

From Wordworld to Worldword

Steps towards a Spiritual Science of Language

A panel dialogue

September 20th, 2026 at 1:30 PM (EDT)

We are living in a world of words. Practically everything occurring in the human world is based on, or related to human language. Words are constantly spoken, written, printed, and during the past few decades, increasingly often produced and reproduced electronically. AI and chatbots are only the most recent development in this regard. As a result, our world is flooded with words in a way that it has never been flooded before. However, in addition to this "Wordworld," there is also the "Worldword" - das "Weltenwort," the "Logos." How are these phenomena connected? Can humanity survive the "flood of words" by finding a new connection to the Logos? As the biblical Noah was called to build an ark to save earthly life from the flood, might we be called to build an ark to save us from the flood of words?

This is the most general framework for the upcoming Mystech-Webinar. The participants - Brook DeLorme, Frits Burger, Richard Steel, Angus Hawkins and Joachim Faust - all experienced linguists, translators, and language practitioners (see biographies below) - will explore topics related to this framework. Some of the questions to be addressed are: What is the "spirit of language" (or "genius of language") that Rudolf Steiner often mentions? Has "Global English" become the language of the incarnating Ahriman? What is the function of language learning, in light of the overwhelming dominance of English? If AI-tools can translate everything automatically and instantly, do humans still need to be bothered with translating? Does the German language still have a particular importance for anthroposophy?

Over one hundred years ago, Rudolf Steiner called for the "conscious development of a psychological science of language." Arguably, this task has not been accomplished yet. Has the time for such a development come now?

If you are interested to sign up for the webinar, please contact <https://mystech.org/> or contact office@karlkoeniginstitute.org.

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Participant Richard Steel

Richard Steel was born 1952 in Oxford, England. After studying linguistics he achieved the diploma for Curative Education at the Camphill Seminar, Lake Constance, Germany and lived there in the children's village Camphill Föhrenbühl with his family in a house community with children and youngsters in need of special care until 2008. Amongst other activities he taught in the high school and training workshops, lecturing at the Camphill Seminar and producing many of Karl König's plays for the festivals and other theatrical projects. Since August 2008 he is co-responsible for the Literary Estate of Karl König and CEO of the Karl König Institute for Art, Science, and Social Life. He writes, lectures and gives seminars to a wide range of themes. He has also published volumes of his own poetry and short stories, both in English and German. For some years he helped develop a Camphill eldercare initiative, Camphill Ghent, NY, USA. But his main office is in Berlin, Germany. He is responsible for the New Edition of Karl König's works, being published successively in German and English and has translated many of Karl König's texts, lectures and poetry; his latest translation is an English version of Rudolf Steiner's Calendar of the Soul, which was published in 2024. Since Michaelmas 2021 he is supporting the development of an office of the Karl König Institute in North America.

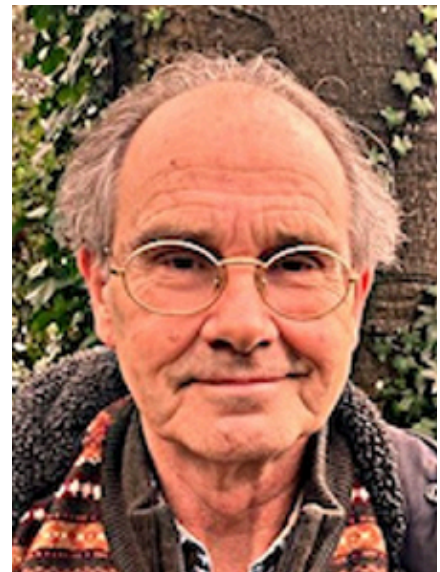


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Participant Frits Burger

Frits Burger, born 1953, studied English and Old Germanic culture and languages - the languages spoken in the north of Europe during the Middle ages. He became especially interested in the origin of words (etymology) and to this end also studied Hebrew and Sanskrit. Through the work of Rudolf Steiner the origin of the word also acquired a spiritual dimension and could be related to certain spiritual beings. Frits devoted his life to help people experience the spiritual side of language by means of exercises he created. This path can be considered a new path called "The Flow of Language," based on a spiritual view of linguistics. The path stands on its own, but is in a brotherly relation next to eurythmy and speech formation. During the past fifteen years, he wrote seven volumes on "The Flow of Language," which have so far only been published in the Dutch original. Some of the titles are: "The spiritual dimension of language acquisition; The hidden world of grammar (and the seven liberal arts); The bees and the word; I am the Alphabet"



Next to giving courses and lectures on these themes, Frits worked with disabled children in two Camphill estates in Holland. He is very connected to Karl König, and together with Richard Steel, he is working on a book about Karl König's original, so-far unpublished ideas about language.

Frits has also written a book on 'The stories of life' (alas as of yet also only in Dutch) connecting the first nine seven year periods of our biography with the great epics in history: Gilgamesh, Odyssey, Beowulf, Nibelungenlied, Tristan (and Isold), Parzival, Lohengrin, The Lord of the Rings and Harry Potter.

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Participant Brook DeLorme

Born 1979, and raised in Maine, USA. I am an artist and writer. My work-life has always been in small business, ranging from technology to apparel. In my late twenties, a deep interest in languages emerged, and led to explorations in German, French, Thai, and Arabic, at various levels of depth. Most of my language education was informal or self-directed. I grew up with anthroposophy in the background—my mother was a Waldorf teacher—but as I was never the right age to attend the local Waldorf school, my direct exposure to spiritual science began when reading Steiner's basic books in my early twenties. My husband and I now live and work between Maine and New Hampshire, and participate in several off-the-map study groups inspired by Steiner's work. Our family started Roseanum Foundation, a non-profit researching regenerative farming, community renewal, and off-grid technologies. We also stay involved in local energy policy and food sovereignty initiatives.



My mystery fiction book series, titled Apophenia Gold, is inspired by the first few decades of this third millennium, and my lifelong exploration of spiritual matters as they intersect with modern life. Links to this work, as well as articles, interviews, and podcast videos, can be found on Youtube (<https://www.youtube.com/@ApopheniaGold>) and Substack (<https://apopheniagold.substack.com/>)

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Participant Angus Hawkins

Angus Hawkins: Born in 1969 and grew up in West Sussex, UK. After 3 years of living and working in Baden Württemberg, Germany, he returned to the UK to study International Business and Languages. During this time he came into contact with both philosophical and esoteric aspects of Anthroposophy and after graduating worked for 1 year at the Steiner School in Totnes as a German teacher. This led to further studies to become a qualified teacher in German, French and Religion. In 2001 he moved to Sweden with his wife and also there in his first year worked as a teacher at a Steiner school in Alingsås. For 15 years he ran his own language training and translation business working predominantly in the corporate world. In 2015 he returned to teaching both Spanish and German in schools. 2019 he completed a Masters in International Finance and is currently writing a bachelor's dissertation in Italian on its verbal moods.



His YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/@TheExceptionalState> has many videos predominantly on the earlier philosophical works of Steiner. He is active in Sweden and runs an online group that digs into the philosophical side of Steiner. For the last couple of years, he has been running a course in Norrköping, in the same location where Steiner delivered his lectures on Theosophical Ethics (1912) and Christ and the Human Soul (1914). Currently "fascinated" by the Sanskrit grammatical case system as a relational description of human experience.

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Participant Joachim Faust

Joachim Faust, born 1960, is a linguist and language teacher. A native of Mainz/Germany, he holds a Ph.D. in Slavic Languages and Literatures from the University of Kansas and a Master's degree in German linguistics from the Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz. He has been teaching a number of different languages on both the college and the high school levels, and he has also taught classes in linguistics and intercultural studies, inspired by living, studying and working in such diverse countries as Russia, Poland, Hungary, the Republic of Georgia, and China. His original research interest was on the interface of poetry and linguistics, focusing on the age-old question of the nature of human language. The encounter with Rudolf Steiner and his approach to this question has been one of the greatest inspirations on this path.

