works of art. What has become of Dionysus, who originally embodied the realized human being, in which the human and the divine have melted together to a unity? A run-down alcoholic, patron of immorality, promoter of deepest, unrestrained animalistic instinct. His cult was then banned. At the same time, the initiation practice with the traditional knowledge was secretly continued – as the frescoes of the Villa of the Mysteries testify up to now. The idea, which was personified in Dionysus, needed a new "dress", which corresponded to the Pisces World Month. This was created by Christianity in the personification of the idea in Christ, embedded in the story corresponding to the Pisces World Month. That's why the two fish symbolize Christ and fishermen play a central role in the New Testament.**



We ended up with the art that was the bearer of cosmology and spirituality until the 17th century AD. First traces of this knowledge appear in art in Greece in the 6th century AC, at the time of Pythagoras. The latest paintings in which I found the same cosmological knowledge was in the pictures of Jacob de Vet, a pupil of Rembrandt.



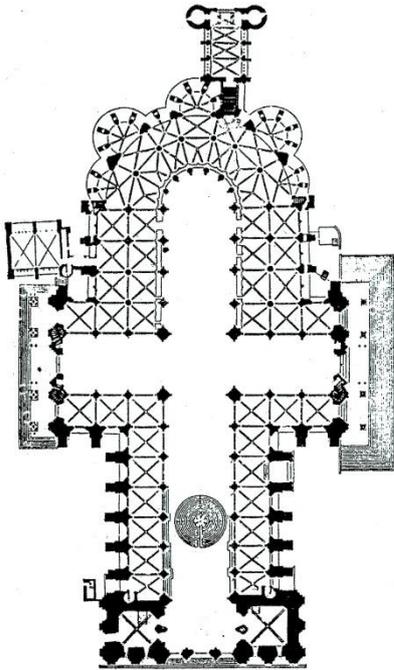
Artworks today are not studied as a source of spirituality and cosmology in the sense described above. Sometimes they are included in personal, subjective concepts, but their content is not "read". From the point of view of art history, it is not possible to approach their true meaning at all. The reason is twofold. Firstly, the study of the worldview of artists at that time is excluded and secondly, our contemporary concept of art is far from what it was in any great culture.

Art was sacred in every great culture. The sacred includes healing, and healing can only work through knowledge. Art schools of antiquity have not only imparted craftsmanship and technical skills. At the same time, they were spiritual schools where the students in their entirety were prepared for the "sacred function" of the artist. Artworks originating from this background have been called "objective art" by Gurdjieff.

The obstacle on the spiritual path to immerse in the images is of a different nature. Today, knowledge on the spiritual path is neglected or even rejected, because in this time of "Age of Enlightenment" we are crammed with meaningless knowledge and do not believe that there is

also a knowledge which is useful, indeed necessary, on the Way to unity. We cannot even imagine that such objective knowledge exists! We can dismiss it with the attitude "what is the use of it in everyday life?"

LIVING EXPERIENCE



I would like to illustrate how cosmology in art can contribute to the recognition on the Way with a personal experience.

The image of the labyrinth of Chartres is often used today, torn from its surroundings, of which it is an integral part. In these depictions is also missing the hint that originally the battle of Theseus with the Minotaur of bronze was placed in the middle of the labyrinth. So, most of us project ideas into the labyrinth, without realizing its true meaning and without the possibility of using it for the purpose for which it was created.

Before I had the chance to walk the labyrinth in Chartres, I had already gathered some information about it. I knew it begins in the row of columns of the cathedral at the so-called "MI-FA Gap", (3. Column row of 7)*** its diameter is equal to the rosette window over the western portal and its distance from the entrance corresponds exactly to the height where the rosette window begins. I also knew that the cathedral was dedicated to the Virgin Mary and that it

represents the cosmos and man as well; the man who passes through himself as he enters the cathedral and walks to the altar. All of this information was interesting but did not particularly touch me.

Then I walked step by step, as awake as possible, through the labyrinth: the way into the middle and then back again. The people I was walking with have experienced their own labyrinth, each for themselves. At the same time, we were involved in the same rhythm. Due to the fact that we had been together for days, sung together and were aware of the sacred place, an energy field was created which was energetically loaded.

I was aware that at the point where the labyrinth begins, the direct progression to the altar is interrupted, the "interior" is to be cleared first and face up to the half-animal minotaur in the depths of the soul. I had no expectation of "enlightenment", or "light experience" in the middle!

When I came out of the labyrinth at the end, the entrance, where I entered the cathedral was in front of me. My eyes were instantly pulled up to the light-flooded coloured rose window above. The understanding opened:

**We go the horizontal way of life and when it is passed,
our experience is drawn into the height,
into a new dimension of the living light.**

In this moment of recognition, through the elements of the cathedral built on cosmic structures, the knowledge in my head and the experienced Way melted together into a supporting, existential reality. ***

OUTLOOK

It is time for me to release my life's work, which developed in a protected space. It is an opening into a view that has been lost in the last few centuries. There are no "new" truths contained in it. What is new is the formulation. In this sense, I understand myself to be a translator and thus door opener.

There is still much to discover. It is more exciting than a thriller! Those who embark on this journey of discovery will be richly rewarded with recognitions. Works of art, which originated from great knowledge, have given me deeper insights than books. The condition to receive the blessing of such works is that they are met with respect. It is necessary to practice and deepen oneself in the languages of images – as in any language – through studies. It is at the same time the proceeding on the Way: We can only see what we can recognise. We can only find what we already know.

The Way is not as difficult as most people think. How often I experience this when I "read" a picture - and do not interpret it! – That the listeners, who are also onlookers, immediately verify the statement connecting directly to the image. My wish is, to discover the power in the works of "objective art" for orientation and use their messages for our time.



Please, pass on this writing! It can find someone somewhere who catches fire and continues research, and at the same time also finds his own Way towards unity.

In gratitude to all who have gone the Way in front of me and left their mark in the morphogenetic field! You can call it Akasha Field, or Cosmic Unconscious - depending on your vocabulary! It is important that you stretch out the antenna to receive these informations left behind!

Images

1. Grünewald, Isenheim Altar. Music making Angeles. Museum Unterlinden, Colmar, France
2. Ganesha, riding on a mouse
3. Dionysus bust from Herculaneum, Italy. National Museum of Naples
4. Athena Promachos as bearer of cosmology from Herculaneum, Italy National Museum of Naples
5. The layout of the Cathedral of Chartres
6. The Labyrinth of Chartres
7. Domina. Fresco in the Villa dei Misteri, Pompei, detail

* More about that: Agnes Hidveghy: New Earth on the cosmic revolving stage

** More about Greek art: Agnes Hidveghy: The Healing Art of the Greeks

*** See: Agnes Hidveghy: The Common Spiritual Background of the Cathedral of Chartres and the Isenheim Altar

Books that describe The Way in Pictures, or with elements of Cosmology

- Apuleius: the golden donkey. therein: Cupid and psyche
- Attar: Conference of the Birds

- St. John of Cross: The Dark Night of the Soul
- Theresa of Avila
- John Bunyan: The Pilgrim's Progress
- Carlo Collodi: Pinocchio
- Ronimund H. von Bissing: The Land of Burning Gold
- Gitta Mallasz: Talking with Angels
- Michael Ende: The Neverending Story