

Ascension Conference
Penmaenmawr,
Wales (GB)

May 18–21
2023
EN/DE

The inspirations of the
Megalithic Culture
and the Future Impulse
of Anthroposophy

Visual Arts Section, Goetheanum
Anthroposophical Society in Great Britain



Ascension Conference Penmaenmawr

The inspirations of the
Megalithic Culture
and the Future Impulse
of Anthroposophy
May 18-21, 2023

With Johanna Berger, Christiane Haid,
Rudolf Kaesbach, Barbara Schnetzler,
Peter Selg, Marjatta van Boeschoten,
Pieter van der Ree and Renatus Ziegler

Penmaenmawr and its surroundings with its impressive megalithic stones is the place Rudolf Steiner visited during a conference in August 1923 in the time between the burning of the first Goetheanum and the designing of the second one. In various lectures Rudolf Steiner spoke about the special significance this place had for anthroposophical work, for example on 9th September 1923 in Dornach: «Penmaenmawr is filled with an astral atmosphere that is directly tangible. Traces can be found everywhere of what emanated from Druid ceremonies that creates this atmosphere ... If one had gone up into the air in an aeroplane

... one would have had ... from these two Druid circles the direct outline of what was the floorplan of our Goetheanum.» In the first part of a letter to Edith Maryon on 30 August 1923, Rudolf Steiner describes the stone settings and surroundings: «There is a wonderful solitude there. Two derelict druid circles. ... Standing by the Druid sanctuaries, where so many years ago people used to watch over of spiritual matters, was very meaningful to me. The walk up (about 1. hours) was very beautiful, full of the most beautiful views of the surroundings.»

From 18th-21st May 2023 we want to get closer to this special place as visual artists and art lovers: We will observe the landscape and stone settings, draw on site; walk in the surroundings of the stone circles between the mountain and the sea and hear contributions on megalithic culture and the important meeting there 100 years ago. Conversations about the meaning of Penmaenmawr in our time will enable us develop a deeper understanding of the past and the future.

What happens in us when architecture and sculpture become a vast landscape relating to the stone settings? Can the outer world of the senses and the inner world of experience resonate here together? Point and circumference?

*«The possibility of speaking in this place in the purest way about anthroposophy ... of speaking about the inner aspect of anthroposophy: this may be counted among one of the most significant stages in the development of our Anthroposophical life.»
(GA 228, Lecture 9th September 1923)*

Does painting become a constantly changing elemental weather process? Can we learn to bring together - more vividly, more artistically - the relationship between the surrounding forces and inner experience in such a place and begin to gain insight into the unique Druid culture? What is the artistic connection between the open, encircling megalithic culture to the architecture of the Goetheanum and its related buildings? Can we gain an expanded view and experience of the Dornach buildings in their conversation with the landscape? Can Penmaenmawr expand the creative possibilities for the visual artists in their work, today and in the future?

We look forward to discovering and exploring Penmaenmawr together and getting a little closer to its meaning and metamorphosis for contemporary artistic creation.

Christiane Hoed Rudolf Kaesbach

P. Müller *Olaf*

Pieter van der Ree Marjatta v Boeschoten

Programme

**Wednesday
17th May**

15.00

Arrival

Free evening

**Thursday
18th May**

14.30

Welcome

Marjatta van Boeschoten

Introduction & practicalities

Barbara Schnetzler

15.00

Opening thoughts

on landscape encounter

Rudolf Kaesbach

STONE CIRCLE VISIT I

15.30 Departure

St Mary's Hall car park to

Penmaenmawr

(Day hike 1 hr)

Introduction to Landscape

Viewing in the stone circle

Rudolf Kaesbach

Free artistic work on site

with Johanna Berger, a.o.

18.30 Sharing

Hike and return journey

19.30

Supper at St Mary's Hall

20.30

Megalithic culture,

Lecture with discussion

Pieter van der Ree

Tagungsinformationen

Penmaenmawr

(Änderungen vorbehalten)

TAGUNGSORT

St Mary's Hall, inmitten des charmanten Städtchens Conwy:
Rose Hill St, Conwy,
Gwynedd Wales LL32 8LD

BEDINGUNGEN

Die Teilnehmenden müssen gut zu Fuss unterwegs (Wanderungen bergauf bis zu 4 Stunden) und schlechte Witterung gewöhnt sein. Wir werden jeden Tag ca. 4 Std. draussen sein, auch bei Regen. Die Tagungssprache ist Englisch. Zwei deutsche Vorträge werden ins Englische übersetzt.

ÜBERNACHTUNG

Die Buchung der Übernachtungen ist Sache der Teilnehmenden.

Die Jugendherberge YHA Rowen ist für uns reserviert. Es besteht die Möglichkeit, eine Übernachtung in Mehrbettzimmern (2 x 6-Bett-Zimmer, 2 x 4-Bett-Zimmer, Stockbetten) für 4 Nächte (17.-21. Mai 2023) zum Preis von CHF 95.00 über das Sekretariat SBK zu buchen.

Weitere Informationen und Buchung nur über:
Sektion für Bildende Künste, 0041 61 706 43 82
oder sbk@goetheanum.ch

Des Weiteren gibt es in Conwy und Rowen einige Hotels, Gästezimmer und Airbnb sowie auch

einen schönen Zeltplatz in Rowen. Eine Liste mit Empfehlungen kann bei uns angefragt werden. Da schon viele Zimmer ausgebucht sind, empfiehlt es sich, eine baldige Buchung vorzunehmen.

VERPFLEGUNG

Das Frühstück und das Picknick für die Wanderungen besorgt jeder Teilnehmer selbst, soweit es nicht im Übernachtungspreis inbegriffen ist. Einkaufsmöglichkeiten im *Tesco* und *Spar* in Conwy, oder im Laden in Rowen sind vorhanden. Der Tagungspreis beinhaltet drei Abendessen und ein Mittagessen in der St Mary's Hall in Conwy.

ANREISE

Die Reisebuchung ist Sache der Teilnehmenden. Zug: mit Eurostar nach London, dann mit Bus oder Zug nach Conwy (weitere 4 Stunden). Flug: nach Manchester oder Birmingham. EasyJet fliegt von Basel nach Manchester ca. CHF 150 (frühzeitig buchen). Fähre: von Rotterdam nach Hull. Von dort 4 Autostunden.

AUTOMIETE

Für die Anreise von Manchester und die Gegebenheiten vor Ort ist die Miete eines Autos wichtig. Es können Fahrgemeinschaften gebildet werden (4 Personen in einem Wagen ca. CHF 50 pro Person), z.B. bei: easirent.com, Hertz oder Europcar. Bei der Bildung von Fahrgemeinschaften sind wir gerne behilflich. Achtung: Es ist Linksverkehr.

MITBRINGEN

Reisepass für die Einreise (die ID reicht nicht aus), Skizzenbuch, Regenkleider, Schirm und gutes Schuhwerk.

TICKETPREISE

Förderpreis	CHF 500
Tagungspreis	CHF 390
Studierende	CHF 290

Der Tagungspreis beinhaltet drei Abendessen 18.-20. Mai und ein Mittagessen 21. Mai in der St Mary's Hall in Conwy.

ANMELDUNG

Die Anmeldung (nur Tagungsticket) erfolgt über:
<https://sbk.goetheanum.org/en/events/conferences-workshops>

Die Teilnehmerzahl ist auf 50 Personen beschränkt.
Anmeldung erbeten bis 10. April 2023

Penmaenmawr Conference Information

(Subject to change)

VENUE

St Mary's Hall, in the heart of the charming town of Conwy:
Rose Hill St, Conwy,
Gwynedd Wales LL32 8LD

REQUIREMENTS

Participants must be good walkers (uphill walks up to 4 hours) and used to bad weather. We will be outside for about 4 hours each day, despite rain. The conference language is English. Two German presentations will be translated into English.

ACCOMMODATION

Participants are responsible for booking their own accommodation.

The YHA Rowen is reserved for us. It is possible to book accommodation in shared rooms (2 x 6-bed rooms, 2 x 4-bed rooms, bunk beds) for 4 nights (May 17-21, 2023) at the price of CHF 95.00 via the Visual Arts Section secretary.

Further information and booking only via:
Visual Arts Section, +41 61 706 43 82 or
sbk@goetheanum.ch

TICKET PRICES

Sponsorship price	CHF 500
Conference price	CHF 390
Students	CHF 290

The conference price includes three suppers 18th–20th May and one lunch 21st May at St Mary's Hall, Conwy.

REGISTRATION

Registration (conference ticket only):
<https://sbk.goetheanum.org/en/events/conferences-workshops>

Participation is limited to 50 persons.
Registration requested by April 10th, 2023

There are also several hotels, rooms and Airbnb in Conwy and Rowen, as well as a nice campsite in Rowen. A list of recommendations can be requested from us. As many rooms are already fully booked, it is advisable to book as soon as possible.

CATERING

Participants will provide their own breakfast and picnic lunch for the hikes if this is not included in the accommodation price. Shopping facilities are available at Tesco and Spar in Conwy, or at the shop in Rowen. The conference price includes three suppers and one lunch at St Mary's Hall, Conwy.

ARRIVAL

Travel arrangements are the responsibility of each participant.

Train: by Eurostar to London, then by bus or train to Conwy (another 4 hours).

Flight: to Manchester or Birmingham. EasyJet flies from Basel to Manchester approx. CHF 150 (book early).

Ferry: from Rotterdam to Hull. From there 4 hours by car.

CAR HIRE

For the journey from Manchester and the on-site situation, it is important to rent a car. Carpooling can be arranged (4 people in one car approx. CHF 50 per person), e.g. at: easirent.com, Hertz or Europcar. We are happy to help with forming carpools.

BRING ALONG

Passport to enter (ID is not sufficient), sketchbook, rainwear, umbrella and good shoes.