

The School for the Mysteries of the Embodied Arts

Welcome to the Dark Eros Salon, your haven for your journey into the *Mysteries of the Embodied Arts and your Wild Dark Creative Daemon* 

I'm Kathleen Prophet and I am delighted you have chosen to join me and others on this sacred 12 week journey into your wild dark psyche ~ your Daemon.

Your Daemon only opens to you through a particular Tao, a sacred way. This Tao is...
1) intention 2) great love, respect and care 3) the skills of the Embodied Arts. These skills are what you will be learning during our time together. The Embodied Arts hold the keys to opening the deeper mysteries of who you are.

**What is your Daemon?** Some consider their Daemon to be their God. Others, their Muse. The Universe. A guiding spirit or guardian angel. Archetypes are also thought of as Daemons. And so is the personal unconscious.

I consider the living force that is the uniqueness of your psyche, your fingerprint of Self, to be your *Wild Creative Daemon*.

Imagine yourself to be in the center of a Mandala... a large spherical design fashioning itself from pulsating, swirling energies of nature. Your Daemon is the force of this evolutionary pattern seeded in you. It is made up of the physical, emotional, mental and archetypal energies of your family, your ancestors, the Zeitgeist of your era, and your biological-instinctual intelligence from its earliest beginnings ~ its gifts *and* wounds ~ and is dynamically evolving you beyond into what is uniquely and exquisitely your own. This is the living dimensional Mandala of who you are.

In this program you will be exploring these different energies so as to experience and see more of the gestalt, the larger image of who you are, and tap into this deeper intelligence that is operating in you. It is so much more comprehensive than who and what you perceive yourself to be. James Hillman, an archetypal psychologist, suggests that it takes a lifetime to unpack the image of the Daemon. After my intensive work with my own Daemon over the last 12 years, I absolutely agree. This *is* a journey of a lifetime.

The challenge and why many do not embark on this journey is that it is fraught with the darkness that terrifies us... the wounds that haunt us, the dark characters which inhabit our dreams, the fear of our madness. Our Daemon exists as much in these aspects of

ourselves as it does in the bright shadow which also terrifies us! Our greatness! Which we project upon others because of our discomfort with owning it ourselves. We prefer the idolatry of our gods than becoming one ourself.

The more you are in touch with and dancing with your Daemon, the richer your life is on all fronts. You see, hear, and smell the Legend that is *your* life, living *your* myth, as Carl Jung and Joseph Campbell called it. The Legend of YOU. You are able to open more fully to the whole catastrophe of who you are and what Life IS. Not just the good and the successes. When we read the stories of our favorite heros and the legends of their lives, they include as much adversity as they do glory. This is what we are drawn to. Some never see the glory of success we in this culture are hooked on. But they are fully committed to their mission, their Daemon. There is no question to them of its value.

I think of Emily Dickinson sewing poetry into her dress and in the lining of her drawers to hide and protect it from being destroyed. She knew the zeitgeist of her era could not hold her genius. Her art, her poetry, would have to wait for other generations to meet its destiny. She knew this and still cared for it like it was the most precious thing in existence. And it was. And is.

Everyone has a talent, what is rare is the courage to follow the talent to the dark place where it leads. ~ Erica Jong



I look forward to our journey together into this terrain of your brilliant cyptic wild dark Daemon that is made from the stuff of all of who you are. And more.

# **Included in your downloads are:**

The Art of Witnessing introduces you to the practice of Witnessing which we will be holding our space with in the Dark Eros Salon. There is a particular way to respond to depth work... our authentic writing and the images of our art work... which I outline in this document and will review in our first session as well. Witnessing is an Art that requires practice. Please do not feel nervous about whether you are doing it right or not. Through the practice, you will be guided by me and its Daemon.

The Prepared Environment & Materials List for your Art supplies. The art materials are important alchemical tools for your work. The materials are not expensive, which is a key to their success. Follow the guidelines for what to purchase. You want to feel free to use as much of materials as you need and if they are expensive you may feel inhibited or pressured to produce great art. We are creating expressive art and therefore the process is what is important. The images that do result are important to the psyche, not to the technical artist.

I have linked to art supply outlets so you can purchase these materials online as well as put them in a shopping list to print out if you prefer to go to a nearby store. Those of you outside of the United States need to find these products locally.

**Resource list:** Books and one dvd which I would like you to purchase. These are exceptional resources that you will want to have for the rest of your life. I have been using them for years. They do not become outdated.

**Astrology** I want you to send me your astrology information if you haven't done so already. Your birth date/time and place you were born. The exact time is very important.

**Link to my Book and mp3 recording**: *Mysteries of the Embodied Arts* ~ *The First Gateway: the Wild Criatura*. Read the first section of the book even if you already have. We will be doing an extended version on the *Wild Criatura* in one of our sessions, so you don't have to do the movement/expressive art meditation again right now.

Links to my blog posts on the Daemon which you may have read. Please re-read them before we begin.

## **Quotes on the Daemon**

#### Martha Graham

"There is a vitality, a life force, an energy, a quickening that is translated through you into action. And because there is only one of you in all time, this expression is unique. And if you block it, it will never exist through any other medium, and be lost. The world will not have it. It is not your business to determine how good it is, or how valuable, or how it compares with other expressions. It is your business to keep the channel open. You have to keep open and aware directly to the urges that actuate you. Keep the channel open."

#### **Nietzsche:**

"I tell you: one must have chaos within oneself to give birth to a dancing star."

"Here, when the danger to his will is greatest, *art* approaches as a saving sorceress, expert at healing. She alone knows how to turn these nauseous thoughts about the horror or absurdity of existence into notions with which one can live."

"He is no longer an artist, he has become a work of art."

#### **Erica Jong:**

"Everyone has a talent, what is rare is the courage to follow the talent to the dark place where it leads."

#### From James Hillman from Soul's Code:

"I believe we have been robbed of our true biography—that destiny written into the acorn—and we go to therapy to recover it. That innate image can't be found, however, until we have a psychological theory that grants primary psychological reality to the call of fate. Otherwise your identity continues to be that of a sociological consumer determined by random statistics, and the unacknowledged daemon's urgings appear as eccentricities, compacted with angry resentments and overwhelming longings. Repression, the key to personality structure in all therapy schools, is not of the past but of the acorn and the past mistakes we have made in our relations with it... We dull our lives by the way we conceive them."

#### Carl Jung from Man and His Symbols:

"The seed of a mountain pine contains the whole future tree in a latent form; but each seed falls at a certain time onto a particular place, in which there are a number of special factors, such as the quality of the soil and the stones, the slope of the land, and its exposure to sun and wind. The latent totality of this pine in the seed reacts to these circumstances by avoiding the stones and inclining toward the sun, with the result that the tree's growth is shaped. Thus an individual pine slowly comes into existence, constituting the fulfillment of its totality, its emergence into the realm of reality. Without the living tree, the image of the pine is only a possibility or an abstract idea... The realization of this uniqueness in the individual is the goal of the process of individuation."

#### Ralph Waldo Emerson

Every man's condition is a solution in hieroglyphics to those inquiries he would put. He acts it as life, before he apprehends it as truth.

## **Kathleen Prophet**

The daemonic self is the force of our personal hieroglyph, our sacred mystery to be ever sought and communed with in its eternal unfolding.

Our Wild Creative Daimon is leaving its mark upon the walls of our life and unless we actively pursue it, the potential for a life of deep meaning and legacy, our Legend, is lost. We are the scribes of our Daimon. We are its guardian and advocate. Without engagement in its actualization, our demise is a miserable encounter with the truth of what we have not lived.

My Legend...

I was born on a wildly dark mythic day... the 11th day of the 11th month. The moment of my appearance I was cursed/blessed to carry my father's wound. War. Bloody violent madness.

My life is legendary. It could have been something other. So easily. The trick is in how we perceive it. How we interpret the hieroglyphs which play out on the stage of our lives. Unfortunately for most of us imagination was eradicated from our education and thus our self analysis is bland, cold, critical and superficial. Anything but mythic. Grand. Legendary.

Thank you for stopping by my website, the haven for my wild creative genius and yours.

I am a depth artist. And have healed, transformed and fallen in love with myself and my life through the embodied arts... authentic movement, source painting, writing, and music. It is through these forms I am able to see, engage with and live my legend.

I am a mentor. I mentor others in these embodied arts in workshops, online groups and in one on one sessions. I teach you how to paint, move, write, and drum your way into your most profound wild dark creative genius and bring its force into your life, your legend.

The overriding theme of my life has been to break free of the wretchedness the world mirrored as reality and find the REAL deal. The mythic deal. The great adventure. My own. Through this work I healed the dark wounded psyche I inherited and fashioned understanding, art and meaning out of its energies. I transformed. And now I am here, living my legend and passing my skills on to you.

Without fully knowing what I was seeking, this was the quest that broke through in my early 40s when I could no longer bear the confines of life as mother, musician, teacher, spiritual devotee, lover. I had worked hard and accomplished much in all of these areas, was renowned as a master teacher, yet something in me was desperately languishing. My health began to decline as did my relationships. I turned my back on organized spirituality and found myself feeling less tolerant of my children, my partner, my work. Something was calling me. Howling.

I could feel the presence of its encroaching wildness. It prowled in my dreams. My sexuality exploded on the scene. The energy was ferocious and terrified me! I knew the power of the wild dark side as I was nearly destroyed by it as a teenager. Yet I also knew its gift. Dark eros. The Jewel in the Darkness. And in *this* dark jewel I was experiencing the radical drive for creation. Self Creation! I had birthed enough babies. Now I thirsted for Art. My art. My personal self expression and actualization.

I began to follow my instinctual intuition. Smelling. Hearing. Touching. Imagining my way through the unconscious. I was seeking something new. Something ancient.

I hungered for it as an artist. I hungered for its wildness. I wanted OUT of the confines of this civilized life! I wanted a radical breakthrough no matter the suffering I would endure. I knew I had to follow this energy to get to the core of my authentic essence and fully live it! And... I was cursed to go through it anyway. There is no putting this dark genie back in the bottle... except to drug it. If I didn't find my way with it, it would destroy me and those I loved in its wake.

What do we do with the wild creative self that defies the boundaries of our society, pushes the edge of our taboos, threatens to destroy traditions as well as the human when uncontrolled... while at the same time is the creative force in which we are being impelled by evolution to CREATE! Anew! Ourselves and our society. Revolution! The revolutionary force of evolution!

My pursuit brought me to the feet of the wise grandmothers of embodied depth psychology and art expression: *Marion Woodman, Aviva Gold, Neala Haze, Jill Mellnick*. They taught me to return to the ground of my body. Trained me in the arts of the bodysoul. Here it was that I contacted the 'uncontacted woman' in the wilderness of my bodypsyche. Here it was that I learned how to dance with the force of my creative daemon.

Over the last twelve years I have created volumes of embodied art and trained many women in these sacred forms. I hold seasonal rituals and celebrations for my community. And now, I am here, living my legend, dancing fully in who I am and passing these gifts on to you.

The continued imperative of my wild creative genius, my daemon, is to share my journey through my art and guide you in the reclamation of your life as legend.

I live in LA with my three sons, my snake and my canyon. I have a room of my own. I call it my 'womb'. In it is my baby grand, walls covered with my paintings, my tree altar, and lots of floor space to move my body any way she wants. This is where I have been giving birth to the creations of my wild creative daimon for the last 12 years. It is the haven for the dark wild creative genius of countless others. Before that I worked in the cracks like most other mothers and wild criaturas who roam seeking a birthplace.

For more information and to work with me, go to **kathleenprophet.com** 

