

*6th Annual International Conference
On Spiritual Values in Higher Education*
The Role of the Arts in Higher Education

Thursday 10 June – Sunday 13 June 2010
Freeman College, Sheffield

What is the role of the arts in higher education? This is the question that we wish to explore in this conference. The primary aim is to invite each participant to contribute something from his or her experience through their work as adult educators in this field. In doing this, new questions and insights of the role of the arts in higher education may emerge.

To facilitate this process there will be a number of different workshops which will enable participants to develop shared ownership and exploration of questions. This exploration will take place through the media of art and crafts (Friday), and through lectures and dialogue (Saturday) and finally, as a research-based conference, the aim is to co-create new understanding and to distill this into a collection of texts (Sunday) that clarify and discuss the role of the arts in higher education.

The event is hosted by the Hiram Academy of Ruskin Mill Educational Trust at Freeman College in Sheffield, supported by Crossfields Institute, Rudolf Steiner University College (Oslo) and Alanus Hochschule.

In approaching the question, three different entry points may be pointed out, which may be fruitful to explore:

1. Higher Education Pedagogy: what is the role of art in higher education?
2. Science Pedagogy: what is the role of the arts in science education?
3. Art Pedagogy: what is the role of research in art education?

Although the conference will have its main focus on the first question it will certainly open up to the second and third questions as the fields share common ground.

Call for Papers

The conference proceedings will be processed and published in a special issue of the Journal RoSE (Research on Steiner Education, see www.rosejournal.com). There will also be a call for papers through RoSE later in 2010. Article sketches within the field may of course be freely dialogued during the conference.

The Programme

Thursday 10 June	Friday 11 June	Saturday 12 June	Sunday 13 June
	8.30-9.00 Action Inquiry: introduction to the workshops <i>(Aksel Hugo)</i> 9.00-9.15 Singing 9.30-13.00 Workshops What is the role of arts & crafts in higher education? Experience-based action inquiry into the theme Workshop reflections	8.30-8.45 Singing 9.00 – 10.30 Music <i>(Edvin Ostergaard)</i> 10.30-11.00 coffee break 11.00 – 12.30 Painting <i>(Beatrice Cron)</i>	8.30-8.45 Singing 9.00 – 10.30 'Harvest' from the experiential workshops 10.30 – 11.00 coffee break 11.00 – 12.30 Plenum Co-write a working paper
	13.00-14.00 Lunch	13.00-14.00 Lunch	13.00-14.00 Lunch
16.00-17.00 Reception Signing-in <i>(Jury's Inn)</i> 18.00 Supper 19.00-20.00 Spiritual Development as Part of Academic Life <i>(Marcelo da Veiga)</i> 20.00-21.30 Sheffield-Ruskin- Freeman Introduction to the place and programme <i>(Aonghus Gordon)</i> Evening Social	14.00 – 15.00 Thinking and Hand: Creating what is Discovered <i>(Axel Hugo)</i> 15.00-16.00 Bell-Casting 16.00 – 17.00 Buffet 17.00 – 18.30 The Geometry of the Heart in Connection to the Bell <i>(Frank Chester)</i> 19.30 – 21.00 Concert <i>(Norgwegian Trio)</i> Evening Social Jury's Inn Events open to wider public	14.00 – 15.30 Enlivening the Imagination through Sculpture <i>(Patricia Dickson)</i> 15.30-20.00 Excursion to the Yorkshire Sculpture Park Barbecue Evening Social	14.00 Departure

The Workshops

A range of artistic and craft workshops will be offered to allow the participants their own opportunity of scientific exploration. The workshops encompass music, painting, drawing, sculpture, spoon-forging, copper-spinning, jewellery, soap-making, felting and others.

More information on the workshops will be sent out by booking.

The Speakers and Facilitators

Marcelo da Veiga is Professor and Rector of the Alanus University of Arts and Social Sciences. Born in Brazil in 1960 and raised in Germany, the Professor of Philosophy started post-doctoral work as a sixth form teacher in São Paulo and then became a Professor of German Language and Literature at the Federal University of Florianópolis, Brazil. Since 2001 his work has focused on international project and business consulting for educational institutions on behalf of the Software AG-Stiftung, Germany. Working as a project manager, in 2002 he successfully gained the state recognition for the Alanus University and was voted as its first Vice-Chancellor. In his current period of office he sees his principal task as consolidating the University's artistic and academic profile of excellence in teaching and research. www.alanus.edu

Aonghus Gordon is the Founder and Director of Ruskin Mill Educational Trust. Born in Gloucestershire, he spent his formative years in Venice and has a BA in Ceramics, Art History and Education. Starting what is now called the Ruskin Mill Arts and Crafts Centre in 1982 he has since established three colleges that work with young people with challenging behaviour, using arts and crafts in a therapeutic context. Being awarded the Social Entrepreneur for the South of England in 2005 he next set up the Clervaux Trust, another educational initiative, near Darlington. www.rmet.co.uk

Beatrice Cron was born in Switzerland in 1961 and studied painting with Beppe Assenza and Paul Pollock from 1983 to 1987. From 1991 to 1998 she worked as a lecturer for painting and art history at the Free Art School for Eurythmy, Sculpture and Painting 'Centro de Art' in São Paulo, Brazil. Back in Germany, she worked as an art teacher at the Rudolf Steiner School in Hagen for nine years until 2008. In 2003 she gained her art university diploma in painting at the Alanus Hochschule, Alfter and has been a lecturer at Alanus since 2003. Switzerland, Brazil and Germany are important milestones and sensual experiences for Beatrice's artistic career which have left visible traces in her work, along with encountering the nature of colours. www.beatricecron.de

Aksel Hugo studied natural science and ecology at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences, where he is currently also teaching as Associate Professor in Science Education. His interests in the foundations of natural science led him to the study of Bateson's and Steiner's epistemologies, and a dissertation on the ecology of knowing and aesthetics of science literacy. From 1995 onwards, this research was accompanied by his engagement in land and place-based school development and teacher training, both within the Waldorf Schools and state schools in Norway. Since 2005 he has led the International Masters Degree Programme in Waldorf Steiner Education at Rudolf Steiner University College, Oslo. www.rshoyskolen.no/english.htm

Edvin Østergaard studied composition at the Norwegian State Academy of Music in Oslo (1986-88) and with Jan W. Morthenson in Stockholm (1987-90). He has a PhD from 1998 and is at present working both as a composer and (since 1999) as an Associate Professor in science education at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences. In 2008/2009 he held a position as visiting scholar at Harvard University (Graduate School of Education), Boston. Edvin Østergaard's compositions include instrumental music, music for choir as well as music for the theatre. His music has been performed in many European countries, and also in Canada and in the USA. In 2007 he won the jury's prize for "The Two Moons" in the choir competition by the Netherlands Radio Choir. www.myspace.com/edvinostergaard

Charlotte von Bülow is the Director of Crossfields Institute Stroud, England. Over the last 8 years she has been working as an academic administrator and consultant within both traditional and non-traditional further and higher education. She has specialised in achieving recognition (accreditation, validation) for independent further and higher learning centres. Her academic background includes higher education trainings in Counselling and Philosophy of Mind. Charlotte is a trustee of the Biodynamic Agriculture Association, Five Valleys Foyer and Living Earth Land Trust. www.crossfieldsinstitute.com

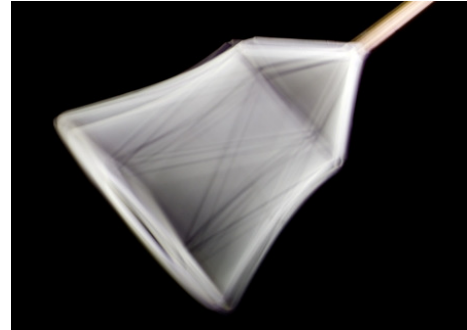
Frank Chester is an artist, sculptor and geometrician who lives in San Francisco. He has taught art for forty years. For the last ten years he has been exploring the relation between form and spirit by creating healing sculptures. This has led him to do research on the number seven and in 2000 he discovered a new geometric form. This geometric form is connected to the shape of the bell that is being cast in Freeman College as well as demonstrating a remarkable correlation to the form and functioning of the human heart. www.frankchester.com

Patricia Dickson, M.A., Art and Psychology, California State University is an art educator, artist and performer. She has taught sculpture for 16 years at Rudolf Steiner College, California, and is also Program Director of the Waldorf Handwork Program. Patricia has a broad range of artistic experience: in music as an opera singer in Europe and US for 14 years; in flower arranging with a teaching credential from the Sangetsu School of Ikebana; a certificate in Urasenke School of Tea Ceremony, Japan and a Goetheanum Certificate in the Visual Arts. <http://www.steinercollege.edu/>

Bell casting and the geometry of the heart

Bell design throughout history has been a subjective trial and error process. Frank Chester has found the conscious way to bell formation through the discovery of the new geometric form of the Chesterhedron. This geometry explains that bells are the combination of acceleration and deceleration of vortexes which is also the geometric principle that the human heart is built on.

In this conference a new bell for Freeman College taken from the 'Bell Form' created by spinning the Chestahedron model, will be cast.



Concert – “Die 7. Himmelsrichtung”

The title *Die 7. Himmelsrichtung*, which might be translated to English as *The 7 Cardinal Points*, is derived from aboriginal wisdom describing seven different directions: north, south, east and west; upwards and downwards; and inwards. These elements put in perspective by *Meditations on 'Nå rinner solen opp'*, a six-part piece based on Norwegian folk melodies to the psalm *Nå rinner solen opp* (written by Thomas Kingo in 1674). The different characters of these melodies mirror both the richness of the text and the uniqueness of their origin.

Siri Torjesen (mezzo-soprano) has, since her public debut in 1988, become renowned for her ability to perform music of many different styles and periods and received the Norwegian Society of Composers' 'Performer of the Year' award in 1996.

Morten Carlsen (viola) studied at the Vienna Music Academy, graduating with a diploma in 1982. He held prominent positions in the Orchester der Beethovenhalle, Bonn, The RSO Stuttgart and the Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra. At present Morten Carlsen holds a position as Associate Professor at the Norwegian Music Academy, Oslo, where he also is head of the strings department.

Hans Josef Groh (violoncello) has a genuine interest for chamber music, has given several solo performances in the last 20 years and plays with the Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra and Oslo Sinfonietta.

All four pieces are written by Edvin Østergaard in close cooperation with Siri Torjesen (mezzo-soprano), Morten Carlsen (viola) and Josef Groh (violoncello).

Following their first performance in October 2007, the trio has since toured Norway with this concert program.



Yorkshire Sculpture Park

The Yorkshire Sculpture Park is home to both permanent and changing exhibitions of modern and contemporary sculpture. It is set in the beautiful eighteenth century parkland of the Bretton Estate with over 500 acres of historic landscape that are used for the display of over 60 sculptures and projects, as well as four distinct indoor galleries featuring artists such as Helen Escobedo, Barbara Hepworth and Henry Moore.

The conference participants will also visit the current exhibition of David Nash.

