

2010 Schedule for Dr. Neil Douglas-Klotz

February 26-28: Oblate Retreat Centre, Crewe, England: *The Dance of Inner Silence. A Retreat with Saadi Neil Douglas-Klotz and Tansen Philip O'Donoghue.* The world's spiritual and healing traditions approach silence in various ways and under different names--meditation, contemplation, awareness, centering or body prayer, sitting zen, self-observation and stress relief--to name a few. In this weekend, Tansen and Saadi will continue with their past work together, deepening in the teachings of the Sufi-Buddhist master Samuel L. Lewis, as well as his teachers, including Hazrat Inayat Khan and Nygogen Senzaki. Dances of Universal Peace, walking meditation, Sufi zikr, chant breath practice and contemplation will all interweave to create an experience of renewed energy, joy and balance. Contact: Tansen. Tel 01258 818067. Email: mail@philipodonoghoe.co.uk

March 5-March 18: Edinburgh, Scotland: *2010 Edinburgh International Festival on Middle Eastern Spirituality and Peace (MESP):* Workshops, performances, panels and talks by grassroots peacemakers, artists, storytellers, musicians and others, including Dances of Universal Peace and inter-spiritual meditation for peace. Featured presenters and workshop leaders will include Rabbi Shefa Gold, Dr Geo Trevarthen, Dr. Andrew Powell, Dr. Stephen Wright, Imam Nusrah Cassiem, Professor Ursula King, Alva Group, Dr. Neil Douglas-Klotz and others. Preceding events include a Middle East Youth Festival, a Middle Eastern Film Festival and a Middle East Festival One World Peace Concert. Contact: Neill Walker, mesp2010@hotmail.co.uk. For details of the conference and festival, go to www.eial.org or www.mesp.org.uk.

March 5-6: Edinburgh, Scotland: *Always Coming Home: Healing, Empowerment and Freedom Through the Christian and Sufi Spiritual Traditions: with Rev Prof Stephen Wright and Murshid Saadi Shakur Chishti.* In this two-day "urban retreat," two experienced spiritual directors in the Christian and Sufi traditions will guide us in exploring our longing for the feeling of being at home--in our lives, communities and world. Using spiritual healing tools like deep listening, storytelling, chant, body prayer, breathing awareness and guided meditation, we will work with themes such as forgiveness, grief and bereavement, sense of purpose, past and present impressions of authority, the drag of popular culture and media, idealism and presence, patience, humor and a healthy toleration of paradox. Our aim is to leave feeling more empowered to live life to the fullest, as part of a larger community of creation. This two-day retreat is designed as a single experience and we encourage participants to join us for both days. Venue: Meeting Room, Quaker Meeting House, 7 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh. Time: 9.30am for 10am-4.30pm, both days. Cost: £40/£30 (Concessions). For a Registration Form Contact: Neill Walker, mesp2010@hotmail.co.uk

March 15: Edinburgh, Scotland: *A Beginner's Guide to Beginner's Mind and Heart: Interspiritual Meditation in the Sufi, Christian and Buddhist Traditions with Neil Douglas-Klotz.* This day long workshop will introduce various approaches to meditation in the Sufi, Christian and Zen Buddhist traditions. In addition to sharing various shorter or longer meditations, we will explore approaches to silence in the "empty" and "full" ways, the use of paradox (in the form of Sufi stories and Zen koans), and the roles of music, chant, breathing and body awareness, compassion, devotion, releasing and forgiveness. Knowing which "flavor" of entering silence suits our temperament can help us to establish a regular practice. At the same time, because we human beings share certain essential characteristics (like breathing, body awareness and capacities for love and wonder), approaches to silence also share key features. Knowing how to extract these keys and benefit from the meditations of other traditions can help us to either begin a practice or deepen and enrich the one we're pursuing. It can also help us share a deeper sense of silence and heart in interspiritual gatherings, including those with no overt spiritual content. Ultimately, being able to find our way more easily into a compassionate, inner silence can help us to attain more understanding and empowerment in daily life. This event is offered as part of the 2010 Edinburgh Festival of Middle Eastern Spirituality and Peace. Venue: Quaker Meeting House, 7 Victoria Terrace, Edinburgh. Time: 9.30am for 10am-4.30pm. Cost: £20/£15 (Concessions). For a Registration Form Contact: Neill Walker, mesp2010@hotmail.co.uk

March 19-21: Fluehli Ranf, Switzerland: *The Wisdom of the Sufis: Healing, Movement, Meditations of the Heart.* During the retreat, we will select healing resources from the rich treasure of the "pathways of the heart" found in the Sufi practice of the 99 Beautiful Names (In German: Die Weisheit der Sufis,

Koesel Verlag). We will focus on the many pathways that deal with strength, renewal, releasing, trust, being at home in the body, and increasing clarity in relationship to one's inner healing guidance. Connections will also be made to Neil's related work on the Aramaic words of Jesus. Resources include chant, heart meditation, walking meditation, body prayer and other forms of sacred movement and body awareness. This retreat is open to all, without prior experience. Only an open heart and mind, ready to move and dance with the One, are necessary. In German language. Contact: Barbara Küng, Tel. 41 (0)41 921 20 41 or Regina Gerber, Email: regina.gerber@bluemail.ch
March 25-28: Wiston Lodge, nr Edinburgh, Scotland: The Abwoon Interspiritual Leadership Program: *Module 6: Sufi Pathways: A Model for Interspiritual Work.* Deepening and leadership retreat for those interested in sharing meditation, Dance and spiritual practice related to the Sufi tradition in the context of building interspiritual communities and ministry, as well as retreat work. This includes especially the material articulated in the books *The Sufi Book of Life* and *The Tent of Abraham* and emphases on the Service of Elemental Peace, the Elemental Heart Healing Meditations, and leadership of Sufi chant and walking meditation. This retreat occurs toward the end of a multi-year program and may be open to a limited number of participants who are not enrolled in the entire leadership program. *Prior reading and an application form are required.* See full description of the program online at www.eial.org. Contact: Fateah Alice Saunders, Tel. +44 (0)131 664-6206. Email: alicefateah@btinternet.com

March 31-April 4: Finkenwerde, nr Berlin, Germany: *Annual Native Middle Eastern Retreat with Murshid Saadi Shakur Chishti and Murshida Gita Onnen* The Resurrection of Life: Easter with the Aramaic Jesus. Resurrection occurs when we forget the small self, allowing it to fade away "like the dew drop into the shiny sea," and allow ourselves to become channels for blessing and healing. This was Jesus' practice, whose example we will follow through Walk, the Sufi practice of the pathways of the heart, the Aramaic Prayer cycle, and a focus on the blessing meditation Sufis call *mushabida* (the deeper experiencing of life). We will also share the Elemental Peace ritual and prepare for it progressively through further, advanced meditation on the elements and nature, as vehicles for blessing. Our way of practice will include Dances of Universal Peace, walking meditation, Sufi sound practice and wasaif, guided meditation and Soulwork. No experience is necessary and all are welcome. In German and English. Contact: Gita Onnen, Tel. 49-(0)30-791-5211 and Anapurna von Kugelgen, Tel. 49-(0)30-313-9163. Email: brita.v.k@gmx.net

April 9-11: Ammerdown Centre, nr Bath, England: *Living Blessing: The Aramaic Lord's Prayer.* During this retreat we will focus on a step-by-step journey of the heart through the prayer of Jesus in his original Aramaic language. During this journey we will experience Jesus' original prayer tradition of living creation, a tradition that reminds us that new beginnings happen every moment in the heart of the divine. In this journey to our own center, we will also use contemplative prayer, walking meditation and a cycle of simple circle dances, Dances of Universal Peace. No experience is necessary and all are welcome.

Contact: Ammerdown Centre, Tel: 01761 433709. Fax: 01761 433094. Email: center@ammerdown.org

May 1: Guelph, Ontario, Canada, Half-day Public Workshop: *The Aramaic Jesus and the Sufis: Shared Paths of the Heart.* This half-day workshop will explore the shared prayers and meditations of the heart that connect the Aramaic Jesus and the Sufis. As part of the journey, Neil will share stories, meditation and body prayer, including a number of new Dances of Universal Peace inspired by his recent work. An afternoon workshop the following day (Sunday, May 2) will feature Bruce Chilton and Neil Douglas-Klotz on "The Spirituality of the Historical Jesus."

Contact: Barbara Susan Booth, barbara.susan.booth@sympatico.ca

May 3-7: St. Francis Centre, Caladon, Ontario: *Seminars for Wisdom University.* Neil will be conducting two courses for Wisdom University (morning and afternoon): "The Hidden Gospel: Decoding the Spiritual Practice and Message of the Aramaic Jesus" and "Pathways of the Heart and Healing: Sufi Meditation, Musical Practice and Movement." The classes may be taken for credit or for audit, and full details may be found at: <https://www.wisdomuniversity.org/class-schedule.htm#2010> Contact: registrar@wisdomuniversity.org or online at the above link.

May 11-14: Columbus, OH, USA: *The Abwoon Interspiritual Leadership Program: Module 5: Travelling the "I Am" Way: Yeshua in John and Thomas.* Deepening and leadership retreat for those interested in sharing the Aramaic teachings of Jesus in the context of building interspiritual communities and ministry, as well as retreat work. Deepening for those wanting to establish a personal spiritual practice. This retreat focuses particularly on sayings of Jesus in the Gospel of John, comparing them to the Jesus related by the Gospel of Thomas. Looking at these sayings in their Aramaic sense reveals a striking similarity united by Jesus' emphasis on love, trust and self-knowledge as the cornerstones of the teaching and spiritual practice he leaves to his disciples. Special focus of this retreat is leadership guidance for the dances associated with the Aramaic "I Am" sayings, dances from Jesus' last talk with his disciples as well as the related Aramaic body prayers in *Blessings of the Cosmos*, *The Hidden Gospel*, *Genesis Meditations* and *Desert Wisdom*. This retreat is open to a limited number of participants who are not enrolled in the entire leadership program. *Prior reading and an application form are required.* See information at www.abwoon.com. Contact: the Rev. Elizabeth Reed, Shalem Center, Tel. 614-441-9773, Email: munira@abwoon.com.

Registrar: Qahira Mary Richardson, Email: for-the-beauty@rocketmail.com, Tel. 717-600-1080.

May 14-16: Columbus, OH, USA: *Public Workshop: Green Sufism: Deeply Ecological Pathways of the Heart.* Our yearly workshop focuses on resources from the "99 Beautiful Names" (as contained in *The Sufi Book of Life*) that invite us into a deeply ecological experience of the human soul and its purpose in consonance with the whole natural world and all beings. Included will be Sufi stories and teachings from Inayati and classical Sufism, from the Quran and Hadith, as well as Dances of Universal Peace, Sufi zikr (remembrance practice), walking meditations, silent meditation and guided 'journeys' through a selection of the "pathways of the heart." This retreat is open to all, without prior experience. Only an open heart and mind, ready to move and dance with the One, are necessary. Contact: Aatoon Nina Massey, Tel 1-614-949-6197 Email: aatoon.nina.massey@gmail.com.

May 16-19: Columbus, OH, USA: *The Abwoon Interspiritual Leadership Program: Module 7: Integrative Retreat.* This is the final meeting of the first AILP group and is closed to the public. A new group in the USA is forming for modules beginning in spring 2011. For details see www.abwoon.com. Registrar: Mariam Weidner, Email: maweidner@earthlink.net, Tel. 575-534-1441.

June 26-July 3: near Hamburg, Germany: *2010 European Summer School of the Sufi Ruhaniat. "Steps on the Path: Travelling a Deeper Way of the Heart."* The annual Ruhaniat European Summer School is many things: *Classes for those on the Sufi path*—beginners, middle and more advanced (including Sufi guides); *Guided group retreat process*; individual classes on *Sufi psychology, Walking meditation, longer Dance cycles and Sufi zikr, Sufi Soulwork, Mysticism of sound and chant, Sufi healing* and more; a way to share practice with the main Ruhaniat Sufi guides in Europe. Experience joyous community with seekers from a dozen countries and languages—"eating, dancing and praying together." Camp director and main teacher: Murshid Saadi Shakur Chishti. Staff: Murshida Gita Sophia, Khalif Tansen, Khalifa Baraka, Sheikh Jelaluddin, Sheikhah Rahmana, Sheikhah Alima and Sheikh(a)s Wali and Arienne. In English and German.

Contact: Edmund Dixon: edmunddixon@yahoo.co.uk
Registration: Qadima Sabine Brandt, Tel. 49-(0)30-47036782.
Email: ayatsabine@web.de. See also the Sufi Ruhaniat European website at www.ruhaniateurope.org

July 18-25: Mendocino Sufi Camp, Mendocino, CA, USA: *"Let the Beauty We Love Be What We Do".* Classes in Sufi practice, Dances of Universal Peace, Soulwork, Walks, Music, Healing and more. Spiritual director: Murshida Mariam Baker. Special guest teacher: Murshid Saadi Shakur plus many other teachers. The camp runs from Sunday to Sunday. It will be followed from July 25-28 (Sun. evening to Thursday morning) by a *guided kbilvat (retreat) for Sufi mureeds*, which allows participants to pursue individual practice interwoven with group sessions. Contact: For more information on both retreats, please see the website of the Golden Gate Sufi Circle: <http://www.suficircle.org>

October 5-10: nr Fulda, Germany: *Love and Death: The Preciousness of the Soul's Journey, A Soulwork retreat with Murshida Gita Sophia and Murshid Saadi.* The soul is a treasure that we explore more and more, with patience, respect and love. The purpose is to reclaim our entire sacred inheritance, and live in fullness, freely fulfilling the purpose of our lives. This also calls for us to contemplate the preciousness of this existence, its limitations, and the passing of the physical bodies of ourselves, as well as those we love and cherish. This retreat will be preceded by a retreat for initiated Sufi mureeds of the Sufi Ruhaniat International, from October 3-5. Contact: Qadima Sabine Brandt, Tel.: +49 (0)30-470 36 783 Email: AyatSabine@web.de.

October 14-17: nr Edinburgh, Scotland: *The Abwoon Interspiritual Leadership Program: Integrative Retreat.* This is the final meeting of the Scottish AILP group and is closed to the public. A new group in Germany is forming for modules beginning November 25, 2010 and ending in fall 2013. See below and for full details and application form, see www.cial.org. The new program will be in German and English.

October 23-24: London, England: London Centre for Spirituality: *The Ancient Spirituality of Creation: The Original Meditation of the Aramaic Jesus* Though too often forgotten, the roots of peace in today's world can be found in the ancient understandings of the foundational stories and practices of the three Abrahamic faiths. This two-day workshop focuses on a spirituality that unites the three main religions of the Middle East and demonstrates how early mystics, including Jesus, may have meditated. The workshop will use short lectures, meditation, chant, Dances of Universal Peace, and body prayer based on Neil Douglas-Klotz's books. Contact: London Centre for Spirituality, Tel. 020 7621 1391, www.spiritualitycentre.org, Email: info@spiritualitycentre.org

November 4-7: nr Raleigh, NC: *Sufi Soulwork Retreat with Mariam Baker and Neil Douglas-Klotz.* Details to follow. Contact: Farrunnissa Lila Rosa, Email: NurLuna@aol.com

November 12-14: Madison, WI: *The Aramaic Jesus and the Sufis: Shared Paths of the Heart.* This half-day workshop will explore the shared prayers and meditations of the heart that connect the Aramaic Jesus and the Sufis. As part of the journey, Neil will share stories, meditation and body prayer, including a number of new Dances of Universal Peace inspired by his recent work. Contact: Ken Basir McCullough 1 (608) 277-0340 Email: kmccullough101@yahoo.com

November 16-19: Columbus, OH: *The Abwoon Interspiritual Leadership Program: Module 6: Sufi Pathways: A Model for Interspiritual Work.* Deepening and leadership retreat for those interested in sharing meditation, Dance and spiritual practice related to the Sufi tradition in the context of building interspiritual communities and ministry, as well as retreat work. This includes especially the material articulated in the books *The Sufi Book of Life* and *The Tent of Abraham* and emphases on the Service of Elemental Peace, the Elemental Heart Healing Meditations, and leadership of Sufi chant and walking meditation. The three-year course also includes leadership training in body prayer, contemplation, chant, voice, walking meditation and the Dances of Universal Peace connected to this work. This retreat occurs toward the end of a multi-year program and may be open to a limited number of participants who are not enrolled in the entire leadership program. *Prior reading and an application form are required.* See information at www.abwoon.com. Contact: the Rev. Elizabeth Reed, Shalem Center, Tel. 614-441-9773, Email: munira@abwoon.com Registrar: Qahira Mary Richardson, Email: for-the-beauty@rocketmail.com Tel. 717-600-1080

November 25-28: Hof Ruckhardtshausen, nr Öhringen, Germany: *The Abwoon Interspiritual Leadership Program: Module 1: The Aramaic Prayer of Yeshua.* Deepening and leadership retreat for those interested in sharing the Aramaic Prayer of Jesus in the context of building interspiritual communities and ministry, as well as retreat work. Deepening for those wanting to establish a personal spiritual practice. Leadership training in body prayer, contemplation, chant, voice, walking meditation and the Dances of Universal Peace connected to this work. *This is a three and a half year program, with enrollment limited to 25 people.* See full description of the program, in German and English, at www.cial.org. Prior reading and an application form are required for the program. The program will be conducted in German and English language. Contact for information and application: www.cial.org/AILPDeutschland.htm or email: leadership@cial.org.