

DICTIONARY
of Gnosis
& Western
Esotericism



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Dictionary Of Gnosis And Western Esotericism Vol Set

**William Hughes,David Punter,Andrew
Smith**



Dictionary Of Gnosis And Western Esotericism Vol Set:

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Faivre,2010-02-01 An overview of Western esoteric currents since late antiquity with an emphasis on the last six centuries Widely received in France this brief comprehensive introduction to Western esotericism by the founder of the field is at last available in English A historical and pedagogical guide the book is written primarily for students and novices In clear precise language author Antoine Faivre provides an overview of Western esoteric currents since late antiquity The bulk of the book is laid out chronologically from ancient and medieval sources Alexandrian Hermetism Gnosticism Neoplatonism through the Renaissance up to the present time Its coverage includes spiritual alchemy Jewish and Christian Kabbalah Christian theosophy Rosicrucianism Illuminism mystical Freemasonry the occultist current Theosophical and Anthroposophical Societies the Traditionalist School and esotericism in contemporary initiatic societies and in New Religious Movements Faivre explores how these currents are connected and refers to where they appear in art and literature The book concludes with an annotated bibliography which makes it an essential resource for beginners and scholars alike A characteristically erudite sweeping brief survey of the field of Western esotericism at once accessible and bristling with details This is a valuable overview from the inimitable perspective of the field s founder for those who wish to delve into this fascinating and thriving area of contemporary scholarship Arthur Versluis author of *Restoring Paradise Wisdom s Children and Magic and Mysticism* The classic survey of Western esotericism by the most knowledgeable and influential scholar of his generation is now finally accessible to English readers in an updated edition that takes account of current developments This small but precious volume will be indispensable for anybody who wishes to be well informed about the historical backgrounds and development of esoteric currents from antiquity to the present Wouter J Hanegraaff University of Amsterdam *Dictionary of Gnosis & Western Esotericism: I* Wouter J. Hanegraaff,Antoine Faivre,R. van den Broek,Jean-Pierre Brach,2005 Now available in one volume this is the first comprehensive reference work to cover the entire domain of Gnosis and Western Esotericism from the period of Late Antiquity to the present Containing around 400 articles by over 180 international specialists it provides critical overviews discussing the nature and historical development of all its important currents and manifestations from Gnosticism and Hermetism to Astrology Alchemy and Magic from the Hermetic Tradition of the Renaissance to Rosicrucianism and Christian Theosophy and from Freemasonry and Illuminism to 19th century Occultism and the contemporary New Age movement Furthermore it contains articles about the life and work of all the major personalities in the history of Gnosis and Western Esotericism discussing their ideas significance and historical influence This one volume edition is an unabridged version of the two volume edition published in 2005 *Mystery and Secrecy in the Nag Hammadi Collection and Other Ancient Literature: Ideas and Practices* Christian H. Bull,Liv Lied,John D. Turner,2011-10-28 Mystery and secrecy were central concepts in the ritual rhetoric and sociological stratification of antique Mediterranean religions That the ultimate nature and workings of the divine were secret and either could not or should not be revealed except as a mystery for the initiated was widely accepted among Pagans Jews and then Christians both Gnostic and otherwise

The similarities and differences in the language of mystery and secrecy across religious and cultural borders are thus crucial for understanding this important period of the history of religions. The present anthology aims to present and analyze a wide selection of sources elucidating this theme reflecting the correspondingly wide scholarly interests of Professor Einar Thomassen in honor of his 60th birthday.

Gurdjieff and Music Johanna Petsche, 2015-02-04 In Gurdjieff and Music Johanna Petsche examines the large and diverse body of piano music produced by Armenian Greek spiritual teacher G. I. Gurdjieff c. 1866-1949 in collaboration with his devoted pupil Thomas de Hartmann 1885-1956. Petsche draws on a range of unpublished materials and data from original field research to critically situate and assess this music within its socio-cultural and unique religious-spiritual context. Focusing on the tremendous role that music played in the life and teaching of Gurdjieff, Petsche chronicles the unique relationship and collaboration between Gurdjieff and de Hartmann, analyses the styles and possible sources of their music, and explores Gurdjieff's ultimate intentions for the music in light of his esoteric teaching.

The Oxford Handbook of Tantric Studies Payne, 2023-11-15 Since the earliest encounters between tantric traditions and Western scholars, tantra has posed a challenge. Representation of tantra has tended to emphasize the antinomian, decadent aspects, which, as attention-grabbing as they were for Western audiences, hampered the study of the field. The *Oxford Handbook of Tantric Studies* is intended to overcome these obstacles, facilitating collaboration between scholars working on different forms of tantra and in different disciplines. With more than forty chapters and a global pool of contributors, the Handbook aims to be the definitive reference work in the field, exploring core topics such as action, transformation, embodiment, art, language, and social movements. The first chapter provides an overview of major issues confronting the field today, including debates regarding the definition and category of tantra, historical origins and dating, and recent developments in gender studies and tantra ethnography, and lived tantra and cognitive approaches to the study of tantra. Using a topical framework, the opening section explores the concept of action, one of the most prominent features of tantra, which includes performing rituals, practicing meditation, chanting, embarking on a pilgrimage, or reenacting moments from a sacred text. From there, the sections cover broad topics such as transformation, esoteriology, and healing; gender and embodiment; extraordinary beings, such as deities and saints; art and visual expressions; language and literature; social organizations; and the history and historiography of tantra.

Keywords: tantric studies, tantra, Buddhism, Hinduism, Jainism, ritual, esoteriology, meditation, embodiment, yoga.

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