



FOURTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE • Preliminary Program

SHAMANISM and SEXUALITY

Paths of Transformation

September 10 – 13, 2009 • Mesa, Arizona (Phoenix area)

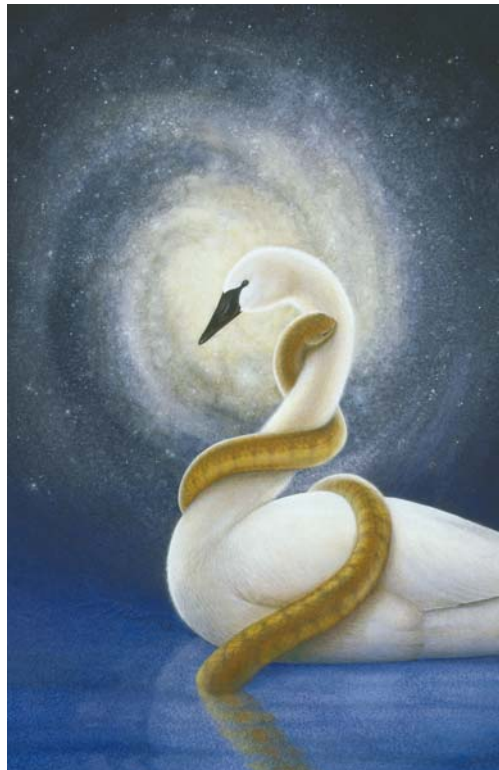
Since the late 1960s, traditional shamanism has become increasingly popularized, and contemporary shamanic adaptations have been emerging in Western culture. In the last few years, many practitioners have begun to use the “shamanic” label and to adapt shamanic approaches with their clients and students.

But what is shamanism? And what is a sexual shaman? In this conference, we explore the integration of shamanic practices with sexual energy.

~ Program Chair: Kenneth Ray Stubbs, PhD

Presenters & Presentations

(by preliminary order of appearance)



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Luisa Kolker, MA, LPC

www.luisakolker.com



Luisa comes from a family lineage of healers and has trained in the shamanic “curandera” traditions of Europe and Central America. In her mid-20’s, Luisa engaged in a four-year shamanic healing apprenticeship with master-healer Ioanna Salajan in Ibiza, Spain. She is also a licensed psychotherapist.

As a healer, therapist and mentor for clients interested in integrating ecstatic spiritual energies into their everyday lives, Luisa’s unique model of shamanic healing embraces the physical, sensual body and the psyche as a living temple and crucible for inner transformation.

Luisa's life mission and passion is to midwife clients in clearing self-defeating, spirit-denying energetic patterns, so they may give full birth to their inherent naturalness and joy.

Opening and Closing Circle:

- Thursday, 6:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- Sunday, 11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Ecstatic Journeying with Your Power Animal:

An Experiential Evening

- Saturday, 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

As healing professionals, we replenish ourselves sexually and emotionally. We also need to refuel ourselves ecstatically and spiritually. A Shamanic Journey into non-ordinary reality in the company of a power animal enables access to archetypal, spiritually orgasmic energies that transcend the usual scope of orgasm.

Luisa will teach a journey technique that facilitates a uniquely somatic experience: the ecstatic trance posture. She will guide you through a drum-driven Shamanic Journey so you can explore this transformational, healing technology to use for yourself and with your clients.

Bring a blanket, drum, rattle or other rhythmic instrument, and come experience your own Orgasmic Shamanic Journey!

Isis Phoenix: Conference Mistress of Ceremonies

www.sensualshaman.com

www.nakedyoganyc.com

www.phoenix-temple.com



Isis is a Sensual Shaman and creator/founder of [Naked Yoga NYC](#) and [Phoenix Temple](#), a sanctuary in midtown Manhattan for the worship of the holy body and spirit. Isis has a background in theatre and performing arts. She is a Reiki Energy Master and Ordained Priestess. Isis has studied with shamans, mystics and yogis from all over the world but honors her body as the greatest teacher she has known. She teaches internationally recognized naked yoga classes and is dedicated to the message of reclaiming the beauty, totality and pleasure of living fully in the human body with divine purpose. Isis is consistently looking for alive, provocative and fully embodied ways to communicate with the Divine Source that resides within every human being. She believes everyone holds God/Goddess potential within and that life is an ongoing journey of learning, exploration, sensuality and Divine Communion.

Yoga and Guided Meditation

Friday-Sunday morning wake-up 8:00 a.m.–8:45 a.m.

Morning yoga rituals will include a simple Vinyasa Hatha flow series followed by an earth-wind-water-fire ceremonial meditation to awaken and align your energy centers and ground your body for shamanic transformation.

No previous yoga experience required.

Christina Pratt

www.lastmaskcenter.org



Shaman, author, and teacher, Christina is a skilled healer who weaves her authentic shamanic experience, extensive training, and experience with shamans from Ecuador, Nepal, Tibet, and Africa into her contemporary practice. She has been in practice for over 18 years, specializing in one-on-one soul retrieval healings. She is the director of the Last Mask Center for Shamanic Healing in Portland, OR, and New York, NY.

Pratt's unique gift is creating effective and transforming healing rituals for contemporary people in contemporary communities. She is a teacher of exceptional clarity, humor, and inspiration, bringing the power of shamanism into the practical grasp of anyone willing to take responsibility for improving the quality of their life. Her four-year training in transformational shamanism focuses on using shamanic skills to find and fully express each individual's true purpose.

She is the author of *An Encyclopedia of Shamanism*, available for purchase at her website.

Gender Variance in Traditional Shamanism

- Thursday, 8:15 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

The transformation from male to female is at the core of men becoming shamans in many "classical" shamanic cultures. These "transformed" shamans embody a fluidity in their sexual and gender identification and are seen by their culture as belonging to a third or alternate gender.

Join us for a lively discussion of:

- The many varieties of gender in traditional cultures.
- The male shaman's stages of gender and physical transformation and how that happened.
- Why male shamans are and women aren't required to transform in these cultures.
- The role of sexuality in the lives of gender variant shamans.

Suzanne d'Corsey

www.hookerdunham.org

www.myspace.com/dcorsey



Suzanne sought out Scotland's hereditary witchcraft in 1978 when she attended the University of St. Andrews. There was far more to the ancient "fertility religion" than met the eye, and over the past thirty years, Suzanne has diligently and joyfully pursued the practice of sacred sexuality as an integral aspect to ancient witchcraft. Today she continues to explore sexual energy in Paganism as it dramatically evolves. She has written and led decades' worth of rituals for all seasonal Pagan celebrations, public and private, including a number of "Great Rites," or the sacred marriage.

Suzanne is a co-founder and High Priestess of the Artemisian Faery Faith tradition (USA). Frequently invited to be a spokesperson on interfaith dialogue, she brings an educated eye to the topic of Goddess worship and the erotic. A professional playwright and author, Suzanne makes her home in Vermont where she manages a lively theatre, and, like a good witch, lives intimately in the seasons' cycles.

Witchcraft and Sex Magic: The Ancient and the Modern

- Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

Witches trace their lineage to an ancient spirituality that was based on the land, the seasons, and celestial influences. Mirroring the earth's cycles of growth, death, and renewal, the interplay between human and the immanent divine found expression in sexual desire and ritual. Going far beyond a mere reenactment, sacred sex in witchcraft is inextricably woven into transformative magic.

Suzanne will present an overview of the ancient as it informs the modern sex-magic practitioner in witchcraft, with an emphasis on the evolution of the Great Rite in ritual, as an excellent illustration for the evolution of sacred sex in Paganism.

Stanley Krippner, PhD



Stanley received his PhD in Special Education from Northwestern University. A pioneer in the study of consciousness, Stanley conducts research in the areas of dreams, hypnosis, shamanism, and human sexuality, often from a cross-cultural perspective, with an emphasis on anomalous phenomena that seem to question mainstream paradigms.

He conducted the first study on the dream reports of preoperative male transsexuals, published in 1974, and has presented papers at the World Congress of Sexuality and the annual conventions of the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality, of which he is a Fellow. He holds Diplomate status in the American Board of Sexology.

His studies of shamanism span three decades; many of them are reported in his co-authored book *Spiritual Dimensions of Healing*. He is an honorary member of the Circle of the Foundation for Shamanic Studies, and a member of the advisory editorial board of *Shaman's Drum*.

Shamanic Models of Sexuality: Cross-Cultural Perspectives

- Friday, 10:45 – 12:00 noon

Sexuality was (and is) a central topic in indigenous shamanism. There is no universal model that all shamanic societies held in common. However, some common themes include: the use of "teacher plants" to enhance sexuality or to regulate pregnancy; sexual abstinence before sacred journeys or events; the use of sexual activity to enhance shamanic performance. Examples will be given to illustrate each of these themes, and contrasts with the tenets of institutional religions will be discussed.

PANEL

Take a Walk on the Ancient Side: Integrating Shamanic Practices into Sexuality

• Friday, 2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Jeffre TallTrees, PhD

www.shaman-tantra.com



Jeffre TallTrees Ph.D. is a holistic psychologist who is a trained tantrika, tantra teacher and shaman. Currently she teaches private tantra workshops, Tantra At Tahoe, with her beloved husband, Somraj. She has a private shamanic healing practice, Sacred Rainbow Mesa. In addition, she is part of the senior teaching staff for the Four Winds Society, an international school of shamanism and shamanic healing. Jeffre is an avid skier and biker and lives in the mountains near Lake Tahoe, California.

John Spinning Coyote Kent

www.ShamanicDearmoring.com



John is a Spiritual Warrior who brings a natural, balanced masculine presence that is truly rare. He received his degree in Chemical Engineering from Georgia Tech, but soon realized his calling lay elsewhere. In 1996, John moved to Phoenix, Arizona to focus on his spiritual training within the Sweet Medicine SunDance Path, where he has studied shamanism and sorcery for over 13 years. Soon after moving, he underwent a deep spiritual sexual transformation through his training and practice, in which he experienced the depth of change and renewal that is possible when the sexual catalyst energy is involved. John currently

travels across the United States, Canada, Europe, and Australia teaching and facilitating the Shamanic De-armoring ceremony, an intense healing ceremony that utilizes our sexual soul force to remove traumas stored in the physical body, awaken our senses, increase our conscious awareness, and create a stronger resonance with Spirit.

Karyn Armstrong

www.shamanictantra.com



Karyn is an Advanced Shamanic Practitioner and Level III Tantra Educator Certified by the Source School of Tantra. Her shamanic training is with the Foundation for Shamanic Studies, directed by Michael Harner, and is a graduate of Sandra Ingerman's Teacher Training in Advanced Shamanic Healing practices, has apprenticed with indigenous shamans and medicine men in Peru, Bali, Egypt, Canada, Belize and Africa.

Karyn's journey into the realm of shamanic tantra happened quite spontaneously and by divine grace while working extensively with clients over the past decade. She is devoted to bringing more conscious and soulful loving into the world by teaching men, women, and couples how to bring an open heart to lovemaking so that sex becomes a free and holy expression of one's love. She brings a powerful presence and straightforward humor through her own experience and has developed many individual customized sessions for her students and clients alike.

Rabbi J. Hershy Worch



Rabbi Worch, one of the controversial teaching rabbis of this age, is a mystic, scholar, artist, poet, writer, and musician. Ordained by the late Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach, Hershy has taught and practiced his special synthesis of kabbalistic shamanism in Australia, Africa, and North America. Born and educated in England, Rabbi Worch is heir to an ancient kabbalist tradition

received directly from his ancestors, who were revered practitioners of the magical arts.

Among his published works are *Sacred Fire: Torah from the Years of Fury 1939-1942*, (Jason Aronson, 2000) and *The Kabbalist Haggadah: A Handbook of the Seder*, (S.O.D., 2004), *My Soul Thirsts*, a collection of Hasidic Songs and Nigunim on CD (Qorq 2002). Online classes can be accessed at

http://community.livejournal.com/kabbalah_101/profile and
<http://www.openkabbalah.com/>

His music can be downloaded at <http://rebhershy.multiply.com/music>

Sexual Mysteries of the Ancient Kabbalah: Shamanic Symbolism in a Jewish Tradition

- Friday, 3:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Introducing the Way of the Kabbalist - The Divine creative process is understood and visualized as an orgasmic outpouring of Abundance (*Shefa*) flowing downwards through nine nodes of energy called Sephirot, into what we call the Universe, and into us. This tenth and final Sephirah is also known as the *Shekhina* - Dwelling Presence, or Divine Feminine.

The ninth Sephirah represents the Divine Genitalia through which all Divine power and abundance has to collect and flow, and is called *Yesod* - Fundament.

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The kabbalist rises out of the tenth Sephirah, from Shekhina, to act as a conduit embodying the ninth, Yesod - Fundament. The purpose is to trigger the Divine Orgasm, to bring abundance and pleasure down into the world, either by creating an upward flow of femininity and pleasure, or by making the world, us, so attractive to God, the Divine cannot resist uniting with us in another act of orgasmic outpouring of Shefa – Abundance.

Ceremony before dinner: **Kabbalat Shabbat:
Preparing for Sacred Sex**

- Friday, 5:00 p.m. – 5:30ish p.m.

Kabbalists prepare themselves on Friday, through a variety of purification rituals to receive the Shabbat Queen, who arrives with dusk.

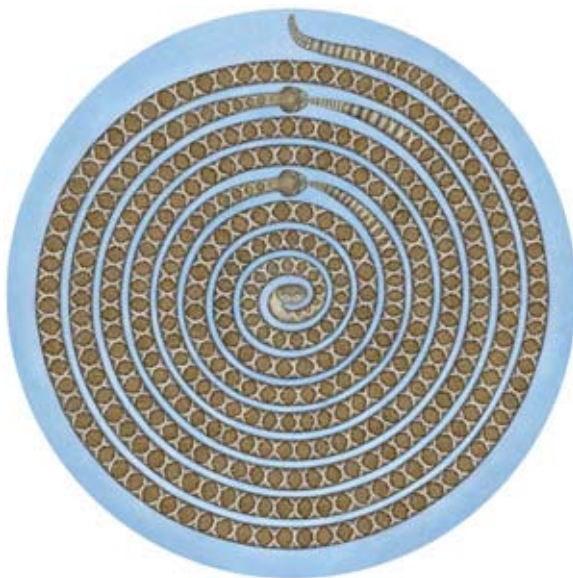
The reception begins with a service of chanting, singing and dancing. Three symbols of the sacrament to the *Shekhinah* - Divine Femininity are the two candles, the wine, and the two loaves of bread.

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Documentary World Premier: **Path of the Sexual Shaman**

www.SexualShamanSeminars.com

- Friday, 7:00 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.



If we wish to understand shamanism, we must know energy. If we wish to understand orgasm, we must know energy.

Produced by Kenneth Ray Stubbs, PhD, *Path of the Sexual Shaman* takes us into a world of energy, wisdom, orgasm, and intent, leading us to transformation.

Here sexuality is at the center of the sacred circle, where we merge in At-One-Ment with our lover and the All-That-Is.

Steve Wismer, CMT

swismer@sbcglobal.net



Steve has studied tantra, the healing arts, shamanism, and African drumming for the past decade and is a certified SkyDancing Tantra teacher. He has facilitated over 50 workshops at the Institute for Ecstatic Living plus numerous events with Margot Anand.

After studying massage in the 1980s, his fascination with energy work led him into reiki, polarity, shiatsu, tantra, and shamanism with Nikky Scully and others. His path also led him into African drumming with Buddhi Harlow, Paulo Mattioli, and assorted artists from Africa.

Steve brings the sacredness of tantra along with an open heart and uses breath, movement, and sound, and a sense of humor to his workshops as well as with private clients.

Earth, Wind, Fire, and Air: Dancin' with Mojo

- Friday, 8:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Come join Steve and friends for a sacred, fun, shamanistic journey combining the Four Elements with drumming and dance. Use breath, movement, sound and presence to connect with your self and others. Feel the beat of your heart and the drum, and connect with Earth, Wind, Fire, and Air as you move your body and soul. Feel the magic of music, dance in your being, and surrender to the beauty of life.

Bring a drum, rattle, or other rhythmic instrument.

Penn Baker

www.2Spirit-coach.com



Penn Baker refers to herself as an *Earth Walker* on the path of a shaman, influenced by Elders from the Apache, Cree, Lakota, and Ojibwa Tribes, combined with teachings from African and Celtic traditions.

Penn transitioned from Male to Female while employed as a Senior Project Manager of a global software company. What quirk of fate would take a privileged white male and have her end up a 2-Spirit transsexual? Feeling rejected, angry, and hiding the female inside, Penn became an over-compensating male, from submariner to consultant of Fortune 500 Corporations.

When life became unbearable, his transition began with hormone therapy and emotional counseling. Prior to surgery in 2000, she *outed* herself to senior management, friends, family, and changed his name. Penn now coaches others in making similar 2Spirit transitions.

One constant in her life is a strong marriage of 39 years with Dorothee.

Path of the 2Spirit: Contemporary Transgender Shamanism

- Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

We will follow along the path of a modern day shaman and take a closer look into the past to see how the shaman has evolved, asking "Why has our society made some of us afraid to embrace our Shamanic gifts?" We will also explore how fluid gender can be for a 2Spirit: how we can walk in both worlds and be seen as one or the other.

To end, we will discuss what sex is like for a 2Spirit and how floating between the two genders can positively affect the union of two spiritual beings.

Gina Ogden, PhD, LMFT

www.GinaOgden.com

womanspirit@earthlink.net



Gina is a sex therapist and researcher who combines sexological science with shamanic consciousness. She is an associate professor at the Institute for Advanced Study of Human Sexuality and a practitioner of Andean curanderismo in the lineage of Oscar Miro-Quesada and others. Her survey "Integrating Sexuality and Spirituality" (ISIS) is the first national sex survey to investigate the multidimensional realities of sexual experience.

Gina's latest books are *Women Who Love Sex*, *The Heart and Soul of Sex*, and *The Return of Desire*; a fourth book in this series will be published next year by Shambhala. She lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and travels frequently in the unseen world. She speaks nationally and conducts workshops and trainings wherever the spirit calls.

Calling in the Spirits: Sex Therapy Meets Shamanism

- Saturday, 10:45 a.m. – 12:00 noon

How can we help clients move beyond their stated sexual problems to access core healing for body, heart, mind, and spirit? Gina will offer practical guidance on how to combine crucial elements of sex therapy and shamanic practice through her multidimensional "ISIS" model, a contemporary medicine wheel. She explains diagnostic uses of sacred geometry and drummed journeying, shows therapeutic uses of shamanic tools such as feathers and shells, and demonstrates transformational techniques such as "hucha miqui," a sacred breathing exchange that feeds the earth while clearing our chakras for sexual connection and meaning.

Fakir Musafar, BSE, MA

www.fakir.org



Fakir is known worldwide for his fifty year's research and personal exploration of primitive body decoration and tribal rituals. Fakir has introduced concepts and practices for the "body-first" approach to explore spirituality in art, body modifications and S/M, which he calls "body play." His views and practices are expressed in the 1986 ReSearch Publications book *Modern Primitives*.

Born in 1930 on what was then a Sisseton Sioux Indian reservation, Fakir has played a significant role in the revival of body piercing, body sculpting and other body-related practices for personal expression, rites-of-passage, healing, and reclaiming. As an artist and two-spirit shaman, he continues to introduce rituals of Hinduism, Sufi Dervish and Native America to Western Culture.

Spirit + Flesh: Ecstatic Body Rites for Transformation

- Saturday, 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Fakir will explore the significance of traditional shamanic ecstatic rites in contemporary culture by relating his own journey and his successful introduction of primitive body rites to a modern society where many feel something is lacking. His work is based on research, radical personal explorations and travels to other cultures that hear the sound of a different drummer.

His presentation will include practices of Native Americans in South Dakota where he grew up, Hindu body rituals of the Left Hand Path, and Sufi Mystics of North Africa and the Middle East. He will include graphic material to illustrate his experiential approach and practices of those he has encountered in his travels.

Thunder Strikes

gsynergy@cox.net



Thunder Strikes is a Twisted Hairs Elder and naqual leader within the *Sweet Medicine SunDance (SMSD) Path*. He is a teacher, shamanic counselor, healer, and martial artist. Teaching workshops and lecturing worldwide, he inspires and enriches the lives of many students and seekers.

Thunder Strikes was guided from a young age by his grandmother, Spotted Fawn, a Cherokee medicine woman. From her he gained an intimate knowledge of nature and the

interconnectedness with all things. His early training motivated him to seek excellence in many arenas. He served in Vietnam as a Marine, and was inducted into the World Martial Arts Hall of Fame with multiple honors. He has pursued studies in psychology, philosophy, religion, and ancient mystery school traditions.

In 1975, the Twisted Hair Council of Elders chose Thunder Strikes to open the teachings of the *SMSD Path* to anyone seeking personal growth and spiritual awakening. Thunder Strikes was then designated as one of the Shield Carriers to share the knowledge of this ancient tradition that supports emotional, mental, physical, spiritual, and sexual maturity and evolution. He continues to disseminate these teachings today.

ASEP's 2008 Distinguished Contributions Award Lecture

Turtle Island Teachings on Spiritual Sexuality

- Saturday, 3:30 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

In the early 1980's, Thunder Strikes brought forth sacred knowledge of Spiritual Sexuality in the form of the *Chuluaqui Quodoushka* workshops. "Chuluaqui" refers to the primordial life force energy from which everything is created. "Quodoushka" is the magickal energy created when two life force energies merge to create a new energy that is greater than the sum of its parts. Our Chuluaqui Quodoushka energy is the most healing and revitalizing energy available to us.

Elena Tonetti-Vladimirova

www.birthintobeing.com
www.birthisweknowit.com



Elena is one of the co-founders of the Conscious Birth Movement in Russia since 1982, and is director and producer of *Birth As We Know It* ('06), an award-winning documentary that rocks the world in 54 countries and awakens the Divine Feminine in every body that watches it.

Elena had her first formal training in Russia at the College of Arts in theater. After working with the

waterbirth pioneer Igor Charkovsky, she moved on to organizing birth camps at the Black Sea and delivering babies with wild dolphins participating. Together, they launched a program of natural delivery and birth trauma release for adults as well as for babies.

Elena currently travels the World sharing her insights on mechanisms of creating our own reality by teaching "Birth Into Being" workshops that often lead to ecstatic birth experiences for both parents.

To watch a 10-minute trailer of her documentary: http://www.birthisweknowit.com/10_minute_promo.html

The Ecstasy of Childbirth

- Sunday, 9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

Elena will share her memories of the origins of Russian Conscious Procreation Movement that are deeply rooted in Siberian shamanism.

The concept of waterbirth and interconnectedness of the family dynamics was introduced to the world in the early '60s by Igor Charkovsky, a powerful healer and a seer from Siberia, who dared in Soviet, atheistic Russia to speak of birth as of mystical rite of passage. Elena worked closely with him for seven years and had a first hand experience of the transmission of the Birthing Field.

She will talk about dignified and transformative ways of welcoming new people on our planet Earth, about the art of peoplemaking as a spiritual practice.

Victoria Begay

www.changingwomancafe.com



Victoria Begay was raised with the traditional values of the Diné (Navajo). Growing up with the energy flows of the Beauty Way Ceremony, Victoria has learned to share and value the Diné Way of life. Victoria shares her culture with the millions of people who visit Canyon De Chelly on the Navajo Nation.

Victoria's first clan is Mescalero Apache and her father's clan is Near the Water.

Sexuality in the Diné (Navajo) Tradition

- Sunday, 10:45 a.m. – 12:00 noon

In the Diné traditional perspective on life energy, the people turn to the elements of the earth, the deities, and the sacred directions for help. In the Native American Church an individual can learn about the self through visions. Victoria was raised in both traditional beliefs.

The Diné are manifestations of air and other elements of the universe. The energies of the earth are known as types of water, air, water spirit, fire, and lightning. For a woman, the energy for life and love come from the goddess Changing Woman. She is affiliated with the earth changes, seasons, women aging, sexuality, gender, and orientation. Changing Woman is the goddess who created the first mortal humans on Earth.

Karyn Armstrong

www.shamanictantra.com



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POST-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

How to Establish Sacred Space and Bring Ceremony into a Client Practice

- Sunday, 2:30 – 5:30

In this workshop you will learn practical methods for creating an effective transformational environment for your clients before they even walk into your office. Become energetically filled with spiritual power by using a method of dismemberment and merging with compassionate helping spirits before, during and after a client session. Where intention goes, energy flows!