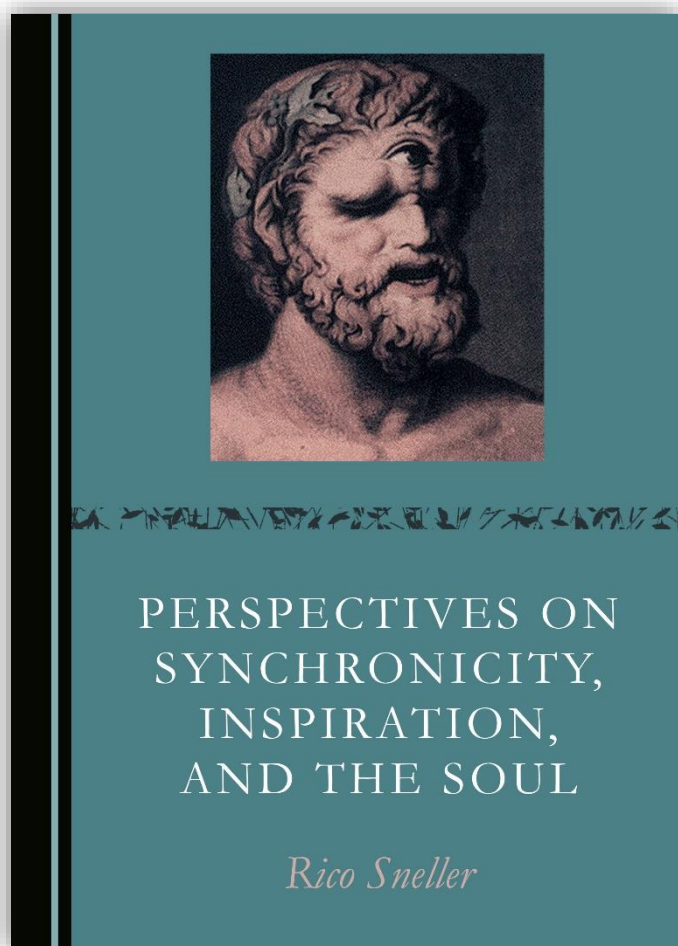


Webinar - *Philosophy: Between Inspiration and Ecstasy*

**Book Launch - *Perspectives On Synchronicity, Inspiration, And The Soul*
(Rico Sneller)**

Virtual Event (Zoom): Monday 25th January 2021, 14:00-15:30 GMT



This book explores the notion of the human psyche ('soul') and its continuing usefulness in the background of the ongoing and always accelerating techno-scientific revolution. The main argument here follows the assumption that this revolution, while not necessarily being a threat to humankind, is often blind or ignorant as to its subject, the 'human being'.

In the first chapters, the reader is invited to reflect on the notion of 'thinking' as a phenomenon of consciousness that transcends merely 'having thoughts'. Relating thinking to consciousness requires reconsidering the phenomena of 'inspiration' and 'ecstasy'. Provided that such a thing as 'inspiration' exists, it makes sense to revise the solipsist or substantialist account often given of the human mind. The book defines inspiration as a 'clairvoyance of one's psyche', and ecstasy as the experience of this clairvoyance.

Next, a case is made for synchronicity experiences as a key to a better understanding of the human psyche. While being enigmatic all throughout, synchronicity experiences, both on the individual and on the collective level, help overcome both subject/object and body/mind dualisms. It is not likely, though, that the solution they could offer will be readily accepted by (what is called) 'science' today, since it challenges one of the latter's basic premises, 'causality'. As a more concrete example of a condensed synchronicity experience, the author dwells on 'physiognomy'.

In the final chapter, death and suffering are discussed as extreme, and therefore relevant, experiences of consciousness. The book interprets death in terms of 'enhanced subliminality', and 'suffering' as unconscious resistance against maturing.

Generally, this book explores a psycho-philosophical tradition, rooted in Romantic thinking (from Schelling and Schopenhauer until Klages and Jung), which has hitherto been unjustly neglected, if not repressed, by mainstream materialism and positivism. It makes a strong case for an intellectual account of the soul.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83842701595?pwd=T1QweFcrNodtVWZQRW05Rkt6NGpTU09>

Meeting ID: **838 4270 1595**

Passcode: **886941**



Rico Sneller has been teaching Continental Philosophy and Ethics at Leiden University, Faculty of Humanities, and the Technical University of Eindhoven, the Netherlands. He is the Vice President of the global think-tank and network organisation APGC, and responsible for strategic planning and policy-making for the network as a whole. His current research focuses on exceptional states of consciousness in relation to philosophy. With Hans Gerding and Hein van Dongen, he published *Wild Beasts of the Philosophical Desert: Philosophers on Telepathy and Other Exceptional Experiences* (2014). Together with Mahmoud Masaeli, he edited a series of books on global ethics, development, and spirituality.



Webinar Guest Speakers

Philosophy: Between Inspiration and Ecstasy



Orr Scharf (Israel)

“The Paranormal as a Sound Foundation for a Metaphysics”

Dr Orr Scharf teaches at the Cultural Studies M.A. Program at The University of Haifa, Israel. He is author of *Thinking in Translation: Scripture and Redemption in the Thought of Franz Rosenzweig* (De Gruyter, 2019).



Germán Bula (Colombia)

“Inspiration, possession and the question of pseudonyms”

Professor at the Universidad de la Salle. Doctor of Education, Universidad Pedagógica Nacional, Master of Philosophy: Pontificia Universidad Javeriana.



Ashish Pant (India)

“When the Self comes calling: Synchronicity — from the centre of the soul to the edge of the universe”

Ashish Pant examines the various Pathways to Self at the intersection of the East (Yoga, Advāita Vedānta) and the West (Jungian Psychology, Processwork & Deep Democracy, Somatic Experiencing) <https://www.pathwaystoself.org/>



David Beth (Germany)

“Thinking from the Abyss: Towards a re-enchantment of Life”

David operates Theion Publishing in Munich, a fine edition press dedicated to philosophy, sophisticated esoterica and spirituality.

International Time Zones:

Amsterdam/Central Europe: 15:00-16:30pm; **UK:** 14:00-15:30; **Bogota/Ottawa:** 9:00-10:30am;
Tel Aviv: 16:00-17:30pm; **Mumbai:** 19:30-21:00pm

