THE SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATION OF THE UNEXPLAINED

PHENOMENA MAGAZINE

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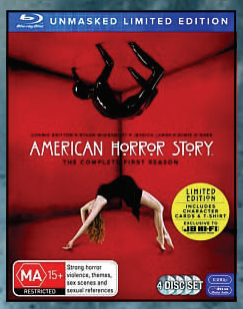
THE NAZI / SATANIC AXIS
PART 2 OF JOHN TAPSELL'S FASCINATING ARTICLE

THE VIRGIN MARY IS A FLYING SAUCER

PROBE INTERNATIONAL
A REVIEW OF THEIR TWO DAY CONFERENCE

INCEPTION
THE DREAM IS REAL.



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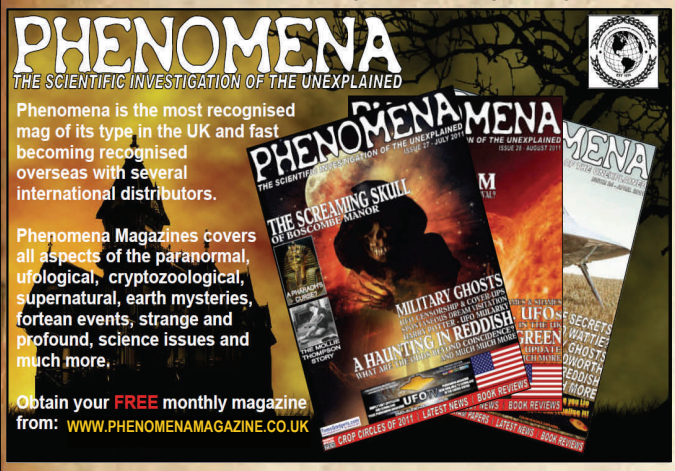
CHIEF EDITORIAL

Hello and welcome to another issue of Phenomena Magazine. I'd like to start by introducing our new Spanish version of Phenomena Magazine which has numerous different articles and layout constructed by our new editor Dario Fernandez. Further details and how to download our Spanish version can be obtained via our sister site www.phenomenamagazine.es I've been busy doing a number of lectures around the country one of which is available to watch via our Facebook pages. I hope you enjoy the varied articles in this edition... Oh... and a Happy Halloween.

EDITORIAL

Dear All, Just a couple of words about something that happened the other day, this time connected to the strange subject of synchronicity, you know what that is of course, it's when a couple of unexpected, but amazingly relevant events occur apparently by sheer chance. It's what rationalists consider as nothing more than coincidence and fluke, but from my experience it can be rather more significant. I had been discussing synchronicity via email with a colleague, when, that very day, a good friend sent me the rough text of a new book on which we may collaborate.

Part of this text involved the late Victorian magician and eccentric Aleister Crowley. I was skimming through it and the radio was on set to one of the digital channels, 'Planet Rock' (highly recommended) and as the cursor hovered over the image of Crowley, the voice of Ozzy Osborne blasted from the radio singing 'Mr Crowley'. Then something else equally odd happened a week or so later; I was building a PowerPoint for a presentation and I was looking at the picture of a Horton flying wing bomber designed in the 1940's, when at that very moment, again on the radio and again from Planet Rock, came 'Motorhead' playing a track called 'The Bomber': how does one explain that? You can't and only put it down to the Cosmic Joker letting me know he was still around. To be honest, similar incidents have happened to me many, many times before, especially when I've been writing a new piece and seeking either inspiration or information. Sure enough, one way or another it always finds me just when it's needed; I don't even think about it now, I just smile and say 'Thank you'.



Chief Editorial Contact: Steve Mera - s_mera@yahoo.com
Editorial Contact: Brian Allan - Paratec7@aol.com
Spanish Editor Contact: Dario Fernandez - info@e-nigmas.com.ar
Columnist: Richard Holland - editor@uncannyuk.com

THIS MONTHS CONTRIBUTORS

Steve Mera, Brian Allan, Gary Heseltine, Philip Mantle, Sam Wright, Danial Verdon, Richard Holland, Jonathon Tapsell, Rod Howarth, Dario Fanandez, Shaun Weatcroft, Vi Marriot, John Carter, Michael E. Salla, Chris Zdeb, John Coates, Nick Brandt, Adrian Holliday, KTPF, UFOTV & UFOStore.com.

The PM Team: Sotiris at STRANGEFILES.ME, Danial Verdon at UREI, Randy at UFOSTORE.COM, Dario Fernandez at e-*nigmas / portal de lo paranormal.* Tim at UFOTV, Richard Holland at UNCANNYUK.COM, Main Distribution Steve Mera & Brian Allan, Reporter Jackie Heighway & Reporter / Photographer Rodney Howarth.

PHENOMENA MAGAZINE HEAD OFFICE
17, Redburn Road, Baguley, Wythenshawe,
Manchester, M23 1AH, United Kingdom
Tel: 0161 998 2315 / Mob Tel: 07866 685835
WWW.PHENOMENAMAGAZINE.CO.UK
WWW.PHENOMENAMAGAZINE.ES

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To trace the ONA was difficult as they had largely gone to ground some years before. Various post box numbers did not respond to enquiries and all of those involved went under aliases. It was hardly surprising that the ONA did not rush into my open arms declaring 'We are the people advocating ritual murder. How can we help you?." Jonathon Tapsell continues his investigative research...

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We are limited by our humanity. We see what we expect to see, regardless of whether or not it has reality. The interpretation is necessarily subjective. The Zohar tells us that when God created mankind, he drew a veil across his face to protect his shining. His countenance was reflected upon it, so that mankind might see him without danger, but what mankind saw was the reflection of his own image. Can we trust our eyes?

Page 15: Halloween Special: American Horror Story - Interviews with the Cast.
American Horror Story is a horror television series created and produced by Ryan Murphy and Brad Falchuk. Described as an anthology series, and follows the story of a family that moves into a home haunted by its former occupants. The cast of this very popular series speak out during interviews as they celebrate the unmasked limited edition Blu Ray release of season 1...

Page 25: Did you miss it? - The Probe International Conference.
On Saturday and Sunday of October 5th and 6th, Sam Wright celebrated another successful Probe International Conference in St. Annes UK. Lecturers from around the UK and overseas attended to discuss their findings in regards UFOs, alien contact, conspiracies, psychic abilities the paranormal and much more. Equipped with numerous fascinating stalls, Phenomena Magazine attended and reviewed...

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There's a deceptively still body of water in Tanzania with a deadly secret, it turns any animal it touches to stone. The rare phenomenon is caused by the chemical makeup of the lake, but the petrified creatures it leaves behind are straight out of a horror film. Photographed by Nick Brandt in his new book, *Across the Ravaged Land,* The photos depict a strange land where the petrified remains of birds are plentiful...

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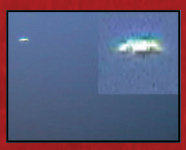
What follows is adapted from the observations of the witness who has adopted the name 'John Carter'. *'I got the idea about capturing anomalous aerial images from a guy who had been tracking the sun on a video camera and found that he had captured some other images when he viewed the footage. The images are taken from a video I took in France during 2002. There are quite amazing...*



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If you have an interesting article, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Phenomena Magazine Chief Editor Steve Mera: s_mera@yahoo.com or Phenomena Magazine Editor Brian Allan: Paratec7@aol.com

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WHY INCEPTION FOR ME AND MANY OTHERS ISN'T JUST FANTASY...

The subconscious world of lucid dreaming, as highlighted in Christopher Nolan's blockbuster film 'Inception' in 2010, is for many a desire, a hope or a fantasy. But for me it is very much a real phenomenon.

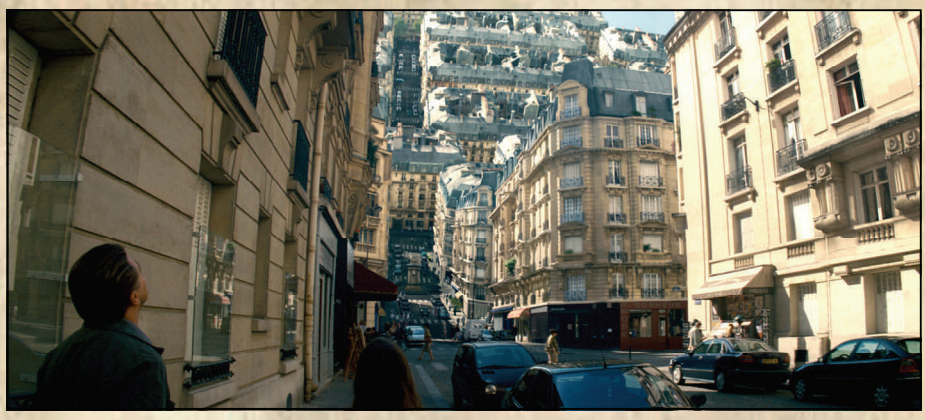
Clambering into my duvet, pulling it over me and resting my head into a soft pillow takes me away to a whole new world and a world that can look however I envision it to look.
For years I was unaware of the concept of 'lucid dreaming', all I knew was that I was, for some unbeknown reason, able to control myself in some dreams. I instinctively thought that everyone had this ability, but research taught me that the mind has to learn how to dream lucidly.

'WikiHow' even has a section on 'How to Lucid Dream', which, I am led to believe, many people wanting to develop their dreams have used effectively. Such guides are based on scientific research conducted in various studies of the mind. However, despite continued work in the area, explaining dreaming is almost impossible.

When I outline the ability of lucid dreaming to others they are often overwhelmed, seeing is believing of course and it is pretty difficult to show someone else inside your mind. When I wake into a lucid dream I find myself in one of two places, either a place I am familiar with, or a place I've never seen before - the latter being the most worrying.
My childhood home is a common setting – the place in which someone has lived for the biggest part of their life is often a standard location for many people's dreams, because the mind recalls the dynamics almost to a tee, with exact details – something that is key to lucid dreaming.

But, much like in the film 'Inception', my mind re-creates scenes from my memory and can only depict the parts it can vividly remember. There may be mistakes sometimes, for instance a window placed incorrectly or an object missing from the room which I know should be there. These mistakes are often what trigger me to the 'awareness point', or the moment when I know I am dreaming. I often lift my arm to pinch it and feel no pain, it is then apparent I have entered a lucid dream. The first few times this occurred, I immediately woke myself up, but as it occurred more often I built up more and more courage to go deeper into my dream world.

People often say to me 'that must be amazing' but the simple answer is 'not always'. Granted, at times a lucid dream can be fantastic and gives me the ability to do things I have always wanted to do provided I have woken up in the correct setting. However, on the other end of the spectrum when I 'wake up' in an unknown place, the thought of where to go brings fear.



The scene is often dark and gloomy, seemingly on a street in the middle of nowhere. I often have people chasing me in these kinds of dreams and the feeling in that moment until you wake is so real it is incomparable. Although subconsciously you are aware you are in this dream it doesn't make it any less tangible, the physical and mental feelings are astoundingly accurate. I can feel every feeling I sense when I am awake; the fear is more real than ever.

The easiest way to wake for me as always been to imagine the action of opening my eyes, this often takes a few tries but usually is successful eventually. However sometimes I can open my eyes into another dream (mind boggling, I know), for instance a dream that I am waking up, at first I may not be aware it is a dream, but much like before I will look around for objects or design of the room that is incorrect or missing, as soon as I find a flaw I know I am in another dream and can again begin the waking process.

It often feels like I've fallen into a trap that was set for me in this world of deception. The dreams are engineered so effectively that it normally takes some time to even realise that this is not a reality. It sounds absurd, but it is like my own mind is playing games with me, using my intellect to mastermind against me while I sleep and hatching plans within this world which I am a stranger to.

Although these dreams only come every few weeks or even months, when they do I am always left with something to dwell on. Where does this ability come from? And how does my mind create them with such admirable detail and structure? Luckily, I enjoy them enough not to wonder for too long. Lucid dreaming is something I would recommend to anyone, like some sort of uncanny hobby if you will. When I tell people they should draw in lucid dreams, they often ask, 'why would I want to have lucid dreams? What is it good for?' And my answer is that it is the best exercise possible for the mind, almost like a workout for the brain. Imagination has no limits, and in the realm of lucid dreaming there are no laws of physics or society either. So 'what is it good for?' Well, anything you want really! Create your world, do everything you want within it and be who you want to be.

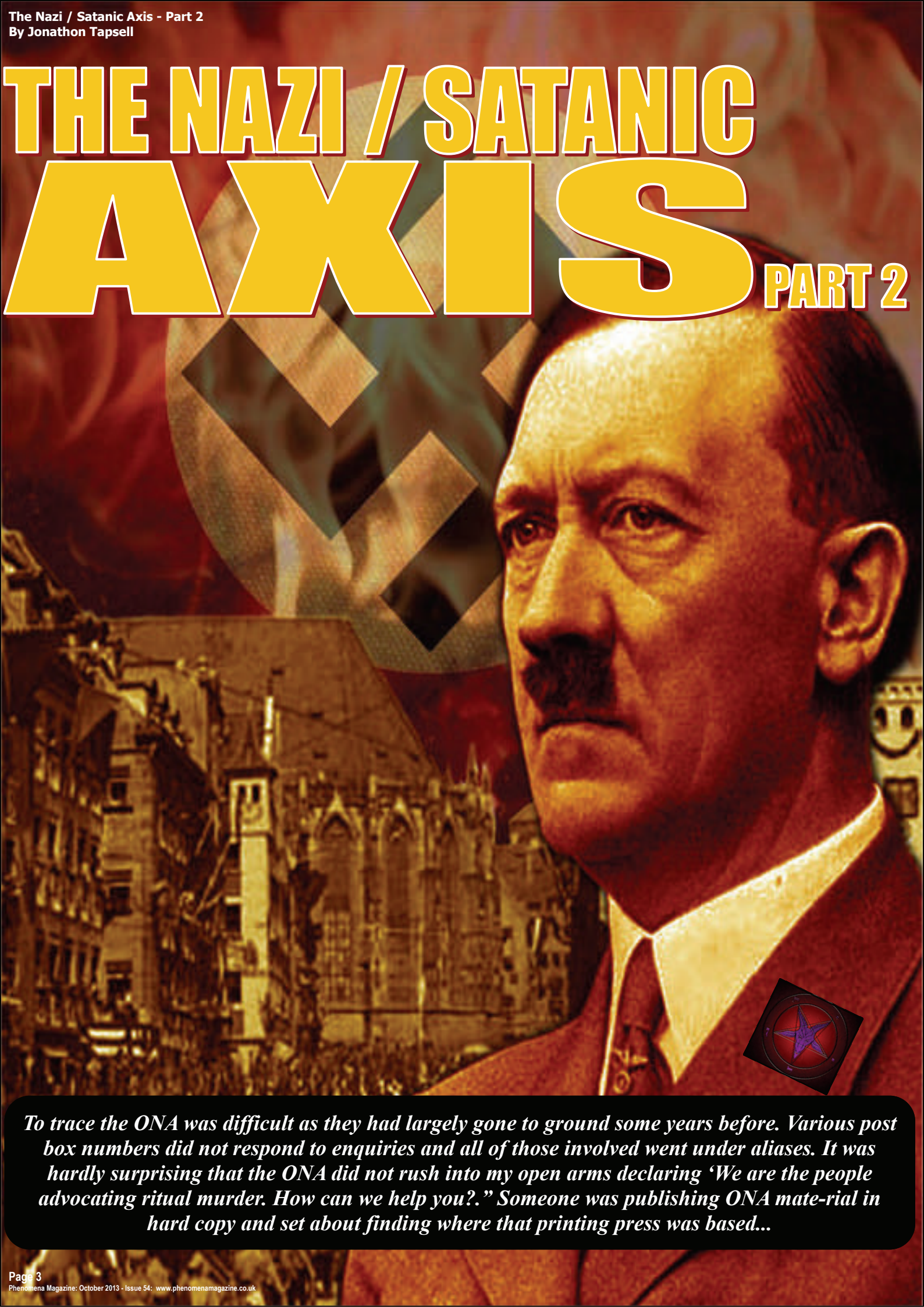
Inducing lucid dreams can only lead to exhilaration and a world in which the imagination can run wild. Dreaming is such a mysterious domain, and one which is so close to home you can almost touch it. Only in my dreams can I fly off the Eiffel Tower, grant myself superhuman strength or float down a mountain. The imagination may truly be the limit where lucid dreaming is concerned. So next time you fall asleep, if at any one moment you realise you're dreaming – do not try to wake up, have the courage to continue and let your mind do the work. I can promise you won't regret it...

INCEPTION

The Movie is a 2010 science fiction film written, co-produced, and directed by Christopher Nolan. The film stars a large ensemble cast that includes Leonardo DiCaprio, Ken Watanabe, Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Marion Cotillard, Ellen Page, Tom Hardy, Dileep Rao, Cillian Murphy, Tom Berenger, and Michael Caine. DiCaprio plays Dom Cobb, a thief who commits corporate espionage by infiltrating the subconscious of his targets. He is offered a chance to regain his old life as payment for a task considered to be impossible: "inception", the implantation of another person's idea into a target's subconscious.

Wikipedia

THE NAZI / SATANIC AXIS PART 2



To trace the ONA was difficult as they had largely gone to ground some years before. Various post box numbers did not respond to enquiries and all of those involved went under aliases. It was hardly surprising that the ONA did not rush into my open arms declaring 'We are the people advocating ritual murder. How can we help you?." Someone was publishing ONA mate-rial in hard copy and set about finding where that printing press was based...

A Meeting of Minds

Nearly two years after my first researches into the Nazi/Satanic Axis I found myself, in May 1998, contacting the archive that housed the entire ONA collection. This resource was the only outlet that could possibly supply me with the original documents of the ONA that I needed to inspect. It was important to me that I did not rely solely on reproductions published on the Internet, which may have contained omissions or even errors. With this in mind I composed a letter to the *Order of Balder* requesting more information about the ONA. In this capacity I was able to approach the Head of Balder in an open and honest fashion, stating exactly why I had come to him and what I needed in order to make the programme. In all investigative matters, whether television or literary I have always behaved honourably. My approach has always been to politely explain my interest, no matter whom I had been dealing with. The idea of waylaying someone on their doorstep or attempting to trick someone into an interview was not my style. In my letter to the *Order Of Balder* I asked outright whether the organisation had any connection with the ONA. Honesty was always going to be the best policy and as far I was concerned there had been far too much subterfuge already.

It was a foregone conclusion that no one in their right mind was going to own up to any connection with an organisation such as the ONA. Anyone admitting such an entanglement would probably find himself or herself a social pariah particularly if they practiced a profession or worked in public life. I did not hold out much hope, except perhaps at best, a glimpse of the original ONA documents preserved by the *Order of Balder.*

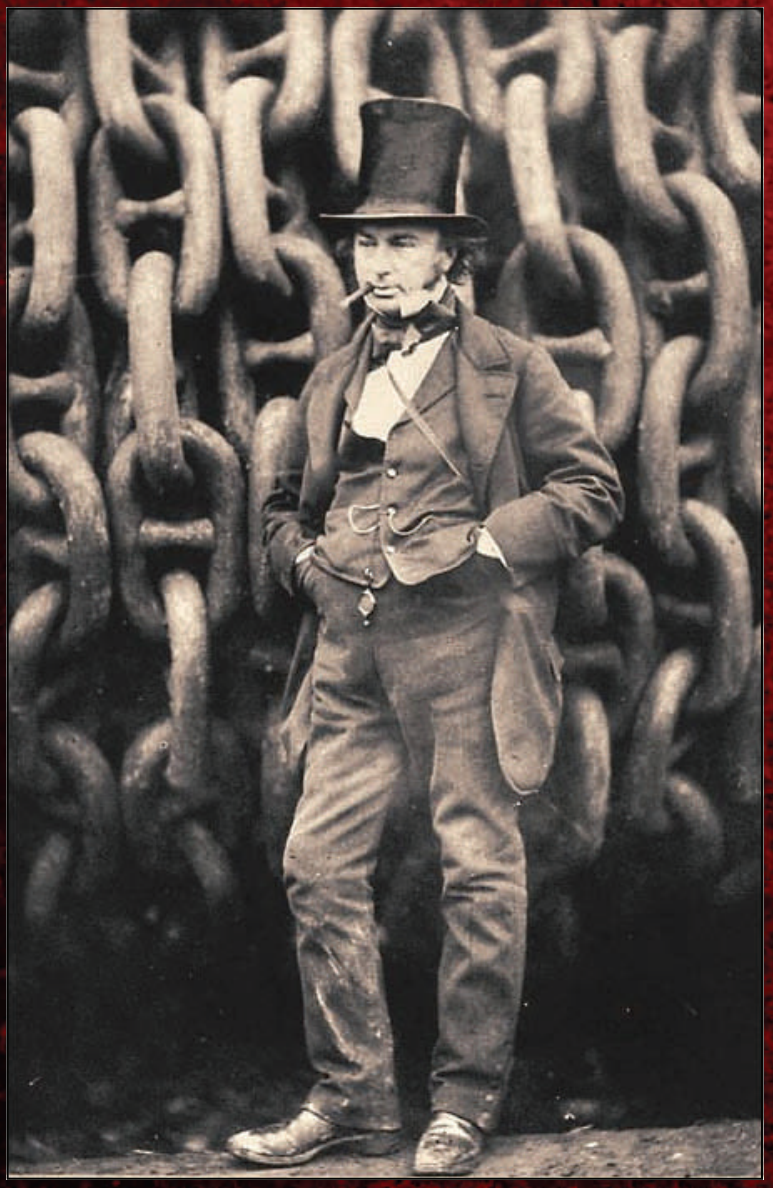
After initial correspondence I was invited to the headquarters of the *Order of Balder*, located in the town of Reading. After a short journey by road I was anxious to arrive at my destination. Once on foot I turned the corner to my quarry, a quiet street of composed of Victorian semi-detached houses built from a distinctive yellow brick. Here in a quiet suburb hidden away from the chrome, glass and one-way systems of central Reading, I arrived at a semi detached house. I passed through the yellow painted gate and went up the tiny garden path and knocked at the matching side door. I remember noting that the garden was well-kept and very pretty blooms, clearly scented heralding the approach of summertime.

The door latch was crisply sprung and a forty-year-old man stood before me beaming. Mr N. was of stocky build, ruddy complexion, healthy physique, wearing thick horn rimmed glasses greeted me. His pumping handshake and benevolent air was reassuring. With a charming welcome he bid me enter his home and led me to a small room at the front of the house. Once seated I found myself in a room crammed with oversize books from floor to ceiling on every imaginable academic subject: Mozart, Byzantium art, Degas, Roman History all vied for valuable breathing space in this poor man's Library of Alexandria. Any average public library in the country would be envious of this collection. It was clear that my host was not only a voracious reader but also a veritable scholar.

It was agreed from the outset that my host would not be named and I have never reneged on this promise. Those who wish to search for Mr N. will find him and come to his door in their own fashion, likewise he will greet them accordingly. As two people who had never met before we got off to a good start. We both had an interest in Russian iconography. Years before I had taken up oil painting and attempted to replicate the style of the Orthodox icons found in eastern churches. N. had travelled extensively through Rumania years before and been fascinated with the Romanian religious icons. He spoke of the church services, where the priests conducted various services behind decora-tive screens.

In actual fact this had been the case in England before Churches here were reformed centuries before. I warmed to this highly articulate, well-educated man who exuded a vital existence and lively mind. Conversation moved away from art to Ayn Rand and off again to Noam Chomsky.

My host didn't really care for their writings and said they had missed the point that only direct individual effort could change society, something that I think is very true.. During this time I listened to this learned, fascinating man. A cup of tea was made with offering of lardy cake and biscuits, as I recall, and my host asked me a question *'Who was your hero'*?.



I answered without really thinking it over much and said Isambard Kingdom Brunel, the famous Victorian engineer and shipwright. When enquiring why I had chosen this man I answered that his contribution towards British life was outstanding and we were recipients of his genius even today without knowing it. I surprised myself with my own vehement lauding of the cigar smoking Victorian in the strange top hat. To me Brunel was the embodiment of innovation conquering the elements, a man who surpassed a whole generation of fellow engineers to astound the world and who above all had contributed much to making Britain the country it was. Brunel had built the Great Eastern; the greatest steam ship of its day known as the 'Leviathan'. The engineer had been responsible for huge rail sections in the national network, bridges, tunnels, engines, steamship ships, all sprang up under his personal supervision. N. listened attentively to what I had to say. At the end of my tub-thumbing resume of Brunel's contributions, if ticker tape could have descended, it would have done.

My host smiled, it was not a sinister or sarcastic smile but took on rather a tutorly aspect. It later transpired this man had once been a music teacher by profession. As we continued our relaxed conversation I discovered a

remarkable and talented man who had excelled in many fields. He was not one to boast nor rely on devices to sing his own praises, he was one of the most gifted men I have met on the entire British occult scene to this day. Doubt-less he was a man to draw criticism on himself due to his frank views but I suspect there would be few capable of sustaining a conversational argument with him.

He possessed a sharp rapier-like intellect; speaking over five European languages fluently; an expert on various aspects of classical music, an histo-rian and authority on the English longbow, classical scholar and well versed in the works of all major philosophies. Other fields he enjoyed mastery of were variously; European martial arts including fighting with staves and of course the longbow, survivalist training, painting and athletics. N. naturally commanded my respect as I have always enjoyed the company of those of have excelled in their chosen walk of life. To say he exuded a natural confi-dence without being pushy or any way overbearing would be an accurate description of a man so obviously used to teaching and leading. I wondered idly whether such a man if held back in society might use his obvious genius in other more forbidden zones? Colin Wilson in his magnum opus *The Outsider* pointed to the fact that people on the fringes of society are often frus-trated geniuses who have no way of expressing their leadership qualities.

Yet, I did not want to believe this of N., he was a very affable chap who generated goodwill, stimulating conversation and a sense of purpose—all quite naturally. I had not charged in and began asking endless questions as some folk might have in my position and after all my host had gone out of his way to put me at ease. When conversation had died down a little, I felt it the right time to broach the subject of the ONA and its connec-tion with the *Order of Balder*. Where might I find the ONA? Who they were and what was their ultimate aim?

N. flatly denied knowing anything about the shrouded Satanic cult but seemed to become delighted when they were mentioned. He laughed heartily and dismissed the question entirely and at this point it would have been easy to imagine that such questions were in some way preposterous. His demeanour and bearing contained a certain amount of polite, gentle chiding that perhaps the ONA was a big joke after all and that we really ought to be discussing something else. I personally saw this as a ploy to avoid any engagement on these issues. I was unsure and asked N. directly about an ONA book that he had collaborated on. It was my surprise and I wanted to note his reaction. N. had actually co-authored a book with Christos Beest (the named author of the *Black Book of Satan*). Quoting both the publisher and the ISBN number I looked at my host directly.

Again he laughed genially and merely brushed the question aside stating that he had supplied a number of photographs in his role as archivist. Had I after all come on a wild goose chase? Both N. and I were caught in a circling motion of minds, destined to grapple. Not wishing to choose the weapon of eloquence, obviously his from the very start, mine would be plain facts and honesty. Outwardly the situa-tion was quintessentially English in every way, tea, biscuits, a friendly school teacher inside a charming Victorian semi detached property in a middle class surburb but inwardly I strongly suspected I was sitting directly opposite the head of the Order of Nine Angles. The same ONA that encouraged the death of inquisitive journalists! My heart rate increased noticeably; every word I uttered would be a sparring blow and every answer a defensive parry, it was now time to find out who exactly Mr N. really was.

A knock on the door interrupted the interview and the door opened slightly, a man of some six foot four or so in height of a powerful muscular build whispered briefly to the host and disappeared. N. told me His student was from Scandinavia, a new member to the *Order of Balder*. I heard his footsteps enter the room directly above us. A light irregular drumbeat issued from the room above. My host rejoined me and sat down looking composed but I felt the odds had in some way changed.

I remained resolute and calm but was now sure I had come to the right place. I asked N directly about a man named Richard Molt the real name of Christos Beest, but he merely shrugged and said he knew little or nothing about the man. He could not even remember how the first contact between himself and Molt was made.

Custodian of the Western Magical Tradition - the Fenrir Path.

I repeated my original enquiry about the book he had produced with Molt (Christos Beest) but my question was brushed aside again. Such blank denial forced me to finally unveil what I knew about the pair and I played the first hand. The book had actually been self-published by N. himself. and was about the hidden Arthurian tradition. In fact all told, N. had helped publish no less than five books by Christos Beest. Had he also helped publish the *Black Book of Satan* as well? His answer long and punctuated by pauses was evasive and very verbose. The ONA were guardians of the ancient Western mystery tradition that was a Septnary or sevenfold path, dating back 7000 years. The ONA were relatively modern but the tradition passed on by a lady to the 'Chief' of the ONA was part of the tradition belonging to Albion. Elements of the worship can be found in clan rites dating back only a few hundred years but was present elsewhere and according to N. in its complete form when handed down from the lady concerned. He confided that he believed that the ONA had now broken up but the tradition lived on.

I remembered that within the *Order of Balder*, a series of successive hierarchical stages were imposed on members. The idea being that a gradual ascent through the Order was necessary to meet the final complete being of 'Homo Galactica' - a sort of enlightened superman. Up through each rung of the ladder Balder members were encouraged to become House Carls, a steward role, Spartan trainees, engaging in martial study, Gymnos, a fitness regime and there were scholarly pursuits. All of the Balder activities revolved around a Pagan path—Odinistic in flavour. Part of the imagery and language harked back to ancient Rome too. In one Balder publication almost as an aside was mentioned a crucial piece of evidence, a small insert about a secret Inner Order within Balder called *Fraternitas Loki*. It contained initiatory elements that seemed very similar in structure to the ONA. Could this be where the secret tradition lived on?

Entrance into Loki was for seconded people only, who had shown themselves to be worthy of selection. They were organised into four man cells called Wolf packs and assigned to secret missions. It was very reminiscent of how terrorist groups operate. I remembered too, Loki had spawned Fenrir (The name of the ONA journal), the giant wolf in Scandinavian mythology. My mind was awash with possibilities—had I stumbled upon yet another doorway into the ONA? Training and fitness were expected *of Fraternitas Loki* Wolves, a level of fitness almost identical to ONA members. Their fitness programme was based on the standard familiar to Special Forces such as paratroopers. The parallels between the *Fraternitas Loki* and the ONA were quite striking. If the former organisation was a ingeniously disguised successor to the ONA had the mask had slipped?

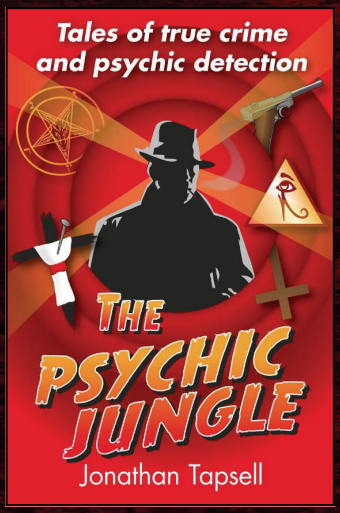
My host began to discuss political correctness, the latter-day form of self-censorship used by all Government bodies, corporate institutions and the media. N. compared political correctness to a new form of totalitarianism; whereby individuals found themselves in a Kafkesque trial, being forced to modify their behaviour, alter their speech and conform to external laws that were imposed without popular consent. Even if the speaker did not agree with the PC self-censorship they were powerless to defend themselves against it, as guilt was apportioned on anyone refusing to comply. Furthermore he argued, individuals should be proud of their race, their creed, ethnic background and resist all forms of homogenisation. He cited the European Union as one example of the homogenisation and stated that he did not recognise it. His speech grew faster as the steady tattoo above the room rose to meet it, its uneven rhythm and funereal beat complimenting the retreating sunrays. The metre of the speech increased again, N. leaned his frame

forwards and spoke with passion and zeal, and scarcely did he pause for breath. The incessant tattoo upstairs seemed to grow louder. N began to discuss the Tarot designs of the ONA, it was an area I was deeply interested in having studied different Tarot systems for many years. The Tarot set consisted of the 22 Major Arcana (Atu) only . The ONA deck was very gory and disharmonious, with images of menstruating women and corpse-like figures that populated the designs. My question about the deck was neither vocal nor audible, at the same time the images of the deck grew vividly in my minds eye and for the first time I realised their power and significance. All of the cards are based on self-overcoming and various stages of initiation within the ONA system, some only accessible through astral realms.

Had I managed somehow to hack into the mind of N.? Using the power of imagination combined with will I directed my thought towards him. The drumming halted abruptly its sudden silence stopped everything. It was an impasse and neither Gladiator had succeeded in moving the other. There was no animosity, no aggression, no malice, it was a situation that can only be described as a mental sparring match played close to the magical thresh-olds of the mind but, yet, not in them. Some journalists may have found all of this extremely disconcerting having left the safety of professional bounda-ries to the psychic realms. Gonzo journalism is a term coined but psychic reality is something else. Conversation resumed.

End of Pt 2

This article is extracted from the new book 'The Psychic Jungle' by Jonathon Tapsell.



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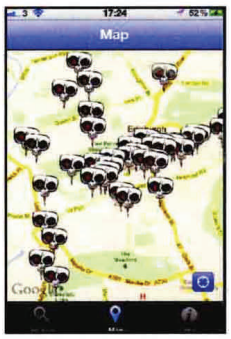

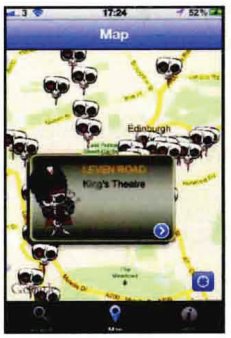

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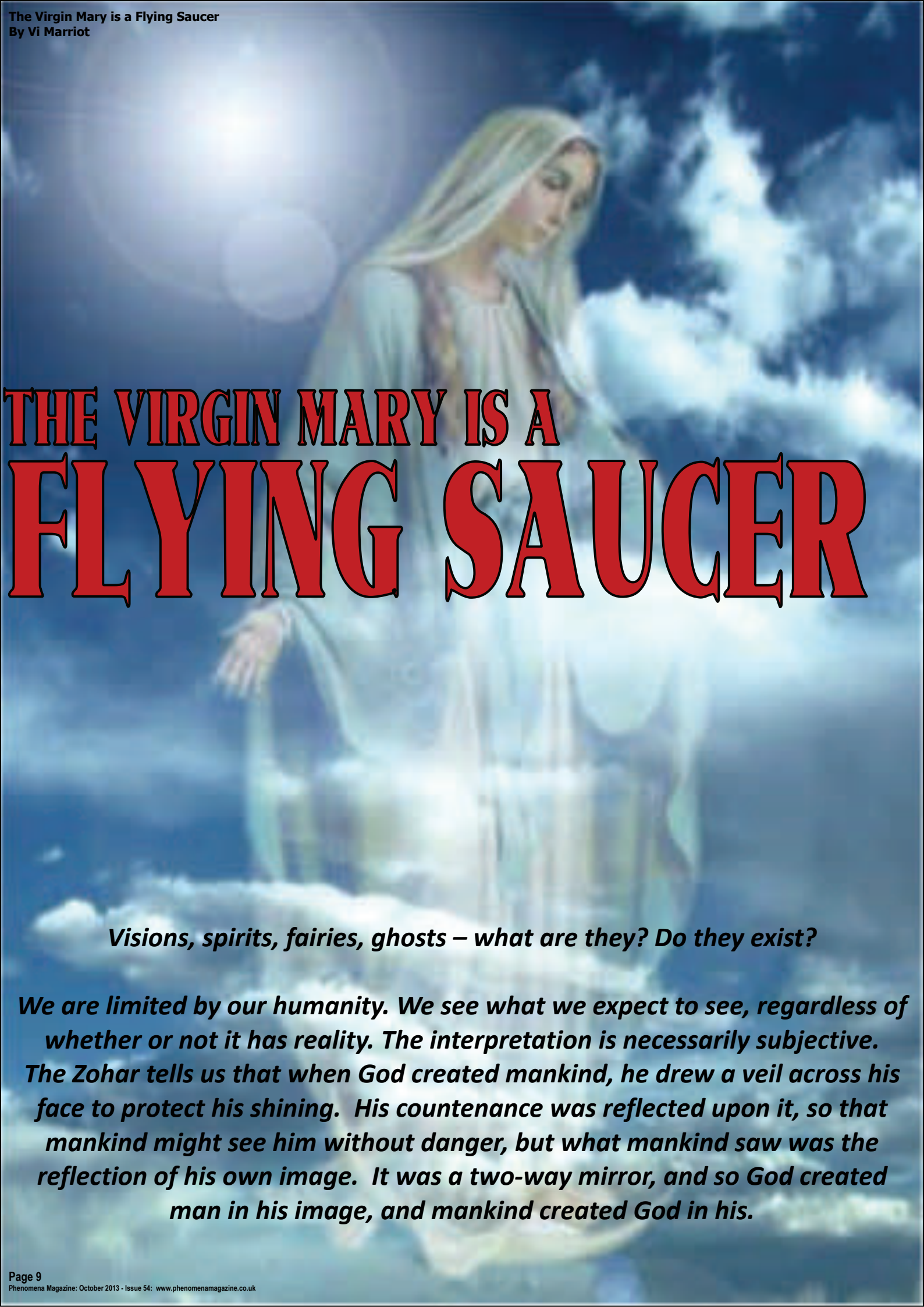


THE VIRGIN MARY IS A FLYING SAUCER

Visions, spirits, fairies, ghosts – what are they? Do they exist?

We are limited by our humanity. We see what we expect to see, regardless of whether or not it has reality. The interpretation is necessarily subjective. The Zohar tells us that when God created mankind, he drew a veil across his face to protect his shining. His countenance was reflected upon it, so that mankind might see him without danger, but what mankind saw was the reflection of his own image. It was a two-way mirror, and so God created man in his image, and mankind created God in his.

Male and female are different animals. Science supports the theory, and practise proves it. Different objectives, different skills, and a different way of looking at things. The interpretation of what we regard as facts depends on sex, age, experience and knowledge. Victorian children saw fairies; sophisticated modern children see spacecraft. The bereaved see their lost loved ones. Religiously oriented people see God, saints and angels.

The supernatural appears to fall into two categories:

1. Something witnessed, seen or heard, as a separate event, to which we may react, but which has no immediate personal relevance. An accidental overseeing or overhearing.

Time is a man-made conception, and we all have strong racial memories, whether or not we choose to recognise their promptings. All past and present, and perhaps some future, events exist co-incidentally, so that just occasionally it so happens that a specific event is seen or heard by someone who is in the right time, place, and mental state to connect with it.

It is rather like radio, television or websites. A room is apparently empty except for its physical appointments, but tune in to the appropriate receiving agent, and it becomes full of noise, colour and movement. We are all, mentally, receptors, and need only to connect to the correct vibrations.

2. Phenomena that are centred on an actual force be it energy, magnetism, light, weather, atmosphere, mental condition or whatever. Believers in the supernatural will say it is extraterrestrial; the religious will believe it is a manifestation of the divine. Whatever it is, there is SOMETHNG there, a nucleus around which the "seer", within human limitation, will create a "seeing". It is inevitable that such visions will conform to the seer's own interpretation, but it is also a fact that very often they appear to have a much wider application and influence.

Bernadette's vision at Lourdes may have been just a little girl looking for a surrogate mother, but the fact remains that the water has brought enormous comfort and alleviation of suffering to millions of people. Perhaps the miracle, whether or not the vision was genuine, is the action it prompted. Something sparked it off! If it was just an electrical hiccup in the atmosphere, good luck to it, and blessings on the little girl who sought fit to clothe it in mystery and magic

On a more mundane plane, one might say although Berenger Saunière (the priest at the heart of the Rennes le Chateau enigma) was never granted the miracle he wanted to make Rennes -le-Château a great religious centre, he certainly initiated a modern miracle of publicity, tourism, money, and endless entertainment for a lot of people.

White Ladies.

The Patroness of Toledo (Spain) is La Virgin Blanca. She is very pale-skinned, and she and the child are dressed totally in white, only her golden crown provides colour. She is regarded by the locals as a "black virgin" in spite of her colour, invested with all their attributes and mysticism.

Black Virgins.

She is black because she has inherited the colour from the ancient goddess of wisdom.

In Cabala the female pillar is black, topped by Binah, the first female principal, and the relevant sephira is always coloured black on the Tree of Life. The bride in the Song of Songs is "black but comely". Minerva the Roman goddess of wisdom was black. At the temple of Dodona, dedicated to Zeus as Shepherd King and Dion (Diana) as moon goddess, her black doves nested in the oracular oaks, and the black dove priestesses translated the oracles, so naturally they spoke "the language of the birds".

The only logical explanation of why the goddess should be black would seem to be that as the Queen of Night, the opposite of the bright Sun God-King of the Day, she is dark. Darkness is secrecy and secrecy is knowledge, and knowledge is wisdom. As the triple goddess of the moon she is the maiden, bride and hag – new moon, full moon, dark of the moon – perpetually renewed.

Pontmain

All France was traumatised by the 1870 -71 Franco Prussian War, and the fall of the Second Empire. 38 men from Pontmain had been conscripted into the Army, and the casualties were horrific. On 17 January 1871 the farmer Cesar Barbette and his two sons, Eugene and Joseph, were in the barn preparing feed for the horses when a neighbour came to tell Cesar that his stepson August Fritteau was safe. Eugene, who was August's half-brother, went outside to look at the sky and described seeing above a neighbouring building an extraordinarily beautiful woman, at first about human size, but who later grew much larger. She wore a blue dress sprinkled with gold stars and blue slippers with gold bows. Her head was covered with a black veil and surmounted by a gold crown. He called his father and brother – his father could see nothing, but Joseph also described the vision. The local schoolteacher, a nun called Sister Vitaline, saw only three stars that the boys said surrounded the Virgin's head, but two of her pupils, Francois Richer and Jeanne-Marie Labosse, called out " O, what a beautiful lady". The third, Augustine Manton, said nothing, so may or may not have seen anything.

About two and a half hours later, a crowd had gathered, and with the arrival of the local priest, a small red cross appeared on the Virgin's chest. She was then framed in an oval, and surrounded by four candles. A large white surface, about a yard and a half broad, appeared at her feet and in letters of gold were written the words

Vi Marriot has been deeply involved in the theatre production since 1946, and her efforts saw her awarded an MBE in 2009 for services to the theatre. During WWII she worked at the Air Ministry for Sir Frank Whittle who invented the jet engine. A friend of the cabalist Gareth Knight she has had a lifelong interest in mysticism and magic and founded a Martinist lodge (called the Sophia Lodge) in London where she was the magus for twenty years.

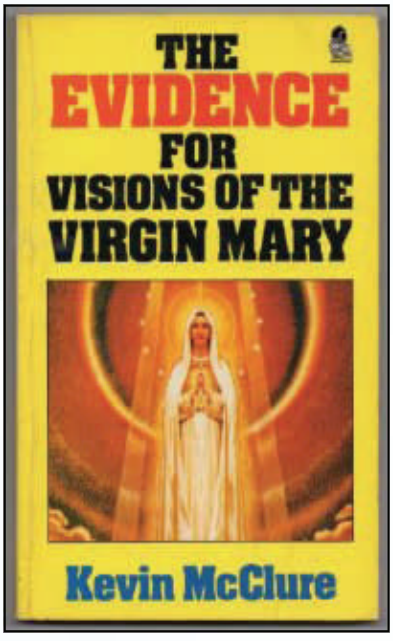
Vi Marriot
A Short Poem

The Presence

You can't force it,
It isn't there.
Only a dark mirror
In an empty room.
And if you hear...
...something behind you
DON'T RUN!

"Mais priez mes enfants" (But pray my children). The other nun present, Sister Marie Edouard, began the litany of Loretto, and another inscription appeared saying "*Dieu vous exaucera en feu de temps*", (God answers you in the fire of time). Then a second line *"Mon fils se laisse toucher*", (My son is allowed to touch). A red crucifix appeared in front of the lady, with a crossbar saying "Jesus Christ" and vanished when the Virgin held out her hands. A star came down and lit the candles. A white veil, like a fog, arose from her feet and gradually covered the figure, leaving just the crown and lighted candles showing. Then the whole thing disappeared. The vision appears to have lasted about three and a half hours.

That day the German Army was a few miles from Laval, the centre of the diocese in which Pontmain was situated, and the chief town of the Mayenne. At 5.30, the time when the vision apparently started, the Army's advance was halted, and later that evening the decision was made to withdraw, for no known reason. Only the four children admitted to seeing the Virgin, all were under the age of twelve, and were familiar with the Miraculous Medal of Catherine Labouré, which the vision somewhat resembled. The two boys were in a highly emotional state because August was safe. The two girls seemed only to comment on the beauty of the lady, and gave no descriptive details. The legend grew that the Commander of the German Army said he had halted his advance because his path was blocked by the Virgin, but this is probably apocryphal.



(Ref: *The Evidence for Visions of the Virgin Mary by Kevin McClure)*

Ritual

All initiation ceremonies involve dying and resurrection, even Christian baptism! Masonic ritual involves the death and resurrection of Hiram Abif.

The Chalice Well at Glastonbury has an unexplained man-sized niche in the wall, just above water level, which I suggest could have held a symbol of the Holy Grail. If the well is filled from the neighbouring spring, the occupant would be covered. I wonder if this was part of an initial ritual, where the initiate had to go down to retrieve the token, wait while the niche was flooded and then return through the waters to rebirth. All life arises from water and water is a common ritual element of rebirth.

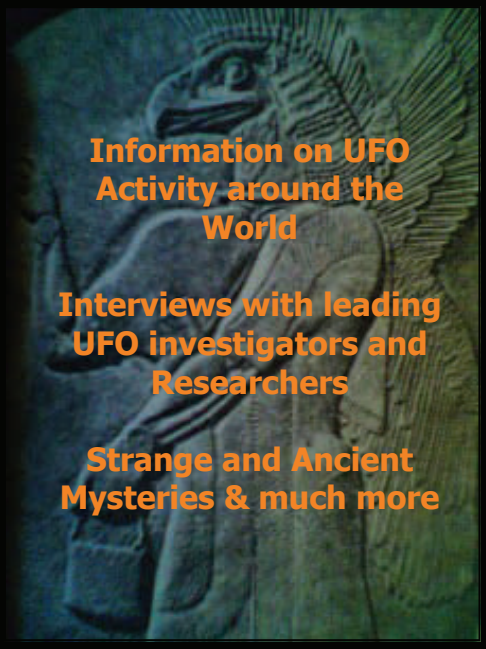
Images

As a variation on weeping virgins, there is also the extraordinary legend of the Black Virgin of Czestochowa at Waclaw. At some time the painting was damaged – some say by unsuccessful thieves, some by an invading Army (Poland is always being invaded by somebody!). A pike was put through it and split the canvas across her cheek but the wound miraculously healed and she still bears the scar.

Fatima

In the Spring and Summer of 1916, three little shepherd children, Lucia Santos and her two cousins, Jacinta and Francisco Marto, experienced the visitation of an Angel on three separate occasions. The Angel appeared to them as they watched their sheep, teaching them specific prayers to pray, to make sacrifices, and to spend time in adoration of the Lord. These three visits were apparently to prepare the children for the visitations of the Blessed Mother, which were to follow in 1917. On May 13, 1917, ten year old Lúcia Santos and her cousins Jacinta and Francisco Marto were herding sheep at a location known as the Cova da Iria near their home village of Fátima, Portugal. Lúcia described seeing a woman "brighter than the sun, shedding rays of light clearer and stronger than a crystal ball filled with the most sparkling water and pierced by the burning rays of the sun". Astonished they ran back to their village and told everyone. Further appearances were reported to have taken place on the thirteenth day of the month in June and July. In these, the woman asked the children to do penance and Acts of Reparation as well as making personal sacrifices to save sinners. The children subsequently wore tight cords around their waists to cause themselves pain, performed self-flagellation using stinging nettles, abstained from drinking water on hot days, and performed other works of penance. According to Lúcia's account, in the course of her appearances, the woman confided to the children three secrets, now known as the Three. Thousands of people flocked to Fátima and reports of visions and miracles continued... But what was it they had really seen and experienced. Was the witnesses to these events perception altered or clouded by their beliefs…

To the left is an old photo showing the three children that witnessed the Fatima vision...



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I'm not a researcher, just a "collector", tireless.
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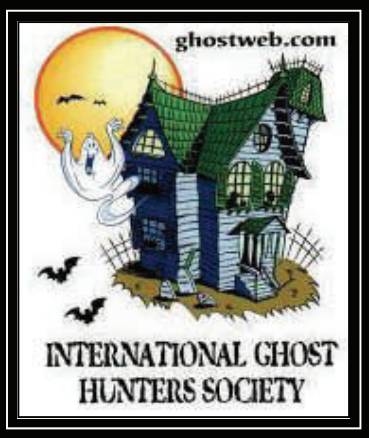

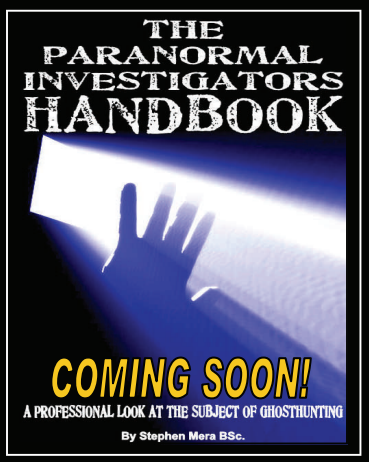

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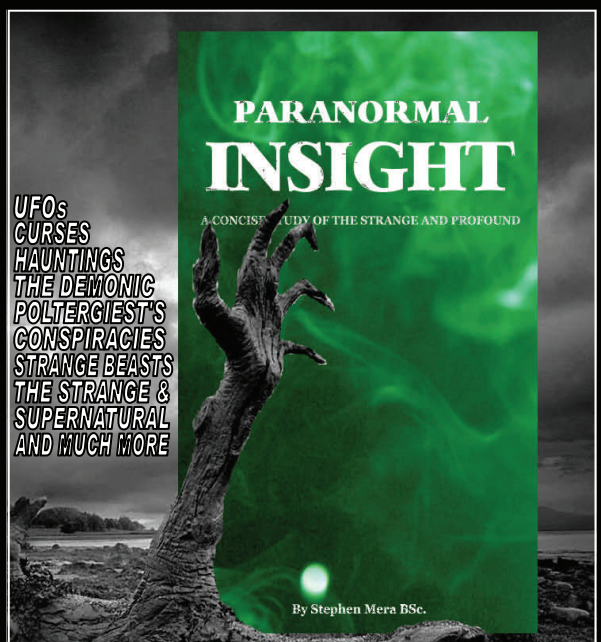

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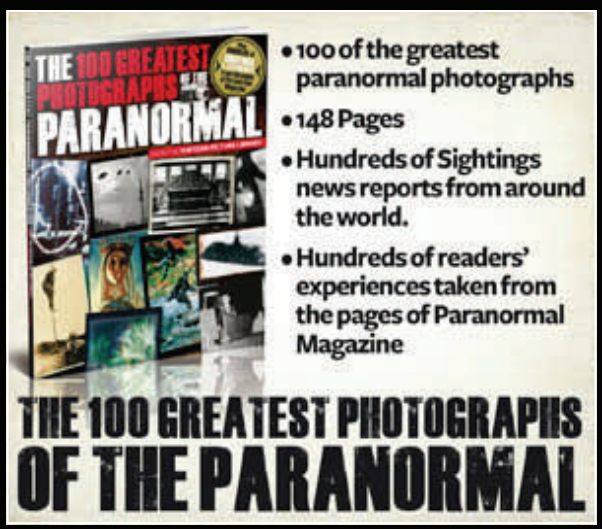

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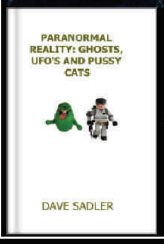

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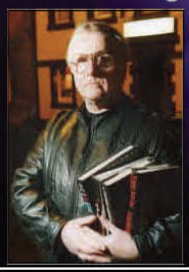
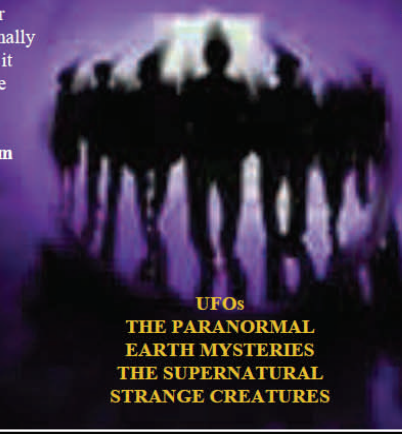


Steve Mera has been investigating and researching paranormal phenomena for around 30 years and is known internationally for his TV work. Steve is the founder of the Scientific Establishment of Parapsychology and lectures nationally on the subjects of the paranormal, supernatural, ufological, cryptozoological and other mysteries.

Contact Steve at: **s_mera@yahoo.com**



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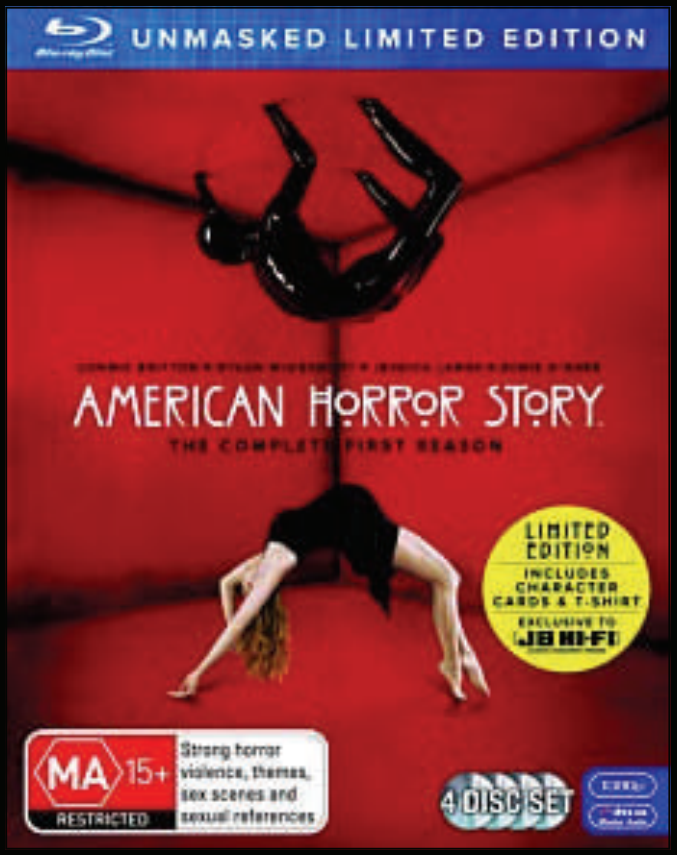


Franka Potente

Q: You get to be something that most actors don't get to be. You're a bomb of a character. How would you fit in? How will you upset the universe?

A: I come in there because I am a housewife and I beat up two men in a bar. I claim to be Anne Frank, which millions and millions of schoolchildren have read the book, we all assume is dead but do we really know.

I seem to have proof that what I say is true. So at first nobody believes me but the more proof I bring the more people are investigating if what I say is true. Not only that, there's somebody in there who works in this time that I seem to recognize from Auschwitz concentration camp. So I'm pointing fingers at people too.

Q: How will this affect the characters running the asylum?

A: You definitely will but that is already set in motion isn't it? Like you know, there's not going to be the moment where you're like oh my God, I thought this person was good. I don't know if, after seeing two episodes, I don't know if you can say that about any character. I'm just shedding light on certain people that will be under a lot of pressure and do horrible things because of. And then I kind of vanish again into the fog.

Q: What a treat for an actor. What was the appeal of being on a show like this?

A: What I like about season one was the texture of it. I like that I was creeped out by that title sequence and still am. When I watch the title sequence I hear this mind-boggling music. You know immediately that this is created by someone who knows the psychology of nightmares, who knows the texture, who knows the feel, and for an actor, anyone involved you need to physically place yourself in that and you become easily part of something. That already has its tone set. It's a very luxurious situation, the sets, everything it makes you so uncomfortable. It's already a creation. You just step on there and say your lines and it's helping the performance incredibly.

Q: There's a line in the second episode where one of the characters says "times may have changed but the nature of evil happened". We are living in a time of great chaos. Is that what you think fuels people's fascination with watching shows like this?

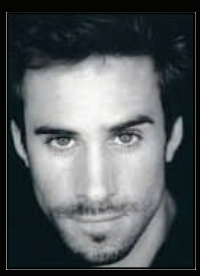
A: The human mind is so twisted. I sometimes think that the pure, like us watching the show and being intrigued by what's going on by bloody face or this person or that person being tortured, even in the safe environment of our home, just the fact that we can't wait to see this again and again and again the next week and the following almost proves the point how twisted and sick we are.

Q: It takes a certain actor to be able to stand up to the formidable challenge of people like James Cromwell and Jessica Lange. You will be in the midst of these two powerhouses. What was it like being up against these two people?

A: I was scared. My first day of shooting was with Jessica Lange and I had 14 pages of text. I couldn't sleep. I was really nervous. I admire her work. She's obviously an amazing actress that has sustained and is just there and has just won an Emmy. I wanted her respect. I wanted to be good with her. I really wanted us to achieve something good together but I was like how am I going to do this? She has a very focused presence. She made me part of her energy. She is really responsible. She looks out for you and she wants you to be good. She was totally there for me and it was an awesome day. I forgot my lines maybe twice, which is a good ratio. It was great and it was definitely because of her honestly, yeah.

Q: It's interesting that they took on a real-life figure to put into this asylum. Does the show do anything to disturb her legacy?

A: I can only say that I never had those concerns because my character had postpartum depression and basically overcompensates and identifies with the second world war and Jewish victims of the Holocaust. At some point she took over the persona of Anne Frank because it's part of schizophrenia. She really becomes Anne Frank. She's fighting and she is very proud and she's fighting for justice. Anne Frank is not really, if she were alive to be honest with you, she might be like that. That was always my way of thinking. I was like well, if she had survived she would be my age in the 60s and what would she be like? That's kind of an interesting mind game. It's more a tribute I think to the magic of moviemaking. We can make Anne Frank come alive.



Joseph Fiennes

Q: How do you find this particular voice for this character that you play?

A: He's a fun character as are all the characters in American Horror Story. The monsignor, just the name itself has this sort of regality to it. He's been brought in probably by the diocese to run this new asylum and sister Jude in charge. So the man is wonderfully versed in theology and church and I imagine is very well educated, possibly University. Ultimately he's very ambitious. He studies a lot. I also think that he is a moderate voice of the church. Around that time in the 60s it may even have been a movement called the Vatican II, which was the whole idea of challenging the Vatican and really getting it to modernize itself with its attitudes towards the people of that time in the modern age. That still continues today. He's a man that both is intelligent but also manages to think outside of the dogma and the theological box of the Catholic Church.

Q: Why is it an interesting juxtaposition to see a show that's set in the 60s because we have this fuzzy nostalgic view of that decade? Does it apply to we are today?

A: It depends who you ask, those who were born in the 30s, 40s, that lived through the 60s and their sort of adolescence and adulthood, would obviously have a very different point of view. Of course from the 50s to the 60s a huge explosion with music, the Beatles, the Stones and a great escape from the repression. Those characters that are of a particular age within American Horror Story in the 60s would've been children of the 30s and 40s and would have been brought up with a pretty strict regime certainly in Europe. And certainly in North America. What's brilliantly creepy about the show is the fact that this wasn't so far away.

This wasn't so many years ago that people have such a particular rule and answer to the crimes that someone committed, whether it was just stealing or something worse or just someone who was not mental but possibly just a bit passionate or outspoken. Then of course someone who was gay and how that was viewed at that time. We've come a long way but maybe that's just in North America. I'm sure there are other pockets of the world we live in a culture deeply repressed. The great thing about the Internet is that people can at least log on and hold hands with like-minded people or democratically minded people. But I don't think we should forget that, I think those horrors, in their own way, in a modern world, may still continue. We all know that and I think we all know that somehow the greater powers -- we're so close. Whether we're liberal we might believe we are in a police state or something. Very quickly you can be on the wrong side of the law or very quickly you can hit a moment of madness and so I guess it's all about perception. It's very different today than then but I don't think it was so far away and I do think there are pockets in which have characters like that that have authority figures that are in charge. What's wonderful about Jessica Lange's portrayal is that she is someone who is on a righteous course and is doing it for the sanctity of others but in a very brutal way. That goes on today in all walks of sort of authority.

Q: This is a show that lives in a very grave moral zone. The show pushes the boundaries of what mainstream television should talk about. Do you find that it has a very interesting morality as a result?
A: First and foremost, this is great exhilarating entertainment. It plays with all those wonderful themes of horrors and it takes all the great sort of juicy films in our repertoire with the Shining, Psycho, Hannibal Lecter. There's all sort of borrowed components and references so it's wonderfully exciting for that genre. It is creepy and because there is a connection to these characters that are fallible. That is the main draw over and above the horror. The great connectedness is that they contradict themselves. They're full of contradictions as we discussed earlier. No one is who they seem to be in that kind of who we are and we're always trying to find our real selves and we wear masks and we pull it off. And I think there's, to the greater extreme, that's what's taking place here whether it's people within authority or within the mental institution itself you know. What I love about this show is its meditation on sanity and those who are locked up are probably more sane than those running the asylum. That's a lovely kind of juxtaposition. But ultimately within the extreme these people are real. The only person for me who really is an out and out monster is Dr. Arden. I find him really very scary, a child of a brutal regime and his sort of brainwashed and I kind of can't really see if he's got any moral center at all. I find that particularly scary. But really what I find scary is those who do have moral centers and veer off to their great cost.

Q: You're bloody face, aren't you?
A: This is now terminated. (Smile).

Lily Rabe

Q: I'm very Catholic and this show scares the crap out of me. How was the show first presented to you?
A: When Ryan called me up I was doing a play in New York and I remember I was sitting in my dressing room before a show, he called to tell me about the new season and the part that he wanted me to play. I said yes before I knew much at all because getting to work with Ryan is something I say yes to. I trust him. So I didn't know that much. I knew a bit about the character I'd be playing and I knew the time period and I knew it would be in an asylum and I knew what Jessica was playing. But the information came in in bits.

Q: What is it about this particular show that has galvanized audiences the way that it has?
A: Well, that's part of it, it's not like anything else on television. What Ryan does with all of his shows, which are so incredibly different from one another, it's just amazing that these three different shows that are on the air right now are born out of the same brain and are so incredibly different. What they all -- they're all very original, very brave and each universe that he creates the show is its own universe. So for an audience member at least for me watching his shows, to get to sort of step into that world that is so specific to the show is I think very appealing. And can appeal to so many different, that's why there's so many, it's not just for targeted age groups, there's vast mass of appeal to his shows I think.

Q: For an actor, what is the best part about living in a world that's so grey?
A: Wow, that is where everything happens isn't it, in the grey. I feel that that's sort of where, certainly where we are today. As an actor because it's true, and for my character so much is in the middle because so much is happening to her and so it's not black or white. Is it this Mary Eunice or that Mary Eunice? All of it is living inside of her and is very complicated way. And for all of the characters you know we are all -- he writes and creates and his writers create such multidimensional characters. No one is ever stuck sort of with a caricature. That grayness is a good place to go to work everyday.

Q: Would you say that insanity is overrated? Do embrace the responsibility wholeheartedly? Do you ever question some of the motivation of the characters?
A: No, I don't question them because that wouldn't help me while I'm playing the part you know. It's bad when you step into that, for me anyway, no, I would find no value in sort of being resistant or questioning what's happening in the world of the show or what's happening for my character. It's much more fun. I'd rather just jump out of the plane and then know that my parachute is going to be there. Too much trepidation with my work. I can only speak for myself, it has never made me as happy as when I just jump in. So that's what I'm doing.

Q: How do you decompress at the end of the day?
A: I do love a cheeseburger but sleep is a good thing. We work long hours. I think we all like to just try and sleep when we can. Then you do the things that you do in your life that you know feel like you are living your life outside of work. She's on my mind 24/7 right now, that's for sure.

Lizzie Brochere

Q: Beautiful name, hard environment for Grace. I'm curious when you first were approached to be part of this very unique TV landscape did you have any trepidation about it?
A: Oh, no, I was excited. I was really excited. It is a twisted place to be in but the world is a big asylum isn't it?

Q: Why is this show so popular with audiences? It's not an easy show to describe. What hooks the audience in so quickly?
A: Everyone finds what they find. Me, what hooks me up is that there is something behind the horror. There's also something that talks about the twisted kind of fears of our society, actual society nowadays and takes the risks to really confront them. That's what gets me.

Q: How was the show presented to you?
A: It was presented very, very like that. It was presented as saying this year it's going to take place in an asylum in the 60's and it's going to be held by Jessica Lange who's going to play a sister, nun. That's how it was presented.

Q: And you thought yes, sign me up?
A: I was already signed up but Jessica Lange as a nun, holding a mental institute in the 60s, yeah of course, of course.

Q: What can we expect for Grace's arc this season?
A: You're going to figure out where she comes from first in episode four. Then I'm figuring it out every episode, for every episode. I'm like what? What's happening to her now? Again? Where's that coming from? I don't think you can expect, just you'll see.

Q: How do you find a voice for an entirely new character?
A: Grace was very straightforward on paper. It made sense. What's funny is that the audition process was already giving me ideas of where they wanted her to go. The two auditions, the two scenes I had, one was from Girl Interrupted Liza's character, Angelina Jolie so that made her kind of edgy, crazy, rock 'n roll. The other one was a masturbation scene from Nip Tuck, very provocative. I was like, okay, okay, that's where we're going. It turns out it's not really like that but there's this touch in there. I got lucky because before we started shooting we had the first four scripts and as I told you in the fourth episode we discover what's Grace's story. So I had that before I started. You know where she comes from. You know kind of the tone that they're looking for. It's like everyone, you talk with the hair guy, what does he want, what he got from Ryan? We found that this kind of I feel, very punk'ish Barcelonian hair cut that I love, that's why it is so chopped up and it's a bit crazy and it's not cute. I like that. Costume wise it sounds ridiculous but we're all wearing the same uniform apparently but no one is wearing the same uniform. Shelley has one that has shoulders shown and she's always unbuttoned in front, kind of sexy nymphomaniac. Sarah has a very plain one and I have one that's tighter at the waist so I can be a bit more, you know, it's like every little detail pops up comes like that. I got a lot from story that I came from, from you no episode for that was pretty much it.

Q: You like her?
A: Oh, I love her. I love her. It's been great playing her.

Q: We are going through a rather chaotic time. People are attracted to something a little darker. Do you think it's the dark part of our personalities that attracts us to shows like these?
A: Yes, maybe in a cathartic way. There's also something so exciting of seeing all this, I'm really attracted about I wouldn't say darker, it's twisted and the more you're going to get into the season the more you're going to get into the episodes, the weirder and the less maniacal. Black and white. There's something black and something white and everything's just pretty much gray and tweaking all shades of gray, that's where they're going and that's what I like about that show. You don't have bad guys and good guys. It's all blurry and what's sanity and what's not sanity. Who can you trust and who can you not trust? What's instinct? What are you inside? Do you know yourself? And I think it's true that it's a period right now in doubt of everything. We are like this doesn't work anymore. Oh this era of whatever doesn't work anymore. Coming to an end of something and we don't know really where to turn to. All these institutions in this show that are all tinted you know, tinted of black, tinted of a white, tinted of fewer, tinted of wanting, I think that's why people recognize something in their life.

Q: When you take on projects like this, what are you thinking when it's over? How do you decompress from a day on this set?
A: I took road trips. I took road trips especially because I'm not from here. I don't live in LA. So I don't know a lot of people yet and I don't have my crew of friends. I would certainly do something else if I were in Paris. But for me right now it's been road trips, yoga, all this Brazilian crazy dance stuff. A bit of reggae sound systems, some stuff like that.

Sarah Paulson

Q: Is Ryan Murphy a calculated genius or not?

A: Well I certainly think it's meant to be organic to the premise. I know that it's very out there but I think that's what makes it so exciting. It's a very visceral viewing experience and I know that Ryan has a very specific editing style. He works with the same editors I believe on most of these shows. And there's a kind of aggressiveness to the editing which I think helps to tell the story. It's what he wants in terms of calculation.

Q: There is a line in the second episode where it says "times may have changed but the nature of evil hasn't". Do you think that's what people are so galvanized by in this universe?

A: Yes, I really loved the first season but this party thing is 20 times more terrifying because it's based in reality. I think a very horrifying reality but a reality nevertheless because the first year there were a lot of, if you died in the house you know your character was a ghost. I personally don't really believe in ghosts. I haven't had any encounters and I'd like to keep it that way. So whereas this year it's really a sort of psychological terror and people who have power versus the powerless. In 1964 there was a certain stopping point where you couldn't pass if you didn't have enough power. This show really explores that, which is very terrifying. The idea that women, like my character, could get committed to an institution specifically for being a lesbian in 1964 is a pretty terrifying concept when you think about it.

Q: What makes living in the grey such an exciting prospect for actors?

A: To me that's like life, most of life kind of lives in the grey. I don't just mean morally. I just mean kind of everything. If things were black and white it would be a lot clearer as to what to do all the time. I just feel like life kind of lives. that's another thing I think Ryan does is that he just kind of takes you to the brink and lets you hover in this uncomfortable place and that's what makes it so creepy and awful.

Q: For a show with the title asylum I like the word commit. It can have a lot of meanings in this particular context. Why as actors commit to such challenging disturbing material?

A: It's been hard. There's something that happens to me around episode six and seven, in particular that was so disturbing that I had to take a minute and ask if they could give me a second. I went into a corner and balled my eyes out by myself because it got to a point where the kind of torture that was happening to an innocent woman was -- and the kind of torture is -- which is really horrifying and it is a difficult thing to suspend yourself in. It's one thing on the page, you see a two-page scene but you're shooting it for seven hours. If the terrible is happening over and over and over again and you're having to stay in this emotional place and it's really hard. At the same time, in episode two my character gets electroshock therapy and it was a more terrifying thing to do and I couldn't walk for two days afterwards because what I had to do to my body to be that rigid and move in that way. I had a conversation with my mother the next day and she said well how are you? I said well I'm okay. I'm a little tired. We did this electroshock therapy yesterday. She said well that is just so horrible. I was like well yeah it was kind of exhilarating actually because the actor part of me is very excited by the fact that I get to really sink my teeth into something. You don't always get those opportunities, if you think about Claire Danes or somebody you know who's got this incredible part on Homeland that's so multifaceted. But prior to that in the last couple of years she was doing great parts in movies but it wasn't you know, before Temple Grand, and there was kind of a dearth of like real great stuff for her to sink her teeth into. Now she can really let it fly which I think is an incredible thing. It's similar with this and it's why it's attracted the caliber of actor that's you know, James Cromwell, Jessica, and all these people. It's because there's something really meaty there, which you don't find in a lot of places. But more you're finding it on television than anywhere else I think.

Q: You're going to have Sarah Paulson master class.

A: I don't know. Well you know, we'll see. There are things I wish I could tell you that you won't really believe that happens to poor Lana Winters.

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October Celestial Events (Information courtesy of Seasky.

October 3 - Uranus at Opposition. The blue-green planet will be at its closest approach to Earth and its face will be fully illuminated by the Sun. This is the best time to view Uranus. Due to its distance, it will only appear as a tiny blue-green dot in all but the most powerful telescopes.
October 9 - Mercury at Greatest Eastern Elongation. The planet Mercury will be at its furthest angle from the Sun, known as greatest elongation. It will be at its highest point in the night sky after sunset. This is the best time to try to view Mercury since it stays so close to the Sun and doesn't usually climb very high above the horizon.

October 12 - Astronomy Day Part 2. Astronomy Day is an annual event intended to provide a means of interaction between the general public and various astronomy enthusiasts, groups and professionals. The theme of Astronomy Day is "Bringing Astronomy to the People," and on this day astronomy and stargazing clubs and other organizations around the world will plan special events. You can find out about special local events by contacting your local astronomy club or planetarium. You can also find more about Astronomy Day by checking the Web site for the Astronomical League.

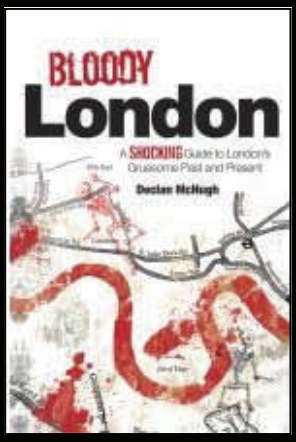
October 5 - New Moon. The Moon will be directly between the Earth and the Sun and will not be visible from Earth. This phase occurs at 00:34 UTC. This is the best time of the month to observe faint objects such as galaxies and star clusters because there is no moonlight to interfere.
October 7, 8 - Draconids Meteor Shower. The Draconids is a minor meteor shower producing only about 10 meteors per hour. It is produced by dust grains left behind by comet 21P Giacobini-Zinner, which was first discovered in 1900. The shower runs annually from October 6-10 and peaks this year on the the night of the 7th and morning of the 8th. The thin crescent moon will set early in the evening leaving dark skies for optimal observing. Best viewing will be just after midnight from a dark location far away from city lights. Meteors will radiate from the constellation Draco, but can appear anywhere in the sky.

October 18 - Full Moon. The Moon will be directly opposite the Earth from the Sun and will be fully illuminated as seen from Earth. This phase occurs at 23:38 UTC. This full moon was known by early Native American tribes as the Full Hunters Moon because at this time of year the leaves are falling and the game is fat and ready to hunt. This moon has also been known as the Travel Moon and the Blood Moon. This will also be the smallest full moon of the year because it will be near apogee, its farthest point from the Earth.
October 18 - Penumbral Lunar Eclipse. A penumbral lunar eclipse occurs when the Moon passes through the Earth's partial shadow, or penumbra. During this type of eclipse the Moon will darken slightly but not completely. The eclipse will be visible throughout most of the world except for Australia and extreme eastern Siberia.

October 21, 22 - Orionids Meteor Shower. The Orionids is an average shower producing up to 20 meteors per hour at its peak. It is produced by dust grains left behind by comet Halley, which has been known and observed since ancient times. The shower runs annually from October 2 to November 7. It peaks this year on the night of October 21 and the morning of October 22. The waning gibbous moon will block some of the meteors this year, but the Orionids tend to be fairly bright so it could still be a good show. Best viewing will be from a dark location after midnight. Meteors will radiate from the constellation Orion, but can appear anywhere in the sky.

BOOK REVIEW

Title: Bloody London
Author: Declan McHugh
Publisher: Crimson Books
ISBN: 978-1-78059-069-1
Price: £6.99

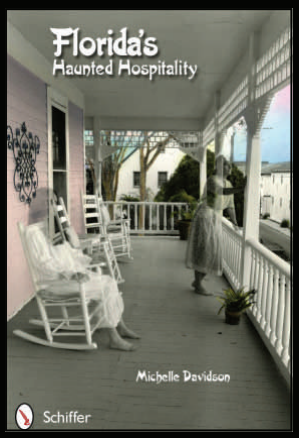


Every village, town and city has its secrets to one degree or another, but few if any can match London for the huge variety of unlikely, strange and downright bizarre sights, sounds and events that have occurred over the long centuries of its existence. This book is an absolute gem of its kind and is one of the accessible and fascinating publications I have ever read. No matter where one opens it, the page is guaranteed to be bursting with odd and unlikely facts normally hidden discreetly away from the public gaze. This is not to say that they are hard to find, far from it, for the book makes a point of taking the reader by the hand and directing them precisely to the point of interest in question; something sadly lacking in many similar publications. Its all here, the author has wisely split the city into sections, north, south, east, west and central London are all here for inspection. Everything from the former location of the apartment formerly occupied by the notorious Victorian magician and eccentric Aleister Crowley to the site of the Tyburn tree and the tale of the thousands who were publicly executed on this spot, (now commemorated by a plaque). As matter of interest most towns and cities that had a public gallows usually mark the spot in some manner, either with a commemorative plaque or sometimes with a large cross set into the ground. Other locations mention in the book include the site of The Royal College of Surgeons (and the anatomical delights it contains), various spooky cemeteries, the author thinks that Abney Park Cemetery in Stoke Newington is the creepiest of the lot, I always thought it was Highgate until I had look: he's right! Also here is the Gladiators Arena, the locations frequented by Jack the Ripper, Temple Church, The Old Bailey and Newgate Prison, the Tower of London and the rather poignant 'Cross Bones', a cemetery for medieval prostitutes.

The book also includes the location of the headquarters of the ill-starred 'Process Church of the Final Judgement', and the Magdala pub where Ruth Ellis, the last woman executed in the UK, shot her errant lover: the bullet holes are still in the wall outside the pub. It would be easy to keep extracting nuggets, e.g. information about the Kray Twins, unsolved murders, the Great Plague, the Elephant Man; the list goes on, because the book, which also provides a very helpful potted history of each location it describes, makes the reader absolutely spoiled for choice. This publication, which is very attractively priced too, almost makes the traditional travel guide obsolete and should be a must for anyone visiting London who would like to take a peek below the veneer of respectability that adorns the city: a real one-of-a-kind must have for the jaded traveller. Bloody London…bloody good!

BOOK REVIEW

Title: Florida's Haunted Hospitality
Author: Michelle Davidson
Publisher: Schiffer Publishing
Price: $16.99
Reviewed by Andrew Hind

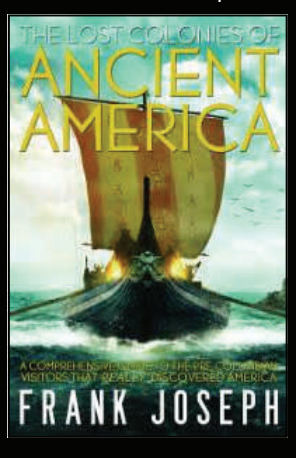


I'm delighted to see the publication of Florida's Haunted Hospitality because a trend of late has been to write about ghost stories in an increasingly narrow and localised way. For ghost aficionados looking to visit Florida, this new book fills an important and valuable niche: a volume covering the breadth and width of the state, the product of more than two years of research, exploring the historic and haunted past of 18 of the state's most haunted inns from Miami in the south to St. Augustine in the north. Michelle Davidson is a resident of this history-rich state and, as a psychic, has travelled throughout Florida to investigate ghost stories and has gathered a considerable fund of spooky stories from first-hand witnesses. Among her favourite explorations were those of haunted inns and hotels, places which she could introduce to readers so that they too might immerse themselves in the haunted experience. This entertaining book is the result of her investigations. The result is a compelling read, conversational yet roundly informative, presenting a wealth of ghosts in satisfying depth. As a resident of Florida, Davidson succeeds in being the woman on the spot, describing place, atmosphere and the people she speaks to with skill and charm. Beyond the 18 featured inns, Davidson also describes in capsule form a variety of other haunted locations in each community, as well as local ghost tours. The end result is a valuable tool for anyone wishing to plan a paranormal-themed vacation in Florida. Deciding just where to rest your head for the night will be a difficult decision. St. Augustine's Old Powder House Inn, located on the site of a Spanish gunpowder house dating back to the 1700s, is home to a helpful spirit who watches over the property and its owner, keeping them from harm.

Paranormal activity is common-place here; you may just wake up to find your clothes neatly folded or shoes lined up perfectly in the morning. The Artisan Inn, dating back to 1927, fell into ill-repair and dark times by the 1970s, when drug-dealers and ladies-of-the-night frequented its room, and a number of dubious deaths may have taken place under its roof. The inn has since been lovingly restored to its original refinement so that it is once again favoured by tourists. But some stains are impossible to remove, and ghostly reminders of a troubled past are frequently seen.

BOOK REVIEW

Title: The Lost Colonies of Ancient America
Author: Frank Joseph
Publisher: New Page Books
ISBN: 13:978-1-60163-278-4
Price: $16.99

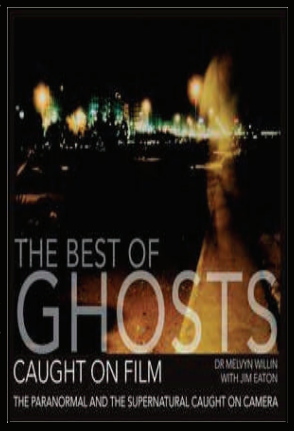


Lost Colonies of Ancient America: A Comprehensive Guide to the Pre-Columbian Visitors Who Really Discovered America is a compilation of oral accounts and physical proof for overseas' arrivals in North, Central and South America hundreds and thousands of years before Columbus set foot in San Salvador. Unlike any other book on the subject, this encyclopedic panorama brings the evidence under one umbrella, providing readers with a comprehensive view of the impact made on our country from Ice Age seafarers and Pharaonic Egyptians to Irish monks and Viking raiders. Relying on the latest discoveries in genetics and field research, Lost Colonies opens previously unknown, even suppressed information, not found in textbook versions of the past. Each chapter is dedicated to a thorough description of foreign culture-bearers who landed on American shores during pre-Columbian times. They include Old Stone Age hunters, Neolithic megalith-builders, Sumerian navigators, traders from the Nile and Indus Valleys, Greek explorers, Phoenician merchants, Hebrew exiles, Romans, Kelts, Japanese, Chinese, Christian missionaries, Gnostic heretics, Arthurian refugees, Norse warriors, and Knights Templar. Illustrated with original photographs and line drawings, Lost Colonies of Ancient America is profusely documented, open window on the high drama and unsuspected greatness of our past. Beautifully-written entries about inns with rich histories and a long-tradition of spectral episodes make this book an invaluable resource for any paranormal enthusiast planning a trip to Florida or even an enjoyable read for armchair-travellers.

An amazingly well written book that kept my attention. Full of facts I was never aware of. Well worth grabbing… (Steve Mera).

BOOK REVIEW

Title: The Best of Ghosts Caught on Film
Author: Dr Melvyn Willin & Jim Eaton
Publisher: David & Charles
ISBN: 978-1-4463-0271-7
Price: £12.99



Ghosts have been with us in one form or another since the beginning of time. Originally they were depicted through the efforts of artists both amateur and professional, but it is only comparatively recently that photography has played a major role. This new and beautifully presented book from David & Charles sets out a pictorial record of phantoms and other oddities that fall within the general heading of the paranormal. The book is split into seven distinct sections covering a range of subjects, everything from the titular ghosts, though strange lights and simulacra (natural objects that look like something else entirely) to poltergeists, revenants and finally, the earliest photographic images supposedly showing spirits of the dead. Many of the images used in the book have been seen before and some are almost classics of the genre, especially the ghostly image on the staircase of Raynam Hall in Norfolk, England. There are several others that fall under this heading; particularly impressive is the photograph of the young girl who appeared while a fire raged at Wem Town Hall, in Shropshire, England. This image was analysed by an expert who announced that while there was no obvious tampering with the negative or picture, the image might have been caused by an unusual lighting effect which produced an optical illusion. Maybe it did, but this remarkable image strongly suggests otherwise, because in many cases the 'experts' often add caveats to protect their both their reputation and the agenda of whoever submitted the image for evaluation. Overall, the book presents its evidence of a very ephemeral subject, one that is wide open to charges of fakery, in a very even handed manner and fair manner.

Each image is supported by a few words of explanation from the authors giving it some context, which is all-important when producing a work of this kind. Sadly, irrespective of how good the image quality or how detailed the background information, there will always be those who will deny and continue to deny the reality of life after death and how it can interact with the living. This book is a helpful reminder that the sceptics and debunkers can often be very, very wrong.

BOOK REVIEW

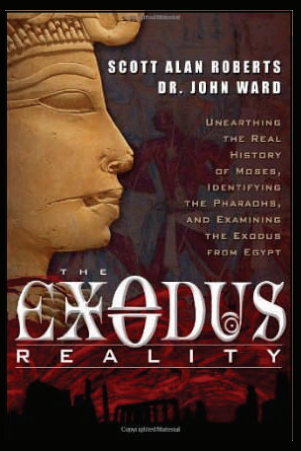
Title: A Brief Guide to Ghost Hunting
Author: Dr Leo Ruickbie
Publisher: Robinson
ISBN: 978-1-78033-826-2
Price: £9.99

Guides to anything can go one of two ways, either so-so or absolutely excellent, and fortunately this new offering from Dr Leo Ruickbie falls squarely into the latter of these two categories. This book is scholarly, lucid, but extremely approachable and an absolute joy to read. The end section of notes and references is gratifyingly extensive and is an added bonus. The book, which in genuinely multinational and closes with an extremely perceptive postscript, covers all the bases taking actual case files then moving to locations, how to select a team, preparations, identifying what you might find and also includes an insightful section on the use of so-called 'ghost hunting' equipment. In this latter section Dr Ruickbie quite rightly points out that irrespective of how expensive the item of kit is, in many cases they are worse than useless simply because there is absolutely no consensus on what the phenomenon is or how to measure it. The author also mentions several of the TV shows that have mushroomed in recent years, each one purporting to bring proof of the continuation of life after death to the eager audience. He also points out that in many cases they are almost obliged to produce evidence of a ghost when quite the reverse is true. The same logic applies to mediums, who charge for their services, because a prospective client, having paid good money, not unreasonably expects a result.

I have absolutely no hesitation in unreservedly recommending this book to anyone with an interest in the subject. However they should keep in mind a very valid point made by Dr Ruickbie, how do we know that the departed actually want to be contacted?

BOOK REVIEW

Title: The Exodus Reality
Authors: Scott Alan Roberts and John Richard Ward
Publisher: New Page Books
ISBN: 978-1-60163-291-3
Price: $19.99

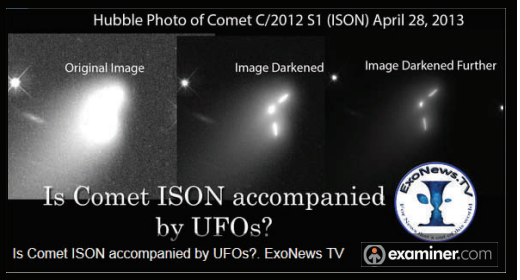


"As for Moses, you have been presented two equally illustrative pictures of who we think the man might have been. We are not satisfied simply casting him off as a cultural legend that has been turned in to a religious myth. We know the man exists, and yet we have drawn different conclusions based on our different paths and directions of study," Scott Alan Roberts and John Richard Ward write in their book, *The Exodus Reality.* At two hundred and eighty-six pages, this paperback book is targeted to those who want to know if the Biblical Moses was real or fictional based on history. With a foreword by Father Jack Ashcraft, prefaces by both authors, an authors' note, and introduction, there are twelve chapters followed by a conclusion, two appendixes, notes, bibliography, index, and authors' biographies. There are a few coloured and black and white photographs depicted in every chapter. The hard-to-read lightly highlighted fonts in the chapters are mentioned in the notes and there is no reference on which version is used of the Holy Bible. This book is a summary of two men's concepts of Moses, based on research, findings, and theories written, displayed, or produced throughout years of history. While Robert's thread follows Senenmut, a son of Egyptian Pharaoh's daughter, Hatshepsut of Thutmoses I, by collecting information during Moses' birth, Ward weaves his thread at the flooded unfounded city of Thebes in regard to Amenhotep, son of Hapu, leading survivors out of Egypt. As each chapter goes back and forth between the Senenmut and Hapu theories, readers slowly learn why the writers each found a different man that could be Moses. With some topics going off-track regarding the Ark of the Covenant and Solomon's Temple, most is circumstantial evidence of two men living less than one hundred years apart.

With both authors stating they are Christian believers, they discuss how seeking fact over faith in reading the Bible can refortify their belief in it. With no actual Moses mentioned so far in history, they have made it their quest, resulting in two opposing viewpoints. Even though the photographs often focus on either author (especially Ward's use of his umbrella as a pointer), the book stimulates readers to consider that the Biblical Moses was indeed an historical person who was raised by a Pharaoh, lead his people out of Egypt, wandered the desert for forty years, and met God on Mount Sinai to receive the Ten Commandments. This book was furnished by Warwick Associates in lieu of an unbiased review.

Though this book was intriguing, as stated above, it was a little hard going… Nevertheless, I did enjoy it and parts were fascinating. (A good read - Steve Mera).

Is Comet ISON accompanied by UFOs?

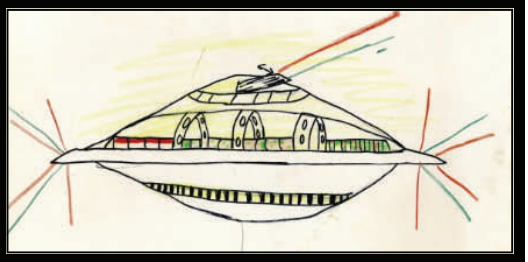


By Michael E. Salla

The latest news reports reveal Comet C/2012 S1 (ISON) is brightening and may yet become the comet of the century. But is ISON a comet? A startling photo has been circulating of comet C/2012 S1 (ISON) that shows it comprises three objects rather than a solitary nucleus as claimed by NASA astronomers. The photo was taken by the Hubble space telescope on April 30, 2013, and it shows two of the objects are highly symmetrical cylinder shapes. In August, a number of bloggers began claiming that comet ISON was accompanied by two UFO motherships, and/or its core was in fact a large biosphere. Not so according to NASA scientists who officially responded in a post that the three objects are merely an overlay of three different time exposures of comet ISON.

Comet ISON was discovered in September 2012 by Russian amateur astronomers. It was first photographed by the Hubble Space Telescope on April 10. After disappearing behind the sun from June to August, it appeared again in late August. According to NASA, the Hubble image shows a conventional comet with a small nucleus and a large coma. NASA estimates the nucleus as between three to four miles across, while its coma is about 3100 miles wide and its tail is 57,000 miles long.

Oct. 18, 1980: UFO researcher somewhat alienated after publishing book of sightings.



By Chris Zdeb, Edmonton Journal

In August 1961, a Wetaskiwin couple said they awoke around 3:30 a.m. and were paralyzed upon finding two small figures in their bedroom who were talking to each other. Once the forms were gone, so was the paralysis. Later, a neighbour told them he'd seen a "large bluish globe of light" outside their house. The story was one of 90 Canadian UFO sightings researcher John Musgrave, president of the UFO Society of Edmonton, discussed in his 1979 book, UFO Occupants and Critters. The book had been financed in part by a $6,000 Canada Council grant in 1975, for which he was savaged by politicians who argued the money had been wasted. *"I was basically cut out of a lot of jobs," recalls Musgrave, now 72 and living in B.C.'s Okanagan Valley. "I was even told at the University (of Alberta), where the professors respected the work, 'Don't expect to ever get a job.' "*

In a 1980 interview, he said about 80 per cent of all UFO experiences can be attributed to "known categories" — aircraft lights, sun dogs, satellites, weather balloons, bright stars, meteorites, ball lightning or even flares used in military exercises. While the rest are unexplained, Musgrave argued they shouldn't necessarily be dismissed. In many cases, participants seem to have been in hypnotized states — they had been driving long distances, were overtired or awakened late at night. While it may be the subconscious is creating images, that doesn't mean there is no real physical occurrence at the same time, said Musgrave, whose interest in UFOs began when he was nine.

Some who claim to have seen or been kidnapped by a UFO are *"psychotics or guys over the edge," whose stories are suspect, but he said most are "ordinary folks relating extraordinary experiences."* A recent survey by Manitoba-based research group UFOlogy says you're most likely to see a UFO in the city if you live in Calgary, Winnipeg, Vancouver, Toronto or Kelowna. Sightings in Canada in 2012 nearly doubled the all-time record of 1, 004 set in 2008 . And most Canadians, 78 per cent, think extraterrestrials are out there; 55 per cent believe beings from other worlds have visited Earth; and 10 per cent say they have already seen a UFO.

Iranian Fighter Jets Tangle With UFOs (And Lose).

Finally, a claim about the Iranian air force that might not be totally made up. According to the October issue of military aviation magazine "Combat Aircraft Monthly," Iran's old-school F-14 Tomcats and F-4 Phantom II fighter jets have been used to "intercept foreign and unknown aircraft" that have infiltrated the Middle Eastern nation's airspace for years. To be sure, Iranian combat aircraft have been known to chase U.S. drones in the Persian Gulf. Iran has even recovered one that went down in 2011 and "decoded" in it an effort to manufacture clones.

But it appears that a few suspected drones were a little more than Iran's fighter jets could handle. OpenMinds.tv, a UFO news and investigation website, cites an article in the October issue of Combat Aircraft Monthly, in which sources within Iran's air force reported unusual activity by suspected unmanned drones in the fall of 2004, shortly after Iran announced construction of a heavy water nuclear reactor near Arak.

The sources claimed that ground and airborne radar detected aircraft flying near Iranian nuclear sites that "displayed astonishing flight characteristics, including an ability to fly outside the atmosphere, attain a maximum cruise speed of Mach 10, and a minimum speed of zero, with the ability to hover over the target."

The magazine also described an incident in which a jet set to pursue one of the objects exploded moments after takeoff, and gave an account of a case in which equipment on Iranian fighter jets malfunctioned on approach to an unidentified flying object:

"In one case over Arak in November 2004, the crew... spotted a luminous object flying near the heavy water plant... When the beam of the jet's radar 'painted' the object, both the RIO and pilot saw that the radar scope was disrupted, probably due to the high magnetic energy of the object increasing the power of the reflected radar waves. The pilot described the object as being spherical, with something like a green afterburner creating a considerable amount of turbulence behind it. The Tomcat crew achieved a lock-on when it was flying a linear and constant flight path. Once the pilot selected [a missile] to launch against it, the object increased its speed and then disappeared like a meteor."

The latter claim mirrors a famous UFO incident that reportedly occurred over Tehran in 1976, in which F-4 fighter jets that were scrambled to intercept an unidentified aircraft temporarily lost use of weapons and instruments while in pursuit.

While the technology described in the 2004 incidents hasn't been publicly demonstrated by any foreign military today, it stands to reason that it certainly wasn't available in 1976.

But apparently, that hasn't stopped people from reporting UFOs in Iran. In 2009, the Associated Press reported that Iranian state media had "been gripped by a kind of 'flying object' fever with dozens of reported sightings," but the Iranian government maintained that the sightings weren't extraterrestrial in origin.

"Most of the shining objects that our people see in Iran's airspace are American spying equipment used to spy on Iran's nuclear and military facilities," Intelligence Minister Ali Yunesi said in 2009, according to the AP. "U.S. spying activities over Iranian airspace have been going [on] since a long time ago." Although the "spying equipment" used by the U.S. government hasn't demonstrated the kind of capabilities described in the Combat Aircraft Monthly article, some of it has been very sophisticated.

According to CNN, the CIA Sentinel drone that crashed in Iran in 2011 while on a reconnaissance mission of suspected nuclear sites was "one of the United States' most sophisticated drones," capable of flying at up to 50,000 feet and "designed to evade sophisticated air defences."

It reportedly crashed after it lost satellite communication.

THE HUFFINGTON POST

I was healed by a ghost...and there's a photo to prove it.

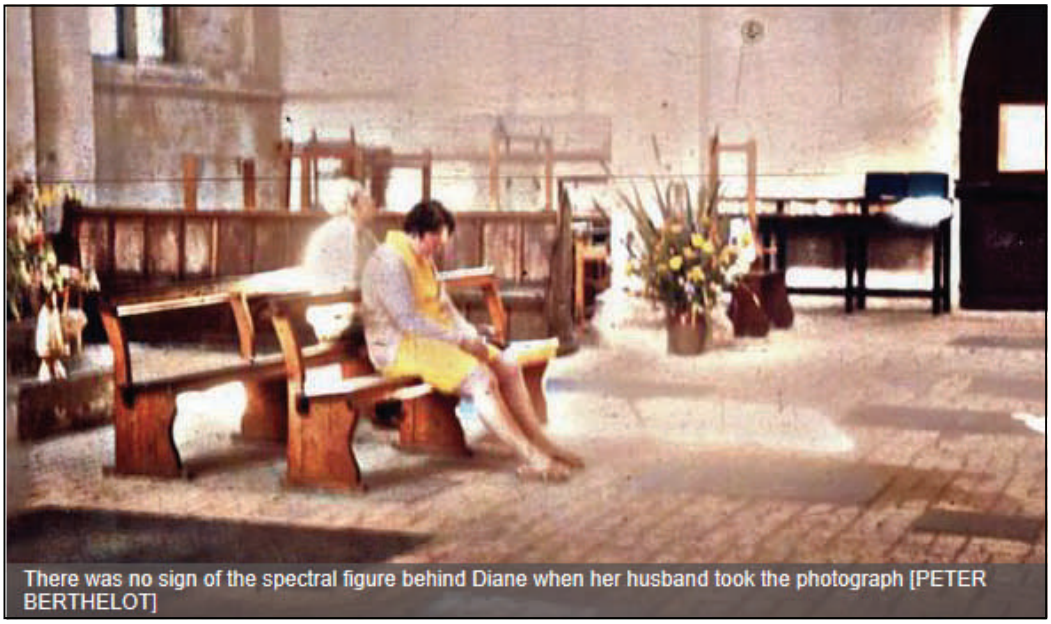
EXPRESS

By John Coates

A WOMAN believes she was healed by a ghostly apparition known as the White Lady as she visited a church during a family summer holiday.

Diane Berthelot had been unwell for months after having her gall bladder removed and was taking antibiotics for an infection when she went into Worstead village church in Norfolk to rest and escape the heat. While she sat on a pew close to the font and prayed for a full recovery, her husband Peter and son David wandered around the empty church taking photographs. Mrs Berthelot remembers vividly tingling all over and feeling "warm and comfortable" while sitting on the wooden bench with her eyes closed and head bowed.

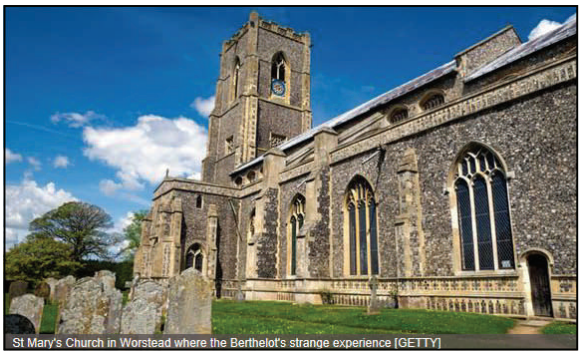
When she felt better the family left the church and did not think about the incident until six months later when the camera film was developed and they held a slide show of their holiday snaps for their lodger at their home in Chelmsford, Essex.



There was no sign of the spectral figure behind Diane when her husband took the photograph [PETER BERTHELOT]

One photo clearly showed a woman wearing a bonnet and dressed in light-coloured, old-fashioned clothes, sitting facing Mrs Berthelot on a bench directly behind her. She said: "*When we saw the white figure sitting behind me on the projector screen, we just stood there with our mouths open. "My feet started to tingle. This sensation eventually engulfed the whole of me. It was a pleasant, comforting feeling."* Her husband added: *"I had been walking around the church looking at various things. "I came back, saw Diane sitting there and took the photo. I couldn't see anyone behind her but it's so clear on the image. It's incredible."*

The following summer they went back to St Mary's Church in Worstead and showed the slide to the vicar, who told them about a local legend that the White Lady was a healer who appeared when there was sickness. The folklore also said that a man climbed into the church belfry on Christmas Eve in 1830, boasting he would kiss the White Lady if he saw her.



St Mary's Church in Worstead where the Berthelot's strange experience [GETTY]

His friends later found him huddled in a corner whispering "I've seen her, I've seen her," before dying. However, Mrs Berthelot, now 81 and living in North Walsham, Norfolk, believes her contact with the ghost was a positive experience which has boosted her health and spiritual well-being throughout her life.

And for decades after that first encounter on Saturday, August 2, 1975 she experienced the same tingling sensation every time she looked at the photo.

She explained: "I always felt it was a blessing because my whole life seemed to change after we realised the White Lady had sat behind me. It inspired me to write poetry. *"I can remember the sensation that engulfed me sitting on that pew as if it was yesterday."*

Mr Berthelot, 82, said: *"Every time we have been back to the church, it has been a very calming experience. I definitely believe in ghosts."*

UFO crashes into North Harringay primary school playground.

A forensics officer gathers samples from the crash scene in the playground of North Harringay primary school.

Youngsters got a surprise that was out of this world last week when a UFO crashed into their primary school playground. The saucer-shaped intergalactic craft was found half-buried in the tarmac at North Harringay primary school in Falkland Road. A forensic officer was spotted inspecting the UFO while police closely guarded the scene, which was roped off while investigations took place.

PC Glyn Kelly keeps the area secure as a forensics officer gathers samples from the crash scene in the playground of North Harringay primary school.

The whole event was just the inspiration pupils needed for a creative writing day at the school, and was orchestrated by Emma Hassan, its literacy leader, with the help of one very creative parent and a local PC.

The UFO crashed in the playground of North Harringay primary school.

She said: *"A very talented parent built the space craft in a limited amount of time and kindly dressed as a forensic detective to help with the staging of the crash. PC Glyn Kelly also agreed to attend the scene to add to the mystery of the crash. "Both children and parents were excited by it and the rest of the school day revolved around discussions as to what could have happened, with the children carrying out creative writing tasks. "Some fantastic pieces of writing were produced by both girls and boys resulting in a successful day of creative writing."*

NOTE:

This is not the first time a UFO crash scene has been played out at a UK school. There have been numerous scenario's at schools around the UK over the last two years. Obviously causing rumours and talk within the Ufological camp. Growing concerns that the UK government are yet again drip feeding our young ones in preparation of a real event that could take place in the future... (Steve Mera).

2013 October Conference - Sat 5th & Sunday 6th

DID YOU MISS IT?

As many will know, Sam Wright (Photo to the left) has been involved in the subject of UFO and paranormal investigation for many years. The organisation he runs (Probe International) have become well known for their conferences in St. Annes, UK. Every 6 months Sam and his team put together a conference that brings together like minded individuals. These are held in March and October. The turn out at these events are very good, usually consisting of 150-200 people attending. The Probe International conference features speakers from around the UK and also on occasion from overseas. Speakers lecture on varied subjects from UFOs, alien contact, the paranormal, psychic abilities, the supernatural and much more. The venue is the YMCA building in Lytham St. Annes where there is ample parking and good facilities for eating etc. Each conference is a two day event which accommodates numerous stalls which often are ran by familiar faces to the subject. All in all, an event well worth attending…

On Saturday October 5th 2013, Sam took to the floor and welcomed the audience. Once again, it was nice to see the regular faces at this event. Everyone seems so friendly, as if one big family. Sam introduced his first speaker which was Janine Regan-Sinclair. I had met Janine at last years event and assumed her lecture would be similar and still of interest. Janine talked about her involvement in the subject of psychic abilities, preferably the subject of Astral Projection. Janine introduced the subject to the audience and went on to give information in regards the techniques used and how using this innate ability can assist with a psychic or spiritual connection with UFOs and even alien communication. Janine explained how we all have this ability and that by using something referred to as an Astral Doorway, we can progress this ability and learn many things from the experiences. An interesting lecture that left me thinking about the possibilities of such alien contact…

The second lecturer of the day was Jo-Ann Richards. Now for those who are unaware as to who she is and what she lectures about… I first heard of Jo-Ann a number of years ago. She claims that her husband, who worked for the American military was a top secret pilot of experimental spacecrafts that are responsible for Earth defence again extraterrestrials and that he was often engaging UFOs in battles. Jo-Anne's husband is currently in prison for a crime he did not commit. She believes her husband was set up so to keep him quiet in regards the overwhelming amount of top secret information he has about numerous extraterrestrial beings and their agendas. Jo-Anne went on to talk about many different aliens, some that look like flying cat/humanoids, some that look like hound dogs and even some which are referred to as Gastrocell's, which live in Jupiter's atmosphere. An interesting lecture…

Up next was a lecturer called David Starbuck. David has been involved in such subjects for many years and was also running a stall at the event. David talk consisted of Nazi's and conspiracies etc. He talked about operation Miyos between 1942 and 1955. This consisted of counterfeit coins and other types of money, along with propaganda generated and manufactured by German departments and numerous high ranking officers. Such incidents were reflected upon Department 6 - the undermining of the British economy and the SS. I am aware of numerous German attempts at propaganda and secret operations that took place in hope of adversely affecting British economy and political decisions. David's talk was rather interesting and certainly would have been a pleasure to hear by those interested in the historical nature of such conspiratorial events. David shown numerous examples of such counterfeit currency. An interesting lecture that demonstrated great effort to affect Britain during World War 2…

The next lecturer was the highlight of the day. Many of the audience were looking forward to Charles Hall's talk. Charles Hall claims to have worked at Area 51 for a number of years and that his work took him to a nearby facility that housed extraterrestrial ships and beings. Charles in particular talked about the 'Tall Whites' and the 'Greys'. He explained that the Greys are not actually gray in colour and it was their specialised skin-tight suits that give this impression. Charles Hall has written a series of five books, which he had brought to the event in case anyone wished to obtain some. These were called Millennium Hospitality volume 1-5. Charles, a nuclear physicist went on to talk about how some ET's looked human and were known to live in Norway and had 24 teeth. He also talked about Greys and their 140 year life expectancy and their young crashing their ships like they did at Roswell, 1947…

The last lecturer of the day was Madeleine Walker who claimed she was psychic in some way and was able to communicate with different types of animals. Madeleine also ran a stall at the event and was happy to discuss her experiences with visitors. Madeleine described an event that took place at her home whilst sat with her pet dog. She claimed she suddenly saw a glowing ball of light ascend from her dogs head and that she heard a voice say *'I am the reincarnated soul of your last dog'.* Madeleine went onto talk about her communication with whales and a white buffalo and numerous other animals and shared some of the knowledge she gleamed from such communication. She also got the audience involved in some form of meditation whilst showing a picture of a unicorn, lion, whale and a white buffalo. Even though I found the lecture interesting there was parts of it which was a little hard to digest and understand. Eventually the day came to a close and I pondered what was in store for me tomorrow...

2013 October Conference - Sat 5th & Sunday 6th

DID YOU MISS IT?

Sunday October 6th 2013 and the second day of the Probe International conference kicked off with a short video presentation by Probe themselves. Looking around I could see numerous stalls selling crystals, UFO and paranormal books, some DVDs and plenty of free information at hand. Again the audience consisted of around 150 all geared for a full day of varied lectures. The tickets were around £40.00 for the weekend, which… is not too bad considering the ridiculous amount some people charge for getting into some events. It would seem, you certainly get your monies worth at Probe International conferences, but for me… It was all about seeing those regular faces. Probe's next event will be in March 2014 where I will be lecturing myself about numerous investigation I have carried out over 30 years along with Phenomena's Sub-editor Brian Allan. After a short Probe into Sam Wright took to the floor once again, welcomed everyone and introduced the first lecturer…

The first lecturer of the day was Don Philips who founded GSI Paranormal UK in 2008 & stepped into the public eye with his team towards the end of 2010. Since then Don has appeared on both TV & Radio, bringing something new to the world of the Paranormal and having been described as 'a breath of fresh air' by some, he and his team have already achieved quite a following and a reputation of a direct, no nonsense and sometimes controversial approach in paranormal investigation technique although the results , quite literally 'speak for themselves'. Don claims to have a strong alliance with the spirits he works with taking them into his family home and they seemingly showing each other incredible degrees of both trust and respect. Don declares that both they and him are here to make a difference. His talk revolved around his investigations and communications with spirits…

Up next was lecturer Miles Johnston, a researcher, documentary maker and videographer regarding leading edge events and circumstances into the human condition. He is known for his productions with The AMMACH Project and BASES series where he reveals in depth studies on an evolving highly dangerous situation effecting us all. He covers the fields of: Alien Abduction, Super Soldiers, Mind Control and much more. Miles has been on the forefront when it comes to media and film projects which address "taboo" subject matter. He past is colourful; being the Megawatt Pirate Radio operator, and formally 21 years with SKY TV, London, and then 5 years with the BBC. Miles is of Pioneer Stock, a frontiersman. A Forward Thinker. He is on the leading edge of seeing new worlds and new creations. Miles talked about his work in the alien abduction subject and believes many UK citizens may still be having such encounters and experiences. An interesting and thought provoking lecture…

Charles Hall entered into another lecture in regards his work at Area 51 and extraterrestrials. He explained how adult 'Greys' have difficulty breathing the air here on Earth and often require breathing apparatuses. As for the younger Greys, born here on Earth, it would seem that they have managed to adapt not only to our air but to Earth's gravity, causing them to become stranded as they would not survive on their own planet. He also mentioned about the flight characteristics of some UFOs that would indicate that they are being flown by younger Greys. All in all, another interesting lecture… Casting my eye around I noticed Mike Oram sat at his stall selling a number of books, one of which was his own which we have reviewed and covered in Phenomena previously. I have heard Mike perform a lecture about his experiences and found it rather interesting…

Sat at the back of the conference room was David Boyle and his partner with numerous fascinating bits of information on their stall. Most will know David from his Doctor Who Museum in Blackpool and numerous TV appearances in shows that cover UFOs, Aliens, Crop Circles and Conspiracies. David's latest venture is his new Exhibition of the Universe in Blackpool. A visit will overload you in fascinating information about Government Conspiracies, Unknown Truths, UFOs and Alien Contact and much much more. I managed to have a chat with David and he told me about a new energy device he has manufactured with remarkable results. Turn learn more I suggest contact David through Facebook, or even better, take a trip down to Blackpool and check out the new exhibit. I last worked alongside David on the TV show 'The Unexplained Debate' in Stockport, but have worked on other projects with him such as the TV show 'Paranormal Happenings'…

Jo-Ann Richards second lecture was up next where she described more extraterrestrials living and had lived on Earth. One of which was the Reptiods. She claimed these beings were like Raptors and had left Earth back around 65 million years ago. Frankly… I found this a little hard to believe, but never the less, it was an interesting lecture. As the day drew to a close I spotted Neil McDonald from Megalithic Tours. As some may know, Neil also has his own yearly conferences in Preston and runs an organisation that conduct fascinating tours around the UK to some of the most significant megalithic locations. If you've never been on one, I suggest getting in contact with him and get look into what tours are up and coming. Contact Neil at: neil@megalithictours.com or visit his excellent website at: www.megalithictours.com So… I'd like to than Sam Wright & Probe for another well organised event and also our Phenomena Magazine reporter Rodney Howarth for his assistance. Looking forward to next

TURN TO STONE

Any Animal That Touches This Lethal Lake Turns to Stone.

There's a deceptively still body of water in Tanzania with a deadly secret, it turns any animal it touches to stone. The rare phenomenon is caused by the chemical makeup of the lake, but the petrified creatures it leaves behind are straight out of a horror film.

Photographed by Nick Brandt in his new book, *Across the Ravaged Land,* petrified creatures pepper the area around the lake due to its constant pH of 9 to 10.5, an extremely basic alkalinity that preserves these creatures for eternity. According to Brandt:

I unexpectedly found the creatures - all manner of birds and bats - washed up along the shoreline of Lake Natron in Northern Tanzania. No-one knows for certain exactly how they die, but it appears that the extreme reflective nature of the lake's surface confuses them, and like birds crashing into plate glass windows, they crash into the lake.

The water has an extremely high soda and salt content, so high that it would strip the ink off my Kodak film boxes within a few seconds. The soda and salt causes the creatures to calcify, perfectly preserved, as they dry.

I took these creatures as I found them on the shoreline, and then placed them in 'living' positions, bringing them back to 'life', as it were. Reanimated, alive again in death.

The rest of the haunting images follow and they feature in Brandt's book. Or, you could go and visit for yourself, but keep a safe distance from the water...

Nick Brandt's book: Across the Ravaged Land (Hard Cover) is available for purchase on Amazon… *An excellent book well worth having, some excellent photos… (Steve Mera).*

This news item first appeared in New Scientist Magazine and was brought to our attention by Chris Parr - Investigator / Researcher. *(www.gizmodo.com)*

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Sam Wright - UFOs, A part of my life.
Kevin Goodman - Warminster UFOs

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Kelly Crabtree - The Power of Organite
Tony Topping - Remote Viewing & UFOs
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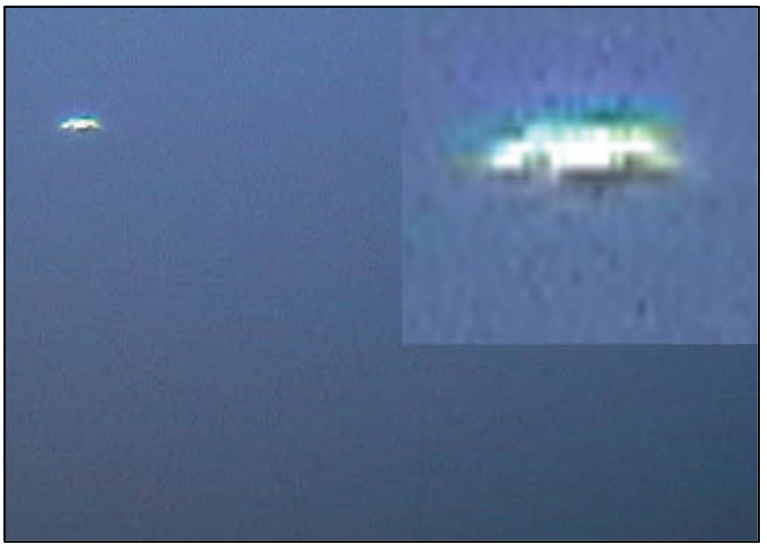
THE FRENCH UNKNOWN

What follows is adapted from the observations of the witness who has adopted the name 'John Carter'.

I got the idea about capturing anomalous aerial images from a guy who had been tracking the sun on a video camera and found that he had captured some other images when he viewed the footage. The images are taken from a video I took in France during 2002. At this time on very clear days I would leave the camcorder recording in the morning and view it in the evening.

This is the result of such an event. If you get the angle of the sunlight correct, the craft will display, I believe it is something to do with the interaction of the craft and UV light. NASA has inadvertently displayed numerous craft especially when it relayed live video of the space station when the sun was at a certain angle.

When UV loses some energy its wavelength lengthens to that of visible light. The original file was shot on tape and using alternate fields and interpolation I was able to create 60fps.



This revealed much more about the operation of the smaller craft and the inconsistent energy patterns that surround them. This substantiated a short video I took in another location...

DVD REVIEW

Title: The Witches
Director: Cyril Frankel
Format: DVD & Blue Ray
Main Cast: Joan Fontaine, Kay Walsh, Alec McCowen, Ann Bell, Ingrid Boulting
Distributor: STUDIOCANAL
Price: RRP £22.99
Extras: Yes, a documentary entitled Hammer Glamour.

In this, the result of another trawl through the venerable Hammer Films back catalogue, Studiocanal present an absolute gem in this Nigel Kneale (of Quatermass series fame) scripted The Witches. The film describes how the heroin played by Joan Fontaine, a missionary teacher in Africa, is left traumatised by a close encounter with local shamans, suffers a breakdown and finds refuge teaching in an English village school. However, as she soon discovers, this apparent haven of tranquillity is not all it seems to be and strange, pagan undercurrents soon start to surface. The plot centres on the perverse desire of one of the local female pillars of the community to reincarnate in the body of one of the schoolchildren and spread her brand of subversion to the world.

The film is rated as a 12 by Studiocanal, but in its original 1965 cinema outing this was an 'X' film and deemed unsuitable for anyone under 18 years of age. Quite honestly one has to ask why, because apart from some relatively wild, orgiastic dancing by the coven (yes, there really are witches involved) in the final 20 minutes or so it's all rather tame stuff. The cast features several Hammer stalwarts like the always good-value-for-money Duncan Lamont as the local butcher, who plays his part with lip-smacking relish and Gwen Ffrangcon-Davies as the threatening Granny Rigg is a special delight and the always welcome Leonard Rossiter also crops up as a sinister and oily doctor. Overall this is a timely Halloween reissue (and don't forget the additional documentary) that serves as a reminder of just how good Hammer could be and also how the 1960's was a very different time and place.

Psychic accused of planting fake 'ghost'

By Adrian Holliday - The Mirror.

A professional psychic has been accused of planting a chum in an attic to impersonate a ghost. Chris Date charges £12 for his spooky tour of Carmarthenshire's Halfway Hotel in Llanelli. During a tour of the stables, Date summoned up the paranormal. Two bangs were emitted from the ceiling. Less amazingly, a man in designer jeans shortly leapt out of the attic.

Knock, knock

Some of the 14 people who had paid £12 each on the tour weren't so impressed. Hotel owner Paul Francis told the Mirror that Date had been given the keys to the hotel earlier to set up. "I think he used that time to put someone in the attic. He wanted his first ghost hunt to go with a bang but it backfired in a big way." But Chris Date - nom de plume Knight Guider - defended his spook tour to the paper. "I have got a very good track record. It's disgusting, I would never do that. It was a ghost hunt. No mediumship was promised."

Give up the ghost

Date's website describes himself as "a great intuitive reader who speaks from the heart." A 25-minute telephone reading with this 'spiritual guide' costs £45 - but Date also throws in free delivery of a 'healing stone' for each 25-minute chat. "Knight Guider," his website goes on, "has a wealth of life experience and while he will not tell you what to do he can help you to talk about and explore your options. It may help you find some clairty [sic] with your path ahead."

Unforeseen

Clearly psychic Date didn't predict the path ahead of his own tour. The posh name for being a psychic, in case you didn't know, is 'clairsentient'.

Martian Landslide Mystery Solved After 40 Years.

Huffington Post UK.

A Martian mystery that has confounded experts for more than four decades may have been solved. Data from the Viking missions to Mars in the 1970s famously returned pictures of strange 'layered' craters on the Red Planet's surface.

The pictures appears to show double-layered impact craters, where a smaller inner layer sits on top. Ever since astronomers and geologist have been attempting to puzzle out how they form, without success. But now a team from Brown University in the US say they've got a solution.

The team says that at the time of the meteor impact the Martian surface was covered in a thick sheet of glacial ice. Immediately after an impact rock and other material was blasted out on the surrounding ice.

But instead of staying where it fell, the material at the top of the crater rim later slides down the surface and over the first layer. Those landslides create the strange formation of rocks, now that the ice has melted.

Brown graduate student David Kutai Weiss and James W. Head, professor of geological science say that their model is the first to solve the mystery - but that their theory relies of years of work by other teams.

"Recent discoveries by planetary geoscientists at Brown and elsewhere have shown that the climate of Mars has varied in the past," Head said.
"During these times, ice from the polar caps is redistributed into the mid-latitudes of Mars as a layer about 50 meters thick, in the same place that we see that the DLEs have formed.

This made us think that this ice layer could be part of the explanation for the formation of the unusual DLE second layer."
The paper will be published in the journal Geophysical Research Letters.

RE reality films

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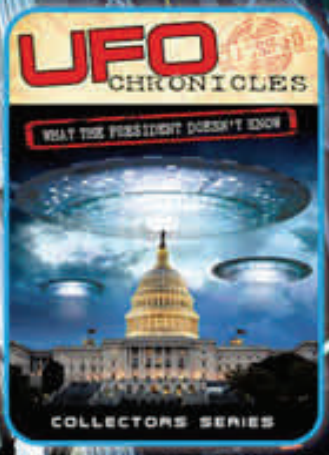

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