

Karl König

Karl König Institute Newsletter

28

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 Editors: Richard Steel and Christoph Hänni

A note to our readers

Dear friends of the Karl König Institute,

This is our 28th Newsletter since we started out in 2009, then still calling it the Newsletter of the Karl König Archive as the Institute was still in the planning and preparation stage. A lot has happened since then, a lot has changed. One can trace much of the developments of the Institute by going through the various editions of the Newsletter; all the tasks that have been taken up, the projects and the process of building up both Archive and Institute. We have endeavoured not only to report about these developments but also to let the Newsletter grow and change with them. And now, 28 years later, we have an office in Pennsylvania as well as in Berlin and Aberdeen! And now we

are in the process of *disentangling* our two main languages that we have always used for the Newsletter..... sometimes, due to layout difficulties, it seemed rather confusing for some, unnecessary for others. Most articles were in English and German, not all, and sometimes the translation was a shorter version, sometimes English readers had to wait 6 months to get their version of an important report. With Newsletter 27 we experimented already (thank you Jess for taking on the new phase of layout work! And A huge Thank You to Christoph Hänni for 15 years of work behind the scenes!) Now, with this Newsletter we are separating the two languages and issuing

one for each language – that is not only a layout-headache less but also saves unnecessary printing for the paper version with the number of pages also growing with the growth of the Institute! BUT we do not want to leave our principle of bridging nationalities and so, whether you get this as an email attachment or the print version, we want to ensure you still have the possibility to get both languages: **So please let us know as soon as possible if you would like to have BOTH English and German editions going forward, or indeed, if we have made a mistake and are sending you the *wrong* language!**

**With warm regards
your Newsletter**

Karl König

Karl König Archive Newsletter



At the Karl König Archives in Aberdeen
 from left: Christoph Hänni, Dr. Stefan Geider,
 David Coe, Richard Steel, Friedwart Bock

Here is a look back to 2009 –
 and you can still view it all on our website:

<https://www.karlkoeniginstitute.org/de/newsletter.asp>

Contents

A note to our readers	
<i>Richard Steel</i>	1
The House of Peace	
<i>Carrie and John Schuchardt</i>	2
Winter Reading	
<i>Richard Steel</i>	4
In memory of Peill-Meininghaus	
<i>Frauke Römer</i>	6
Inner Connections Conference	
<i>Cornelius Pietzner</i>	8

Our office in North America is open! And we need your help!
For donations in USA and Canada we cooperate with the Camphill Foundation:

Camphill Foundation
 285 Hungry Hollow Road
 Chestnut Ridge, NY 10977

Donations page: <https://www.camphillfoundation.org/donate/>
 Checks must be made payable to Camphill Foundation, with a note in the memo line indicating Karl König Institute. If you have any questions please contact Catherine Robinson at the Camphill Foundation.

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The House of Peace

A Reflection by Founders Carrie and John Schuchardt

*We shall confront the suffering of the earth and its displaced peoples
with a thought of the heart manifested in community life where
some of the givers of healing and special care are themselves bearing special needs.*
(from the Principles and Purposes of the House of Peace)

In 1990 the House of Peace was founded with a unique mission to provide physical and spiritual shelter to victims of war within a small healing community which includes adults with special abilities offering their gifts to extend unconditional hospitality. How incredibly fitting, and perhaps prophetic it was, that the signing over of the historic 1727 Rogers Manse in Ipswich, Massachusetts to this fledgling initiative occurred on June 1, 1990--the fiftieth anniversary of the move of Dr. Konig and his circle of fellow refugees into Camphill House in Aberdeen, Scotland. From its inception the House of Peace was inspired by Dr. Konig's essential guidance and fundamental principles of social therapy, and his call to care for orphans and refugees.

1990 also saw the international adoption of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, a new start for new generations. Into this cycle of time the House of Peace was born, hoping that our "thought of the heart" would create a sanctuary for those struggling to heal from the wounds of an endless variety of wars. Central to our intention was, and always is, the "enigma" of another time...the enlightening presence of Kaspar Hauser, himself a person uprooted from his identity and destiny, plunged into the trauma of incarceration and punishment, bearer of gifts of innocence, contentment and forgiveness.

Our paths in life were a powerful preparation for this adventure in community building. John, a lawyer, was immersed for years in efforts for moral awakening, for the abolition of war and the deadly weapons of war. Carrie, born into a family with a child with special needs, shared life in Camphill for seventeen years, becoming during that time foster mother to several young refugees from Viet-

nam. This led to the tragic realization that "War is the ultimate handicapping condition." It also revealed the unique gifts of people so often labeled disabled to welcome and enthusiastically relate to refugees devastated by war.

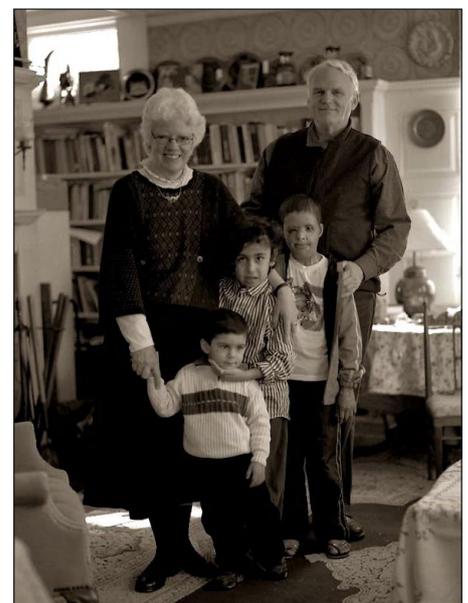
From all this came the call to establish a center of healing ...a House of Peace. Colleagues and mentors within Camphill wisely guided and lovingly supported the initiative. The founding Principles and Purposes, outlining a threefold structure of community life with refugees, were formulated. The non-profit status of the endeavor was confirmed and the first miraculous funds for the purchase of a large house, 30 miles north of Boston, appeared. This center of Ipswich history has proven to be the perfect setting. In this famous historic home, those fleeing religious and political persecution found refuge in the care of Rev. Nathaniel Rogers, a participant in the Great Awakening in early New England. Surrounding woods and gardens hold the echo of the indigenous peoples whose land this truly is, sacred ground upon which we walk, mindful of the responsibility of our stewardship.

Early days and many days were tumultuous and challenging as we encountered the depths of refugee trauma and the courageous quest for survival. As war followed war into a new millennium, several hundred refugees from over 30 countries found their way to this shelter by the sea, receiving housing and food, medical care and soul support, educational and employment opportunities, and eventually a way into the future. Refugee and soldier, the struggling and the strong ones, students and teachers, veterans and peacemakers, desperate parents with war-disoriented children, the ill and the dying and the soon-to-be-born have all formed our life, re-for-

med our vision and blessed our every day and night.

How little we could anticipate three decades ago the unfathomable abyss of suffering we would encounter and the infinity of compassion set free to offer healing strength and help. How attuned we needed to become to the profound cries of the motherless child and the childless mother and the numberless teachers of a universal language that alone can respond to the frightened tears of traumatized souls in dark nights—and the force of peace that can lead to peace in the light of day. And how humbled we continue to be at the accompaniment of countless friends, known and unknown, close by and especially those beyond the threshold, who support this work and make all things possible.

Volunteers from local community groups, schools and churches participate in all aspects of our life. The light-filled, spacious "Upper Room" in our adjoining barn hosts events of all kinds, most significantly the many activities and festivals of our Anthroposophical Society of Cape Ann. Ga-



Carrie and John with iraqi children

therings of our refugee friends and alumni, so many of whom live nearby, are frequent, and the nurturing of cultures is a fundamental aspect of our community. Partnerships with Boston's major refugee resettlement agencies and with both national and international groups provides us with a constant stream of people in need of shelter and support, often as asylum seekers and most often now as children with severe war-related injuries receiving medical treatment at area hospitals. Funding for the many facets of our work to meet the needs of the most wounded and afflicted flows from a local and worldwide circle of friends and supporters. Ours is a small drop of healing in an ocean of suffering, but the generosity of those who make it possible is immense.

In 1964 Dr. König warned: *We are placed into apocalyptic events; we have to behold death and destruction, the outer tumult, the inner stillness. Every one, every single person, is a piece of apocalypse. Every one of us is, in this sense, of apocalyptic nature. Nevertheless we carry within this apocalypse the immaculate pure image of God whereby we can recognize each other.* (Karl König, Advent 1964 at Fohrenbuhl).



Light from the House of Peace by night

Under the mantle of Kaspar Hauser and Karl König we continue to attempt to serve as people of the apocalypse, sharing in full measure both deep pains and incredibly rich joys. For 33 years our pillars have been Gratitude and Trust:

*Thanks for all that has been.
Yes to all that will come.*

In hope we await and invite those who would feel the call to share and carry on this task, uniting with a "thought of the heart manifested in community life," this House of Peace.

The House of Peace is in a process of transition from its founders to new people who, together with its Board of Directors and Advisors, will carry this task on.

We are looking for people devoted to community life who wish to serve refugees in companionship with friends with special needs and abilities.

Please contact us:

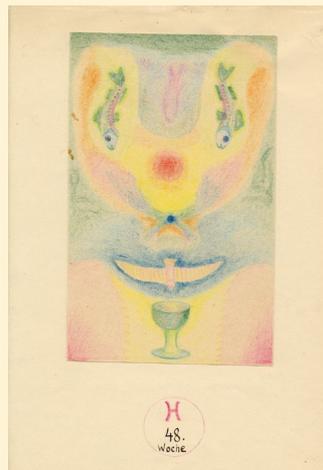
Carrie and John Schuchardt

Email: thehouseofpeace@yahoo.com

Phone: (1-978-356-9395)

<https://www.houseofpeaceinc.org/>

This exhibition of Karl König's 52 illustrative drawings for the verses of the Calendar of the Soul will be touring North America soon (May 2023 – June 2024)



From the last exhibition: "...an amazing, beautiful and unique collection of Karl König's drawings, bringing the weekly verses of the Calendar of the Soul to a new level of experience. Entering into a space where all these pictures are hanging is a magical experience; the inner aspects of the year are all around you and deep secrets and hidden rhythms can be discovered."

Would you like an exhibition in your area?

We also offer guided tours through the exhibition and talks including various aspects

NEVER BEFORE WAS OUR CONNECTION SO VITAL TO THE YEARLY RHYTHMS AND THE BREATHING PROCESS OF THE BEING OF THIS EARTH!!

Please contact us with your ideas and for more information

Winter reading ideas and News for the New Year

Richard Steel

In every continent around the planet, the question of our climate is the center of attention! For the past year the Karl König Institute has explored ideas about the more inner questions of climate change – looking for possibilities to become active on various levels. It seems that something Karl König was already concerned about can be a center of activity for every individual as well as in community – namely to find a new and deeper connection to the living being of the Earth, the seasons and the realms of nature. We already published the wonderful collection of essays, called **Animals – An Imaginative Zoology**. The original German is titled *Brother Animal* because the title of the last essay Karl König wrote (and could no longer finish) was Brother Horse. It has a special feel to it and reminds us of Francis of Assisi who was declared “patron saint” of ecology by Pope John Paul II.

Already in 1932 König was pointing in a special way to our responsibility towards the earth and showed quite clearly how our celebrations of the festivals is not something for our own enjoyment only but is an integral part of a healthy connection of the human being standing between the earth and the cosmos. And of course is an important life-stream for community building – a theme that König picked up with growing awareness and also growing strength in the development of the Camphill Movement. His words in the address for Whitsun 1932 in Pilgramshain:

If we now realize that we have practically lost sight of the way in which our life is bound up with the seasons, we shall see why it is that we can no longer recognize the power and necessity of the great festivals of the year. [...] If we no longer believe that these festivals are essential for our own being, we shall naturally find it impossible to accept the idea that they are also essential for the life of the earth. We have learned to think biologically in the last decades, but we have altogether forgotten to consider soul and spirit.

Then he stated something that was perhaps strange for those listening in 1932, but today it should surely be more accessible as it corresponds directly with the catastrophes we are experiencing continuously:

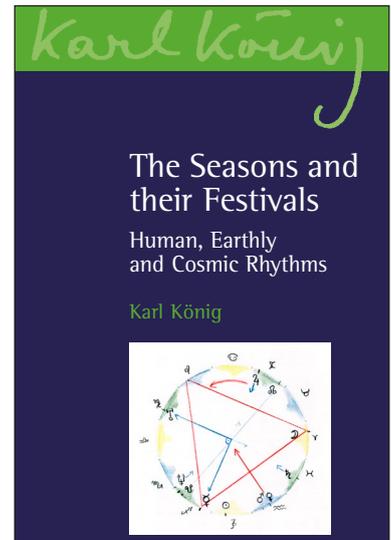
If these festivals were to be abolished (as many in this age seem to desire), then not only the human being but the earth too would be shaken out of the true rhythm of being and lose the forces implicit in the process of breathing.

This text, as well as many others towards a renewal of the festivals, can be found in our latest volume of the New Edition of Karl König's works: **The Seasons and their Festivals – Human, Earthly and Cosmic Rhythms**. This is our 2022 addition to the series and is volume 21, meaning that since 2008, when we began founding the Karl König Institute, 21 volumes have been printed in English, 22 in German and there are also 43 translations, with translations into 14 further languages having been commissioned! (And of course we also have related books that are not in the series, like the one on **Kaspar Hauser, Child of Europe**, and Anne Weise's beautiful illustrated account of the previously lost biography of **Alfred Bergel**, König's childhood friend).¹

And while all the volumes have their own significance for today's questions and in their respective subject areas, probably we have reached a milestone with the relevance of **The Seasons and their Festivals**. Is there not a direct connection between the rhythms König speaks about and the climate question? Perhaps one could even say that climate is the expression of the rhythmic realm of the earth.

In the special light of this volume we can see the work the Institute has been doing since Easter in Richard Steel's weekly talk sessions on the Calendar of the Soul as guided, ac-

¹ And soon Deborah will be reaching out from the North American office with news about a very new impulse supported by friends of the Institute and presented, not by „professionals“ but by enthusiastic readers: **Karl König Audio Books!**



companied by Karl König's interpretive drawings. These drawings were made in war-time after König and the other male pioneers of Camphill had been interned as “enemy aliens” (a step that happened very soon after they had become refugees in a strange land). It is very moving to be part of these weekly sessions and realize that about 500 people around the world are joining in this regular (rhythmic!) endeavor to find a new relationship between their own soul and the course of the year with its seasons and festivals. This artistic approach to the complex wonder of the “architecture” of the 52 verses already points along the path which Rudolf Steiner mentions in a simple sentence in the short introduction to the Calendar:

The soul becomes fully aware of the delicate, yet vital threads that exist between itself and the world into which it has been born.

It really is meant as the foundation for a new connection of the human soul to the world itself and through the inherent rhythms also to a new experience of the element of time. And yes, these vital threads between our soul and the being of the earth are indeed delicate; endangered today even! But it is also quite clear in the German – and unfortunately so difficult to translate that this expression is usually missing in the English: *A path of self recognition through the feeling realm is meant*. This is also very new – yet we can assume through this comment that for the future we will need to cultivate our

realm of feeling to become an organ of recognition! This is a big theme in itself, expressed very shortly and carefully in the introductory words by Rudolf Steiner for the second printing of the 52 verses which was sent in cigarette packets (Waldorf Astoria) to the soldiers in the front lines in 1918!

It also became the guiding principle for the opening of the first Waldorf School in Stuttgart, where Steiner developed the foundation out of the need of the child to *learn to breathe* harmoniously, and to develop a *healthy feeling realm* to connect between thinking and willing, to help connect also between the earthly world and the spirit. What better way to strengthen this feeling realm than through art?² Therefore the significance of art in Waldorf education.

Here also lies the reason that after a year (at Easter 2023) of weekly sessions on the 52 verses and Karl König's pictures, we will to now take the originals of these pictures "on tour"! **They will be at our co-sponsored climate conference in Sweden after Easter 2023** and then make their way for the first time across the Atlantic to North America. More information about these events is included in this *Newsletter*.

With this I would like to remind our readers that the weekly sessions of our "Journey Through the Inner Year" are still available, being recorded and accessible online – so those interested can join us anytime and not miss out on what has developed since Easter 2022!³ (And at Easter 2023, we will begin this inner journey in German).

Please see: <https://www.karlkoeniginstitute.org/en/NewsEvents/An-Inner-Journey-through-the-Year>

Do help us find the right venues for exhibitions and conferences in North America 2023 – 2024 and stay tuned to our "Events" page!

² Our next English volume for Easter 2023 is a new and comprehensively annotated edition of **The First Three Years of the Child**, which Jan Goechel has put a lot of work into in order to make it even more beneficial for anyone connected in any way with child development.

³ It is still in the early planning stage, but in our next Newsletter we will let you know what will be published from our Calendar of the Soul talks project!

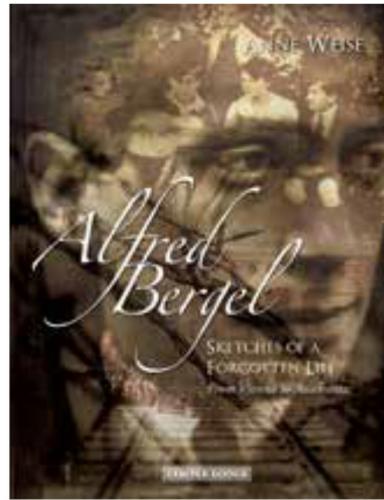
Finally – thank you all for your interest and support in 2022! Do stay with us for the exciting steps into 2023.....

I do hope I have given you enough ideas for your winter reading, for choosing gifts for good friends, **and**,

above all, enough to look forward to in the New Year!

With warmest wishes from the Karl König Institute,

Richard Steel



Anne Weise
Alfred Bergel

Sketches of a
Forgotten Life
From Vienna to Auschwitz
Temple Lodge, 2021

This is a well-researched and detailed study of the life of Alfred Bergel, a Jewish artist and professor of art history who was a close boyhood friend of Karl König in Vienna. Their special friendship

faded somewhat as they grew into manhood, and König did not know of his old friend's fate. Bergel and his wife Sophie were deported to the Theresienstadt concentration camp, where amidst the harsh and cruel conditions an astonishing cultural life was created by the inmates, to which Bergel contributed with teaching and lecturing. He was also obliged to copy famous works of art for his SS jailers, and these probably had to include works which were passed off as originals by the Nazis and sold on the art market – a less well-known aspect of their criminality. The illustrations included in the book show that he had a remarkable talent from early youth. In 1944, however, he was deported to Auschwitz where his life ended. Sophie, however, survived and later emigrated to Israel. Included are stories of the remarkable courage and persistence of the prisoners as they had opportunities for art, music and study and also anthroposophical lectures under the heading of 'philosophical studies', and even religious services held from memory in small groups – these included a little Christian Community group who met to create The Act of Consecration of Man. It is not known whether Bergel took part in these latter events as he was not drawn to anthroposophy when a young man in König's company. It should be remembered, however, that the camp was still a place of terror and far from being the comfortable situation the Nazis tried falsely to portray. The book includes details of the fates of other family members and testimonials from surviving friends. It is a remarkable account from a terrible chapter of history, often very painful reading, but well worth the effort in order to acclaim their fortitude and endurance – irrespective of actual survival. The author is to be congratulated on her meticulous research and fine presentation which does justice to her subject. Bergel's individual ultimately tragic destiny serves as a reminder to honour those thousands upon thousands of victims unknown.

In memory of Karen and Günter Peill-Meininghaus

6.4.1930 - 18.7.2022 und 8.7.1928 - 26.7.2022

Frauke Römer, Lehenhof



The festive opening of the village community Lehenhof, Deggenhausertal, Lake Constance, took place on the last birthday of Karl König, on September 25, 1965. In the picture you can see Karl König (left), next to him probably the representative of the authorities from Friedrichshafen, then Günter Peill-Meininghaus. It was particularly important for Karl König that this beginning of the "village work" could be made in Central Europe. The opening speech is very special; it can be read in its entirety in the biography "Karl König" by Hans Müller-Wiedemann. (Stuttgart 2016). The association for this village work was just founded in the home of the Peill-Meininghauses, in Düren, between Aachen and Cologne.

High in the atmosphere above Earth, water collects around a crystal nucleus, forming a raindrop. As the weather changes, it rises or falls and grows, whirling together with other drops, until it falls to the earth.

Karen and Günter first met at Easter 1950 at a train station in the Ruhr area, where he picked her up and fell in love with her through the train window. His sister had previously shown him a picture of her with skis in her arms and a pipe in her mouth, to which he, spoiled by success, jokingly said "let her come". The marriage, which was concluded the next year, lasted until the summer of 2022, when they died in Berlin, a few days apart and "really full of life".

Born before the Second World War, their childhood and youth were shaken and stirred up by what was happening in Germany. Karen's biological mother died just a few months after her birth, her stepmother died in the Adlon in Berlin, and Günter's father died in a bomb attack in the air-raid shelter of his parents' house. Karen lived with host families, with friends, at boarding school, occasionally also in the family business household, later she trained as a bookseller. Günter was drafted at 16 years old, and placed

in the anti-aircraft defense, a challenge also because of the need for technical ability. At times, trainers appeared in the mornings to give lessons, and then the attacks came at night. Günter kept track of the exact hits and later wondered how it could be that he didn't think about the people who lost their lives in the process. No wars could be fought if people weren't able to suppress things like this, he notes in his diary. After graduating from high school, he studied physics and, mediated by his father-in-law, found work in the Peill&Putzler glassworks, which he accepted very enthusiastically.

The economic miracle and reconstruction of Germany as a general climate, offered the two extremely active people, who were not willing to let themselves get idle, the opportunity to run a large house in Düren, which was to become a refuge and home for a large, ever-changing family community.

The crystal core of this eventful life was Nadia, born on March 12, 1955. Nadia, initially a healthy, happy baby, developed severe peculiarities in the first year of life, possibly in connection with an ether anesthesia for known hip dysplasia, which soon made life with her a power-

ful challenge for the young family. On advice of a professor of paediatrics, the parents looked for an anthroposophical institution and, after a long search, found Brachenreuthe at Lake Constance. Since all the children there were personally taken in by Karl König, Nadia had to be introduced to him. He looked at Nadia and promised to help. Shortly thereafter she was offered a place in Camphill in Thornbury/England, where she was able to live up to the age of 14 without being bothered by official interference. Her parents brought her home for the summer and winter holidays. The experience with this child made Karen and Günter decide to set up a home for children in need of support in Germany. Karl König, whom they visited several times in London and asked for help, initially refused, but finally gave in. If they wanted to help build such a village in Germany, and promised to support them.

At that time Günter was managing director of the prosperous glassworks in Düren with many hundreds of employees. As an art-loving couple, he and Karen took an active part in the social life of the towns on the Lower Rhine. They began an intensive search for a suitable location to found a village, for financial means

and for fellow campaigners. On recommendation, Günter turned to the lawyer and notary W.E. Barkhoff in Bochum, who, enthusiastic as he was, quickly presented a draft of the association's statutes. At an evening of lectures with Karl König, money for founding the association "Dorf-gemeinschaft Düren e.V." was collected in a hat. The village was founded by Karl König, W.E. Barkhoff, Günter Peill-Meininghaus and a friend of the family as board members. Günter calls the encounter with W.E. Barkhoff destiny-turning. Nadia, the crystal core of this coming together of so many human paths, could never be cared for in Camphill in Germany in the way she needed - a tragedy and lifelong pain for the parents. At the time the association was founded, however, the Lehenhof had not yet been found. It took a good two more years of intensive searching until the lease in Brachenreuth expired, which the association was then able to take over spontaneously. The further search in the Lake Constance area was continued. Shortly thereafter, the Lehenhof, was found on the market. Within four weeks, Günter Peill-Meininghaus, with his convincing demeanor and extremely engaging nature, managed to collect 250,000 DM, and won grants from the Rhineland Regional Council against occupancy rights and the state of Baden Württemberg, as well as a loan for the rest. After tough negotiations and a sudden increase in the purchase price on the part of the owners, W.E. Barkhoff and Günter Peill-Meininghaus signed the purchase anyway, although it was not clear where the remaining money could come from. In September 1964 the clearing out and moving in could begin.

Günter traveled to the Lake of Constance every one to two months for the next few years to attend the board meetings of the association, which was later renamed Camphill Dorfgemeinschaften e.V. The friendships with W.E. Barkhoff, Karl König, Alix Roth, Carlo Pietzner and many others led to Karen and Günter being involved with anthroposophy for many years and Günter's membership in the Society for around 30 years. The relationship with Barkhoff also led to a collaboration in the newly founded "Gemeinnüt-

zige Treuhandstelle Bochum", as well as on the board of the regional association of the DPWV (German Parity Welfare Association), of which Barkhoff was chairman.

Meanwhile, the family had grown to include Nadia's sister and two foster children. Shortly after the birth of their fifth child in April 1970, Günter was relieved of his position as managing director by his father-in-law and the supervisory board at Peill&Putzler without prior notice. This blow hit him hard and unexpected. On the same day he vacated his office to face a completely open future.

Many applications, many discussions were held, which ultimately did not lead to the new employment until W.E. Barkhoff approached Günter with a request for support from one of his clients and immediately provided him with an office and a telephone. This assignment led to the idea of founding the "Project Society Bochum" and becoming self-employed. Now he was able to conclude the first honorary contract and also take over the building owner representation of the DPWV for the new building of a student residence with 580 places. Further employees were soon found, with whom the entrepreneurial tasks in the preparation and implementation of construction projects, throughout Germany and primarily for social institutions or schools, were taken over.

After a difficult farewell to the beloved home in Düren, the focus of life was completely shifted to the Ruhr area. The children attended the Waldorf school in Langendreher, which played a large part in family life with countless parents' evenings, class plays and bazaars. The large house of the family offered many young people from all directions "special asylum" for short or longer periods. Throughout her life, Karen loved and understood being with many different people. She was extremely outgoing, open, generous and always full of interest and cultivated many friendships with people of all ages.

Günter was soon appointed to the supervisory board of GLS-Bank, and for years he was involved in the development of the bank and

GLS-Treuhand, of which he was chairman of the supervisory board.

Toward the age of 70, Günter consequently released himself from all tasks and offices, they moved to Berlin near their youngest son and sixth child, born in 1972, and once again began a new and final phase of life. Karen was quickly able to provide information about which directors created something worth seeing and which gallery showed important pictures. They were regulars at the Schaubühne and could be seen taking a walk in the Grunewald every day. Günter attended painting courses and was soon able to do entire exhibitions. While he was painting, Karen took piano lessons, played music, or prepared delicious meals for an ever-growing circle of friends. It was amazing.

With all the abundance of external life, the friendships, the participation in cultural life, and all the additional obligations, Günter always cultivated the study of different philosophies and worldviews. A questioner throughout his life, he searched for "what holds the world together at its core", the laws of evolution and for his own inner center. In many conversations with Karen or friends, which could also make Karen impatient, he tried to find out whether the answers were to come from within himself, from another person or from the universe? In spite of an enormous lifetime achievement, it wasn't his successes which occupied him extensively. They made him grateful, but not lazy, complacent or arrogant. They were natural steps on a path whose goal he sought to unravel throughout his lifetime.

Wonderfully life-affirming as Karen was, she had forbidden eulogies and black clothes at the grave. Their farewell should be celebrated with a big party!

All of us, whose shared destiny is based on the meeting of the family, Karen, Günter and Nadia with Karl König and W.E. Barkhoff, we all owe our fate to Günter's entrepreneurial skills! May our gratitude find him.

Frauke Römer, Lehenhof
Translation: Jessica Zumpfe

**IN-PERSON PUBLIC CONFERENCE
APRIL 13-16, 2023, YTTERJÄRNA, SWEDEN**

**(CO-SPONSORED BY THE KARL KÖNIG INSTITUTE AND
THE KULTURHUSET, JÄRNA)**

**'INNER CONNECTIONS:
SOUL BREATHING AND NATURE BREATHING'**

WWW.INNERCONNECTIONS.ORG

With a special exhibition of original drawings By Dr. Karl König related to the Calendar of the Soul verses. The exhibition shows all 52 pictures of the weekly verses, drawn in 1940 in the internment camp for so-called "enemy aliens" on the Isle of Man, England. Additionally, there are 13 medallions on the Metamorphosis of the Cross, depicting the harmony of the four seasons throughout the year using the Soul Calendar verses. These meditative drawings can serve as a guide to a deeper understanding of the verses of the Soul Calendar.

Context:

Most people understand that the earth is suffering. The symptoms of this are dramatic and are affecting millions of lives around the world.

What does this have to do with us? Humankind is not only a part of nature, it is akin to nature. Both live in rhythms that are connected to each other. Rhythms are expressed in the flow of time, which itself is a hallmark of all living beings, whether in the seasonal cycles of nature or the rhythms of the human soul.

Thus, the war against nature is ultimately a war against ourselves. Exploring a deeper understanding of ourselves and our intrinsic relationship to nature is therefore a useful perspective to bring harmony to this essential symbiosis.

In this conference, we will explore the inner connections- and consequences- of this relationship through a variety of conversations, lectures, and exhibitions with scien-

tists, activists, politicians, artists and others.

Aims:

The intention is bring an interdisciplinary group of experts and practitioners together to explore, discuss, engage and inspire. Combining a variety of perspectives and backgrounds on the conference theme with artistic and practical workshops, as well as conversation settings, the conference moves from inner connections between human beings and nature to outer engagements and initiatives, ending with panel discussions related to the question: "What has this to do with me?"

Cornelius Pietzner

**'Inner Connections:
Soul Breathing and Nature Breathing'**

In person, In Ytterjärna - the biodynamic heart of Sweden

Exploring a new understanding of ourselves and nature in times of crisis, with exhibitions of meditative images

This gathering is a combination of conversations, lectures, and exhibitions. The lectures will shed light on the climate issue from different perspectives: scientific, evolutionary, spiritual, psychological, and artistic.

Our attitude towards nature is critically important, because we have acquired the power both to alter and destroy nature. Humankind is a part of nature and its war against nature is ultimately a war against humanity itself. Climate change, and extreme weather phenomena and a suffering natural world cry out for a new and deeper understanding of the inner connection between the rhythms of the human soul and those of the natural world. This event is intended to explore these aspects from a deeper viewpoint, the aim being to reconfirm the harmony between man and nature that has to exist for humankind to prosper.

Presenters-list (incomplete)



• **Nora Bateson** award-winning filmmaker, writer, educator, Pres. Intl. Bateson Institute



• **Dr. (med) Ursula Flatters** co-founder Vidar Clinic, and international speaker



• **Johan Rockström** (tbc) Professor of Environmental Science at Stockholm University and Head of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research



• **Dr (med) Stefan Ruf** specialist in psychotherapy, author and speaker



• **Richard Steel** CEO of the Karl König Institute, Berlin, author and speaker.



• **Pella Thiel** Swedish ecologist and activist, coordinator 'Rights of Nature Conferences', teacher eco psychology.



• **Andreas Weber** evolutionary biologist, author and speaker



• **Anders Wijkman** (tbc) Swedish author, Honorary President Club of Rome and former politician

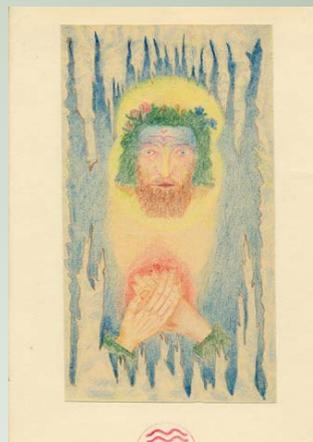
The "Calendar of the Soul" are fifty-two meditative verses, one for each week of the year, written by Rudolf Steiner¹. They reflect the gradual changes of the soul during the year in relation to the seasonal rhythms in nature.

Becoming aware of the synchronicity in the rhythmic life of the human soul and the earth is a deepening step towards our healing relationship with nature and the earth.

With inspiration from the "Calendar of the Soul, Dr. Karl König² and Thor Olsen³ have each created fifty-two pictures related to each calendar verse.

These drawings will be exhibited in original at this event with workshops and discussions.

The pictures in combination with the verses are intended to explore the inner connection between the rhythms of the human soul and those of the natural world.



Picture by: Karl König



Picture by: Thor Olsen