

WHERE ON EARTH IS THE ZODIAC?

AND OTHER CONCERNS OF ASTRO-GAIASOPHY

Brian Gray

“In my Father’s house there are many dwellings; otherwise I would not have said to you: I go there to prepare a place for you.” —John 14:2¹

“Earth is a living organism. And just as human beings need air to live, so the Earth needs the spiritual light of the stars. It inhales this in order to live. And just as a person walks around on the Earth, so the Earth moves around in the cosmos. It dwells in the whole of the universe. The Earth is a living entity.”²

—Rudolf Steiner, April 12, 1924, Dornach

“All fixed land swims and the stars hold it in position.... The continents swim.... They are held in position upon the Earth by the constellations. When the constellations change, the continents change, also. The old tellurians [Earth globes on a tilted axis to depict the seasons] and atlases properly included the constellations of the zodiac in relationship to the configuration of the Earth’s surface. The continents are held from the periphery; the higher realms hold the parts of the Earth.”³

—Rudolf Steiner, April 25, 1923, Stuttgart

Star Wisdom becomes particularly meaningful when we discover where spiritual influences stream from the Stars to our living Earth, shaping and sustaining our cosmic/earthly existence. Star Wisdom and Earth Wisdom are deeply related. We live by the grace of spiritual beings dwelling in the Heavens and indwelling Mother Earth.

During this stage of evolution, when the wellbeing of our living Earth is sorely threatened by human ignorance, abuse, and excess, it is time for us to become aware of the dynamic spiritual relationships between the Stars and the Earth. Recognizing these interrelationships is crucially important for Human Wisdom to grow and flourish, and for us to participate creatively in shaping the future.

Star Wisdom (*Astro Sophia* or *Astrosophy*) encompasses the spirit, soul, and bodily wisdom of the heavens and of the deeds of spiritual Beings dwelling there. Earth Wisdom (*Gaia Sophia* or *Gaiasophy*) encompasses the spirit, soul, and bodily wisdom of the living Earth and of the Earth’s place and mission in the cosmos. Human beings seeking correspondences between Star Wisdom and Earth Wisdom can be guided by *Astro-Gaia Sophia* (*Astro-Gaiasophy*). *Astro-Gaia Sophia* encompasses the correspondences between the *Wisdom of Star Beings* (*Astro Sophia*) and the *Wisdom of Mother Earth* (*Gaia Sophia*).

Contemplating the mysteries of *Astro-Gaia Sophia* can expand our feelings of wonder and gratitude and stimulate our striving as upright human beings (*Anthropos*) to embrace and unite with all Wisdom (*Sophia*). Our quest to unite with *Anthropos Sophia* (*Anthroposophy*) can guide our striving to develop *Astro-Gaiasophy* (see figure 1). “The more spiritual knowledge flows into the evolution of humanity and the Earth, the greater the number of viable seeds will there be for the future.”⁴ The striving Human Being (*Anthropos*) can become a Mercurial mediator who embraces both Star Wisdom (*Astrosophy*) and Earth Wisdom (*Gaiasophy*) and creatively participates in the

1 Madsen, *The New Testament: A Rendering*, p. 248.

2 Steiner, *From Beetroot to Buddhism*... p. 127

3 Steiner, *Faculty Meetings with Rudolf Steiner*, pp. 617–618.

4 Steiner, *An Outline of Esoteric Science*, p. 397.

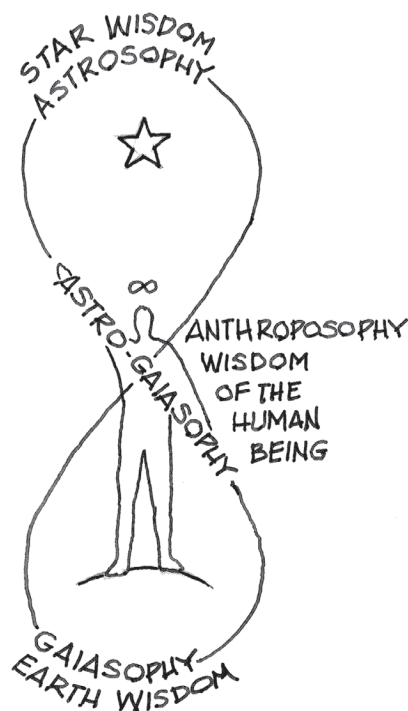


Figure 1

mysteries *Astro-Gaiasophy*. In this way *Astro-Gaiasophy* can become part of Wisdom of the Human Being (*Anthroposophy*). Human Wisdom (*Anthroposophy*) can then gradually be transformed into Love:

Beginning with the Earth phase of evolution, the Wisdom of the Outer Cosmos becomes the Inner Wisdom in the Human Being. Internalized in this way, it becomes the seed of Love. Wisdom is the prerequisite for Love; Love is the result of Wisdom that has been reborn in the "I."⁵

Astro-Gaia Sophia beckoned me more than 30 years ago to awaken to her presence. She continually pours forth insights from the depths of her wisdom, yet her mysteries are so subtle that she may at times seem elusive. It takes time to prepare our souls to receive the seeds of her wisdom, and additional time for those seeds to grow and ripen. Astro-Gaia Sophia is present and active in the midst of all that we experience on Earth, yet she moves unseen among human beings. We long to

awaken to her. Many paths lead toward her mysteries and many seekers today find clues about her activity. Astro-Gaia Sophia holds keys to the Wisdom of Macrocosm and Microcosm. The depths of her revelations open new perspectives and fill us with wonder and awe. While she generously bestows imaginations and inspirations, after pursuing her for three decades I have more *questions* than answers about her true nature. The words of Socrates best express my experience of her: "As for me, all I know is that I know nothing."⁶

WHAT IS ASTRO-GAIASOPHY?

Astro-Gaiasophy as presented in this article arises out of the phenomenological research into the mysteries of Astro-Gaia Sophia initiated by the author more than 30 years ago. Simply described, *Astro-Gaiasophy* contemplates *direct zenith-projection relationships between constellations of Stars and their positions on the surface of Earth*. The phrase "direct zenith-projection" refers to a *Star's position directly above a place on Earth*; that is, a person standing at that place could view that Star passing *directly overhead at the zenith position*. Zenith-projection relationships between the Stars and places on Earth can be visualized by examining the equivalent of the Star-Earth globe⁷ described in this article. *Astro-Gaiasophy* considers that lofty spiritual Beings dwelling in the periphery of the celestial sphere form and condense the Earth, and that radial lines projecting inwardly from Stars at the periphery of the celestial sphere converge and are mirrored *at the exact geographical center of the Earth, as well as upon Earth's surface*.

Rudolf Steiner articulated the basis for *Astro-Gaiasophy* very clearly in 1922 as he described understandings that arose within the Egyptian Mysteries:

If you had been able to participate in many a scene in the Mysteries during a certain epoch of Egyptian development, in times when the custom of the mummification of bodies was at its height, you would have experienced something

⁶ Plato, *Republic*, conclusion of book 1.

⁷ Celestial Globe CG 616, Trippensee Planetarium, 1967. See figure 6 in this article.

⁵ Ibid., p. 397 (capitalization added by author).

like the following. The Priest-Instructor in the Mysteries would have tried, first, to explain to his pupils that in the human head all the mysteries of the world lie concealed, in a very special sense. *He would have bidden them regard the Earth, the dwelling-place of the human being, as a mirror, a reflection of the whole Cosmos.* In very truth, *everything that exists in the Cosmos is also to be found in the Earth itself.* Looking upward to the world of Stars, we see the Moon as our nearest neighbor among the heavenly bodies. Think of the Earth and the Moon circling around the Earth. We can picture the course taken by the Moon as it moves around the Earth and all that lies between the Earth and the orbit of the Moon. Those who rightly understand how to interpret what they find when they dig down into the Earth, will say: What is present in the environment is mirrored, and condensed, in an outermost layer of the Earth itself.

And now take another planet, which together with the Earth, circles round the Sun. We can picture this planet, Venus, and its path. This sphere is filled with delicate, aeriform, etheric substance. Again a lower layer in the Earth must be pictured as a reflection of what is outside in the Cosmos. Proceeding in this way *we have the whole Earth as a mirror image of the Universe*, remembering that what exists out yonder in a state of extremely delicate, ethereal volatility is *condensed and still further condensed when it is found in the Earth's strata. Thus at the center of the Earth, the outermost periphery of the Universe would be condensed into a single point.*¹

This passage given by Rudolf Steiner in 1922 establishes the cognitive foundation for Astro-Gaiasophy and describes its central approach. Although the author only recently (in 2013) discovered this passage, it independently anchors and characterizes three decades of research into the mysteries of Astro-Gaia Sophia. This approach to Astro-Gaiasophy feels inspired by and aligned with Rudolf Steiner's description; for that I am most grateful.

¹ Steiner, *Supersensible Influences in the History of Mankind*. Sept. 29, 1922.

One way to picture the relationships between the Stars in the Heavens and the places on the Earth presented through Astro-Gaiasophy is to imagine all points on the periphery of the entire celestial sphere "condensed" inwardly and contracted until they exactly touch the spherical surface of the Earth. This "condensing" brings the activity from the periphery of the celestial sphere to *focus upon the exact center of the Earth*. Astro-Gaiasophy considers the *direct zenith-projection of each Star on the celestial sphere as raying spiritual influences toward a place on the Earth's surface*, where on the Earth's surface each Star maintains its positional relationships with the celestial sphere. *The Earth's surface bears the imprint of the Zodiac and fixed Stars.* In this way the description "*the whole Earth as a mirror image of the Universe*" arises for our contemplation through Astro-Gaiasophy.

THREE PLANES OF REFERENCE

Three distinct planes of reference are helpful to establish a cognitive framework for Astro-Gaiasophy: the *ecliptic plane*, the *equatorial plane*, and the *galactic plane*. The *ecliptic plane* and *galactic plane* arise by observing the Sun, planets, and stars motions and positions on the celestial sphere from the Earth. Thus the *ecliptic plane* and *galactic plane* are primarily of interest to *Astrosophy*. On the other hand, the *equatorial plane* arises by observing the Earth's rotation about its North-South axis and the daily rising and setting of the Sun and stars. Thus the *equatorial plane* is primarily of interest to *Gaiasophy*. But for us to grasp dynamic interactions between Star Wisdom and Earth Wisdom, *all three planes* are the concern of *Astro-Gaiasophy*. It is important to keep these three distinct planes in mind, for each plays a significant but different role.

The *ecliptic plane* is the *path of the Sun through the twelve constellations of the Zodiac* as viewed from Earth. The ecliptic plane is considered important for Star Wisdom because it locates the Sun's plane of movement against the background of the *celestial sphere*. Initially it might seem that the ecliptic plane is of minor importance to Earth Wisdom, because the Earth makes a complete rotation

within the celestial sphere on its north-south axis every 23 hours and 56 minutes. Since the *ecliptic plane* is tilted $23\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ in relation to the Earth's *equator*, at any given moment of the day the *ecliptic plane* and Zodiac stand directly above and intersect some part of Earth in that region called the "tropics"—that is, between $23\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ north latitude (the "Tropic of Cancer") through the equator to $23\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ south latitude (the "Tropic of Capricorn").

Since the *ecliptic plane* continually appears to "move" during the course of the day as viewed from the rotating Earth, the *ecliptic plane* is not usually sought on the Earth's surface. But Astro-Gaiasophy identifies and contemplates *the ecliptic plane and Zodiac imprinted into the surface of the Earth* at a particular moment of alignment each day. Astro-Gaiasophy asks the question, "Where on Earth is the Zodiac?" Hence the *imprint of the Zodiac and fixed-star constellations upon the surface of the Earth* is of major concern. The *ecliptic plane* extending the Zodiac from the celestial sphere through the center of the Earth presently *imprints the Earth* at a tilt of $23\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ off the Earth's equator (see figure 2).

The *ecliptic plane imprinted on Earth* currently intersects the *equatorial plane—the plane of the Earth's equator*—at two places on the Earth's surface: A) near the mouth of the Amazon River at the north coast of South America, and B) near the islands of Indonesia. Astro-Gaiasophy traces the *imprinted ecliptic plane* from its crossing the equator A) near the Amazon River and continues to the northeast across the Atlantic Ocean to northern Africa, where it "levels out" at $23\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ north latitude in the Red Sea. The *imprinted ecliptic plane* turns southeastward across the Arabian Peninsula and through southern India and Malaysia to cross the equator B) in Indonesia near the island of Halma-hera. The ecliptic continues southeastward across New Guinea and through several island clusters to southern culmination at $23\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ south latitude in the South Pacific, below French Polynesia. It gradually turns northeastward across Peru and the Amazon Basin and returns to cross the equator A) near the mouth of the Amazon River. This paper presents further details about the ecliptic and Zodiacal

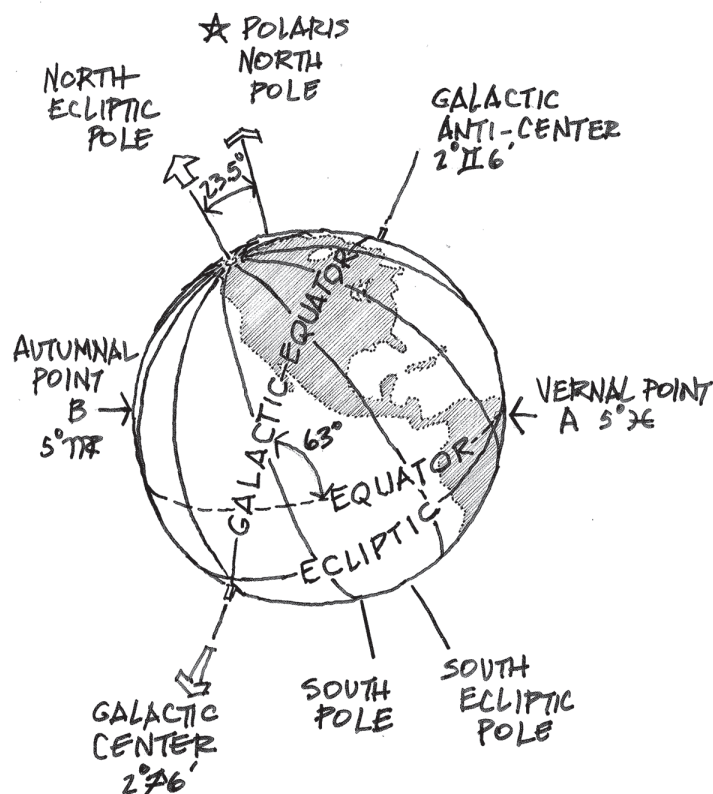


Figure 2

positions and illustrates other star constellations imprinted upon the Earth at the present time. Published here for the first time is the *Zodiac imprinted on Earth* as revealed through research into the mysteries of Astro-Gaiasophy.

On the celestial sphere, the ecliptic plane through the Zodiac has its "north ecliptic pole" in the constellation of Draco and its "south ecliptic pole" in the southern-hemisphere constellation of Dorado, near the Large Magellenic Cloud. In exactly the same way on the Earth, the *ecliptic plane of the Zodiac imprinted on Earth* has its "north ecliptic pole" in Alaska on the Arctic Circle and its "south ecliptic pole" just off the coast of Antarctica (far south of Madagascar) on the Antarctic Circle.

Astro-Gaiasophy recognizes as significant the *lines of ecliptic longitude (ecliptic meridians)* extending between the north pole of the ecliptic and the south pole of the ecliptic as *imprinted on the Earth's surface*. These *imprinted ecliptic meridians* divide the Earth's surface into 12



Figure 3

distinct Zodiacal sectors. Each Zodiacal sector of the Earth bears and reflects the spiritual influences of its celestial Zodiacal counterpart. Throughout each Zodiacal sector on Earth, a constellation of the Zodiac radiates its spiritual influences *between the poles of the ecliptic* (see figure 3).

The *equatorial plane* is a second plane of importance when describing the phenomena of Astro-Gaiasophy. As its name implies, the “equator” of the Earth is the plane located equidistant between the geographic North Pole and the South Pole, which mark the *Earth’s axis of rotation*. On the Earth, the geographic *north and south rotational pole of the Earth* (the “North Pole” and “South Pole”) are currently tilted $23\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ off the *poles of the ecliptic*, and the Earth’s equator is tilted $23\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ off the ecliptic plane (see figure 4). Ptolemy and other cartographers in Alexandria established the *equator* and the *North and South poles* as frameworks for mapping the Earth’s surface. Lines parallel with the equator are called *geographic latitudes*, and lines extending between the North Pole and South Pole are lines of *geographic longitude*. The *equatorial plane* is most frequently used when mapping the Earth by latitude and longitude. Most maps of the Earth



Figure 4

and Earth globes designate the *Earth’s equator* as a key plane of reference.

But the *Earth’s equatorial plane* can also be extended out to intersect the celestial sphere. The plane where the Earth’s *equatorial plane intersects the celestial sphere* is called the *celestial equator*.

Please notice that the *ecliptic plane on the celestial sphere* is very different than the *equatorial plane extended as the celestial equator*; the ecliptic plane and equatorial plane are currently tilted off away from each other by $23\frac{1}{2}^\circ$. The *ecliptic plane* and the *celestial equator* are different planes of reference. On the Earth, the *imprinted ecliptic plane* is tilted off the equator by $23\frac{1}{2}^\circ$.

A *third significant plane* considered by Astro-Gaiasophy is the *galactic plane*—the term used to refer to the approximate center of the *Milky Way Galaxy*, the local galaxy to which our Sun and solar system belong. The Milky Way Galaxy forms the mysterious glowing band of light of variable width that wraps across the celestial sphere and encircles the Earth. *On the celestial sphere*, the *galactic plane* is tilted off both the *ecliptic plane* and the *celestial equator*. In the ancient Egyptian mysteries the Milky Way was considered the pathway taken by the soul and spirit into the spiritual

world after death, as well as the pathway leading the soul and spirit back toward a new incarnation on Earth. In Astro-GaiaSophy, the *galactic plane* of the Milky Way is recognized as being very significant. The Milky Way divides the heavens into two parts, and its band of light mediates between the two as a third element. The galactic plane of the encircling Milky Way also imprints the Earth. The *imprinted galactic plane* divides the Earth into two portions while mediating between them as a third element. Its role and significance on Earth will be discussed later in this article.

BECOMING AWARE OF ASTRO-GAIA SOPHIA

Where on Earth is the Zodiac? How are the starry heavens related to the different regions of the Earth? The author began actively studying, mapping, observing, contemplating, meditating on, and discussing these questions with others in 1982. Astro-Gaia Sophia often reveals her mysteries artistically, through imaginations and inspirations, rather than through abstract theories and mathematical calculations, from which she shyly retreats. Because her mysteries manifest directly in the corresponding phenomena between the Stars and the Earth, her revelations arise most directly in us by *beholding these phenomena* with an open mind and *thinking about their correspondences* with wonder, reverence, wisdom-filled harmony, and devoted self-surrender.¹ It can be difficult to let go of pre-judgments and favorite theories when seeking her, yet Astro-Gaia Sophia can best reveal her mysteries if we surrender our preconceptions and let her guide us through attentive receptivity to her phenomena. She has wonderful things to teach us.

Finding an “exact” point of the present Star-Earth alignment to “lock everything in place” is not easy. *Astro-Gaia Sophia* resists our efforts to pin down her alignments with mathematical precision, and she deflects our attempts to define them too narrowly. Her Star-Earth relationships are living, mobile, and artistic rather than static,

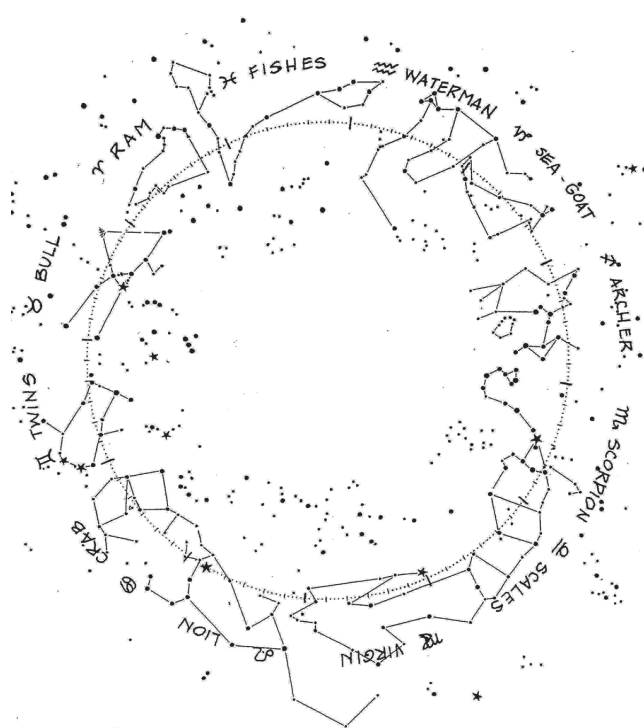


Figure 5

“dead,” and calculable. *Astro Sophia* is the cosmic living being who mildly tolerates our human attempts to “plot,” calculate, and predict her celestial phenomena. *Gaia Sophia* is the dynamic living Earth who rotates beneath the celestial sphere in the course of the day and year while slowly shifting her rotational axis relative to the celestial sphere through the *precession of the equinoxes*. *Gaia Sophia* is far less tolerant of our attempts to plot, calculate, and predict her earthly phenomena than is *Astro Sophia*. Thus when we approach *Astro-Gaia Sophia*, our approach must be artistic, living, and adaptable.

Having some practical skills can facilitate our search for Astro-Gaia Sophia and help prepare our souls to receive her secrets. My background training in architecture, landscape architecture, and environmental planning prepared me to work with large-scale maps of the Earth and geometric drawing, and my interest in the Stars led to my constructing a map of the Babylonian Sidereal Zodiac in 1982 (see figure 5). Practicing Astrology since 1967 and studying Steiner’s descriptions of cosmic and human evolution since 1976 attuned

¹ Steiner, *The World of the Senses and the World of the Spirit*, December 27, 1911.



Figure 6: Star-Earth globe

me to subtle mysteries of the Heavens, the Earth, and the human Being. Anthroposophy became my spiritual path in 1976, and entering Rudolf Steiner College as a student of René Querido and Willi Sucher in 1979, becoming an active teacher there since 1981, and finding other colleagues who are interested in these mysteries profoundly changed my life.

But by 1982 I had not yet encountered Rudolf Steiner's statements (some quoted in this article) that point toward specific correlations between the Stars in the Heavens and particular places on the Earth. Hence my imagination was stirred and awakened when (in 1982) I first read this vivid passage written by Moira Timms in her 1980 book, *Prophecies and Predictions*:

If a star map is superimposed over the Earth with the pole star placed over the terrestrial North Pole, we have a celestial clock making one revolution daily. The noon point of that map (like Greenwich) is the Great Pyramid of Giza referred to by the prophet Isaiah, "There shall be a pillar at the borders of Egypt for a sign and for a witness."¹ Thousands of years ago Egypt was known as the Land of Khema, and the Pleiades, a group of seven stars in the constellation of Taurus, were known as the



Figure 7: Orion over Africa

Khema. If the map is placed with the Khema over the Land of Khem (Egypt) then Taurus falls over the Taurus Mountains of southern Turkey; Ursa Major, the Great Bear, rambles over Russia; the head of Draco the Dragon rears itself over China; Orion over Iran; Aries the Ram over Rome, and Capricorn (identified with the god Pan) falls over Panama, Panuco and Mayapan, the old name of Yucatan. Aquila the Eagle spans the United States. The analogies are obvious, and quite impressive. This is one of the clearest examples of "As Above, So Below."²

Reading this somewhat fanciful description awakened me (like a "destiny call") to actively search for Astro-Gaia Sophia. This description of Star-Earth correspondences was provocative but also somewhat troubling. Was it accurate and true? If such ideas had emerged from ancient mystery wisdom, did this description still apply to today's alignments between Stars and Earth? I immediately wanted to test these alignments for myself but did not have the necessary maps. I felt the need to be patient, calm, and faithful to this destiny call from Astro-Gaia Sophia. I recognized that mine would not be a quick journey; I could only approach her *gradalis*—slowly, step-by-step.

1

2 Timms, *Prophecies and Predictions*, pp. 51–52.

I vowed to pursue her and develop my understanding of Astro-Gaiasophy at moments when I could do so, consider the insights she provided, and wait until the next steps toward her became clear.

EARLY INTIMATIONS

Affirmation of my “destiny call” from Astro-Gaia Sophia in 1982 came several months later, in 1983. Clifford Monks, a beloved colleague teaching at Rudolf Steiner College, approached me holding a large sixteen-inch transparent plastic globe depicting the Stars on the celestial sphere encircling a rotating transparent Earth (see figure 6). Clifford no longer needed his Star-Earth globe³ and he kindly offered it to me to assist my teaching classes in Star Wisdom at Rudolf Steiner College. My heart leapt with joy! Gratefully I accepted Clifford’s generous gift, knowing it would prove to be invaluable for research. The Star-Earth globe allows one to examine *how stars pass directly above different portions of the rotating Earth*—exactly what was needed to test the provocative description published by Moira Timms!

I immediately rotated the Earth inside the starry sphere to test the Star-Earth alignments described above. A few alignments she described generally “worked,” but most did not “fit” the phenomena at all. But my interest had been awakened, so I began searching for a more “accurate” alignment between the Stars and Earth—one faithful to the phenomena given us for our observation and contemplation that could be embodied in Astro-Gaiasophy.

Exploring possible patterns of alignment between the Stars and the Earth raises many questions. “What patterns would one look for between the Stars and the Earth? How could one recognize a “proper alignment” between Stars and Earth? Since the Earth completely rotates on her axis every 23 hours and 56 minutes, is there an “archetypal alignment” imprinting spiritual exchanges between the Stars and Earth at a particular moment each day? How would such an “archetypal alignment” reveal itself to our observation

and contemplation? Would such an alignment gradually shift over time with the precession of the equinoxes? What “clues” would confirm or cast doubt upon the validity of a particular alignment between Stars and Earth?”

So many questions; yet with the Star-Earth globe I could observe and test possible current alignments and contemplate as time allowed with open-mindedness, patience, and trust that answers would be found. While it was very tempting to conjecture about how earlier stages of Earth were placed in relation to the Stars, I tried to remain *faithful to the present phenomena presented by Astro-Gaia Sophia* and truthful to what she reveals as the basis for contemplation. Moira Timms had stirred up my interest, and Clifford Monks had given me an instrument to facilitate further investigation.

The outer plastic sphere of the Star-Earth globe consists of two bowl-shaped hemispheres depicting “fixed stars” on the celestial sphere. One hemisphere displays stars of the northern heavens, and the other displays stars of the southern hemisphere. The two plastic hemispheres are conveniently seamed along the *celestial equator*, the Earth’s equator extended out to the celestial sphere. Inside the sixteen-inch transparent celestial sphere is a small six-inch plastic Earth globe that can easily be rotated on its north/south axis within the celestial sphere. The Earth’s axis is conveniently tilted by $23\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$, so that the Earth’s North Pole points toward Polaris, the current “north star.” The ecliptic—the Sun’s path through the Zodiac—and the stars of the Zodiac are designated on the plastic celestial sphere. I modified the Star-Earth globe by locating the north and south ecliptic poles and running strings between them to help reveal the Zodiacal sectors on the celestial sphere (see figure 7).

DISCOVERING AN ORION–AFRICA ALIGNMENT

Observing the night sky as well as the layout of constellations depicted on the Star-Earth globe, *Orion* stands out vividly from all other major constellations on the celestial sphere. For hundreds of years past and into the future, *the three bright*

³ Celestial Globe CG 616, Trippensee Planetarium Co., 1967.



Figure 8

stars of Orion's belt are positioned very close to the *celestial equator*—the plane of the Earth's equator extended out to the *celestial sphere*. This means that some part of Orion is visible to viewers on Earth in both hemispheres from North Pole to South Pole. Orion's belt stars currently rise along the Eastern horizon and set along the Western horizon as viewed from nearly everywhere on Earth.¹ Orion's seven bright stars form a distinctive overall shape, and its three belt stars form a nearly straight line and are spaced almost equally apart. Orion's visibility from all parts of Earth makes it well-known to people of all cultures. Orion is currently the only major constellation of bright stars that straddles the celestial equator.

1 All three stars of the belt of Orion are not visible to viewers between 88° to 90° north latitude, near the North Pole.

In 1983, while contemplating the Star-Earth globe and considering the Hermetic maxim “As above, so below,” a question arose: Might Orion's unique form and position near the *celestial equator* be mirrored anywhere near the *Earth's equator*? Immediately the answer emerged: *Yes*—Africa straddles Earth's equator in a similar way that Orion straddles the celestial equator! Is Africa a possible counterpart to the constellation Orion? As I rotated the Earth globe within the celestial sphere searching for other possible candidate alignments between Orion and the Earth, it readily became apparent that *Orion and Africa belong together*—they “fit” beautifully! (see figure 8). The next question is, at the moment when Orion aligns with Africa, how do other Star constellations “fit” above the Earth? Their resulting Star-Earth alignments might confirm or lead one to dismiss an Orion-Africa correspondence.

ASTRO-GAIASOPHY AND THE CULTURAL AGES OF POST-ATLANTIS

The Star-Earth globe allows one to conveniently identify possible correlations between each constellation of the Zodiac and regions of the Earth's surface that lie directly below. Searching in 1983 for possible evidence to support or dismiss an Orion-Africa correspondence, I examined the resulting Zodiacal alignments. To my amazement, *when Orion stands directly above eastern Africa*, Cancer the Crab stands directly above India, Gemini the Twins stand directly above the Mid-East (Iran/Iraq and the Arabian Peninsula), Taurus the Bull stands directly above Egypt and North Africa, Aries the Ram stands over the western part of Africa, Pisces the Fishes swim northward and westward across the Atlantic Ocean, Aquarius the Water-Carrier stands above northwestern South America, and Capricorn (the Goat with the fish's tail) swims away from the Andes out into the Pacific Ocean. Along with Capricorn, Sagittarius the Archer, Scorpio the Scorpion/ Eagle, Libra the Scales, and Virgo the Virgin (which stands above New Guinea) hover above the large expanse of the Pacific Ocean (see figure 9).

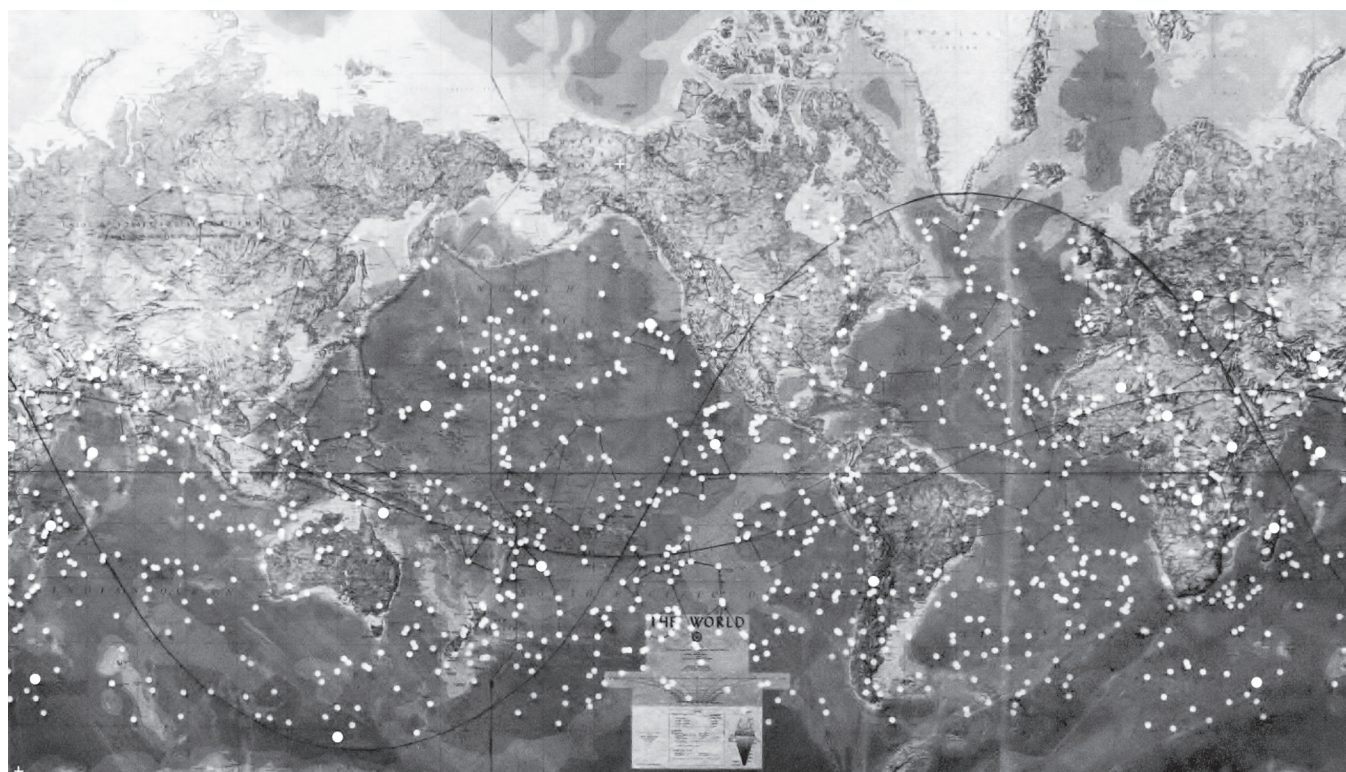


Figure 9: Astro-Gaiasophy Map of Stars above the Earth

The above sequence of Zodiac-Earth alignments closely agrees with Rudolf Steiner's depictions of the *cultural ages* of Post Atlantis, which correspond to the precession of the vernal point "backward" through the Zodiac. Rudolf Steiner describes seven "cultural ages" of Post-Atlantis as sequential periods of 2,160 years apiece that correspond with the position of the vernal point (the position of the Sun at the first day of spring in the northern hemisphere) as it slowly falls backward through the Zodiac. This gradual "falling back" of the vernal point is part of the phenomena known as the *precession of the equinoxes*. Without going into greater detail about precession or about the 1,199-year "lag period" that occurs between the dates of the astronomical ages and the corresponding human cultural ages, here is a list of the cultural ages as Rudolf Steiner designated them, their approximate dates, their association with the Sun's precession through the Zodiac, and the focal part or member of the human being brought further in development through spiritual Beings guiding human

evolution in each cultural age (see table 1, next page).

What is remarkable about the *Orion-Africa alignment* is how closely it brings the stars of the Zodiac to align directly above the corresponding region of Earth in which the forefront of human and cultural development was taking place. These Star-Earth correlations hold true primarily for the first five periods of Post-Atlantis: Ancient India (Cancer), Ancient Persia (Gemini), Ancient Egypt (Taurus), Ancient Greece, Rome and their cultural extensions (Aries). Our present age, the Age of Pisces, was initiated in part by European explorers sailing west across the Atlantic Ocean toward the Americas who (re)-discovered a "New World" lying between Europe and Asia. Human development in the present cultural age (Pisces) is not focused strongly upon only one particular geographic region nor is it limited to that region, but rather becomes taken up by striving individuals who seek spiritual development within the consciousness soul (spiritual soul) out of their own initiative.

CULTURAL AGE	DATES	ZODIACAL AGE	PART OF THE HUMAN BEING
Ancient India	7227–5067 BC	Cancer	etheric body
Ancient Persia	5067–2907 BC	Gemini	sentient body
Ancient Egypt	2907–747 BC	Taurus	sentient soul
Greco-Roman	747 BC – AD 1413	Aries	heart and mind soul
Present Age	AD 1413–3573	Pisces	consciousness soul
Sixth Age	AD 3573–5733	Aquarius	(spirit self)
Seventh Age	AD 5733–7893	Capricorn	(life spirit)

Table 1: Cultural Ages of Post-Atlantis

This “discovery” in 1983—of direct correspondences between certain Zodiacal constellations and their geographic counterparts where human beings were participating at the “leading edge” of human development and cultural evolution—astonished and humbled me. This discovery arose through examining apparent *correspondences between Orion and Africa*, which indirectly finds agreement with Steiner’s work through these correspondences. This revelation assured me that Astro-Gaia Sophia was guiding my research, and I am eternally grateful for her generous and insights; they encouraged me to proceed further along this path of inquiry.¹

MAPPING THE ZODIAC AND STARRY HEAVENS ON THE EARTH

The next steps in developing Astro-Gaiasophy required entering more deeply into the details of the possible Star-Earth correspondences. I painstakingly plotted individual star positions onto Mercator maps scaled to fit available maps of Earth.² I pasted stars (as circle dots) onto a large

clear acetate overlay and slid it back and forth across physiographic Mercator maps of the world at the same scale, searching for specific places on the Earth where significant stars or constellations might imprint cosmic forces every 23 hours 56 minutes in a great rhythmic “pulse” as the Earth rotated on her axis. I included the galactic equator, the celestial equator, and the ecliptic plane and Zodiac on the Star overlay map. This tedious and ambitious Star effort took many years to complete, with lots of interruptions and gaps in between. Even when all the stars were accurately plotted, it took time to find the “right” correspondence between Stars and Earth (see figure 9).

I was primarily searching for physiographic features on Earth that might hold clues to Star-Earth correspondences: significant mountain peaks, bodies of water, volcanic craters, perhaps “hot spots” where magma leaked through the upper crust of the earth, edges of tectonic plates, and earthquake zones, places where unusual mineral or metal deposits might be found, unusual features and conditions on the ocean floor, land-mass shapes reflecting on Earth the positions of the ecliptic and the Milky Way—any phenomena that might clearly show in the Star-Earth interactions the revelations of Astro-Gaia Sophia came under consideration. I also strung a physiographic

1 In 1983, quite independent from my “discovery” concerning an Astro-Gaiasophical correspondence between Orion and Africa, Robert Bauval began to explore correspondences between the three Giza Pyramids and the three stars in Orion’s belt. Bauval published his research as *The Orion Mystery* eleven years later, in 1994.

2 My friend Robert Freehling initiated using

Mercator maps to compare Star positions with Earth positions.

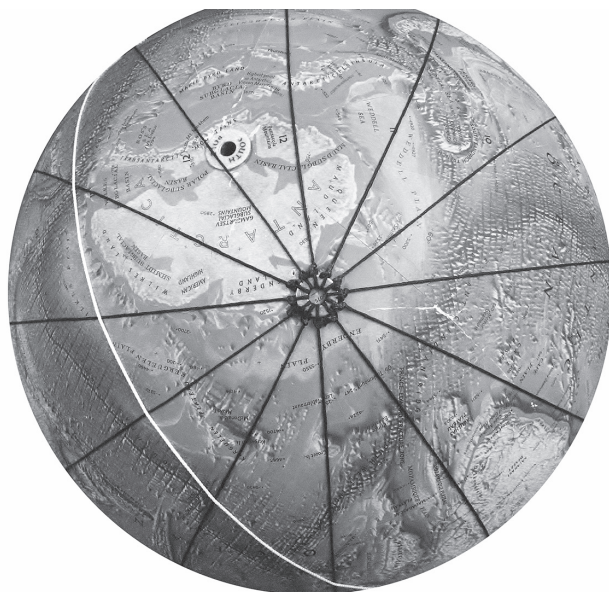


Figure 10: South Ecliptic Pole

globe of the Earth with 12 *ecliptic meridian lines* between likely positions of the *north ecliptic pole* and *south ecliptic pole* along the Arctic Circle and the Antarctic Circle (see figures 4 and 10). This research work proceeded slowly over many years. However, I kept coming back to examine Orion's position over Africa more carefully.

While Orion and Africa clearly “fit” together, how did the Star-Earth alignments appear more precisely? Orion's belt stars presently lie within less than 2° south of the *celestial equator*. As the Earth turns on its axis each day, Orion's belt stars *pass directly overhead* across a narrow band of the Earth's surface within 2° south of the *Earth's equator*. Are any distinctive geographical features found in Africa just south of the equator? Yes—*Lake Victoria, the source of the Nile River*, lies directly beneath the *zenith passage* of the three stars of Orion's belt! (The term *zenith passage* refers to a *star's crossing directly overhead* above a place on the Earth's surface.) The Great Rift Valley and several volcanoes and craters can be found in close proximity to the west and east of Lake Victoria. Just to the east stands Mount Kilimanjaro, a triple-peaked volcano that is the highest point in Africa. The three stars of the belt of Orion make zenith passages over this part of

equatorial Africa every day. Is there an obvious correlation between the belt stars of Orion and the Lake Victoria/ Mount Kilimanjaro area on the Earth?

Positioning Orion's three belt stars at their *zenith passage* above Lake Victoria in eastern Africa, I examined the *zenith passages* of the Stars above regions of the Earth at that very same moment, trying to “fine tune” the *direct zenith-projection alignments* to be able to map them. The result is shown in a series of maps and photos of the Zodiacal sectors on the Earth globe. [See figure 9.] Please note there are three continuous dark lines depicted: the horizontal line depicting the *equatorial plane* passing through the *Earth's equator* extends out to the celestial sphere; the gently sinuous line of the *ecliptic plane* along which the Sun travels through the 12 constellations of the Zodiac over the course of the year; and the higher and lower sinuous line representing the *galactic equator* that represents the central plane of the Milky Way Galaxy encircling our Earth and solar system.

STUDYING THE EARTH-STAR MAPS OF ASTRO-GAIASOPHY

First, let's look at the divisions of the Earth more generally. The *Earth's equator* divides the Earth in northern and southern hemispheres; the **North Pole** found in the northern hemisphere points toward the star Polaris in Ursa Minor, and the **South Pole** in the southern hemisphere points toward Octans, a dim constellation.

The **Zodiac** is depicted along the sinuous **ecliptic plane** shown as a dark line intersecting the equator. The ecliptic plane also divides the Earth into two hemispheres, and the ecliptic has a **north ecliptic pole in Alaska** and a **south ecliptic pole in the South Indian Ocean below Madagascar**. The north ecliptic pole points toward **Draco**, and the south ecliptic pole points toward the constellation of **Dorado**.

At this present time (2014) the ecliptic intersects the equator at about 5° of **Pisces the Fishes** very near the mouth of the Amazon River, at about 52° 45" West longitude. (The Earth's equator is



Figure 11: *Cygnus the Swan above North America (above);*
Figure 12: *The Great Bear above Russia*

0° latitude.) Around March 21st the Sun crosses this position (the vernal point in the northern hemisphere).

The ecliptic extends up into the Northern hemisphere until it reaches 23½° North latitude at about 5° of **Gemini the Twins** as it crosses the **Red Sea** at 37° 15" East longitude. Around June 21, the Sun reaches this position (summer solstice in the northern hemisphere).

From there the ecliptic slowly turns southeastward and crosses the equator once again at about 5° of **Virgo the Virgin** near the **Indonesian island of Halma-hera**, west of New Guinea, at 127° 15" East longitude. Around September 21, the Sun reaches this position (autumnal equinox in the northern hemisphere).

The ecliptic continues southward to reach 23.5° South latitude at about 5° of **Sagittarius the Archer** just south of the **Tuamotu Islands** in the South Pacific at 142° 45" West longitude. The Sun crosses this position around December 22. From there the ecliptic moves northward toward its crossing point on the equator on March 21.

Before we study the Zodiac positions in more detail, please note that there is a great heavenly bird flying across much of western North America—not an eagle as suggested by Moira Timms, but rather **Cygnus the Swan** (see figure 11). The wings of Cygnus extend diagonally from the Canadian Rocky Mountains southeastward through the Great Plains and appear to terminate in the Gulf of Mexico. The body of Cygnus the Swan flies near the Milky Way Galaxy; his tail feathers extend above Lake Superior and Lake Michigan, and the bright star Deneb imprints above western South Dakota. His neck extends southwest past the Gulf of California and Baja as Cygnus flies out into the Pacific Ocean.

When we observe eastern Asia, just as Moira Timms had suggested, we find the **Great Bear** lumbering over the Russian Federation as well as above parts of Mongolia and China (see figure 12). We have already discussed the significance of **Orion** imprinting over eastern Africa above and below the equator.

The **Galactic Equator**—the central plane of the Milky Way—imprints the Earth in a striking way. The Galactic Equator is tilted off the equatorial

plane by about 63° . As we examine figure 9 and certain detailed maps, we will find that the Galactic Equator passes right **through the Red Sea** and continues across the Eastern Mediterranean up **through the Aegean Sea** and into central Europe and the North Sea across northern Scotland, across the North Atlantic to touch the southern tip of Greenland and the northern tip of Labrador and Quebec through the southeastern corner of Hudson Bay, descending southwest across Ontario and Minnesota out into the Great Plains and out through the northwest tip of Mexico into the Pacific Ocean. The Galactic Equator continues southward below New Zealand and Australia, turning northwest through the Indian Ocean and on through the Red Sea.

What is the significance of the **Galactic Equator**—the plane of the Milky Way galaxy—as it imprints mother Earth? Please note that the Milky Way itself is a band of varying width that extends hundreds of miles along either side of the Galactic Equator. The Milky Way serves as a kind of threshold for human beings, linking the *not yet born*, the *living*, and *those who have died*. The Milky Way's imprint upon the Earth seems to divide the Earth into different cultures that could very roughly be termed “Eastern” and “Western” cultures. And those parts of the Earth that lie several hundred miles on either side of the Galactic Equator—that is, those regions above which the Milky Way imprints the Earth—tend to be places where cultural mixing is taking place—sometimes easily, sometimes with great tensions. Much more research needs to be done to characterize the imprinted Milky Way's influence upon the Earth and human beings.

EXPLORING THE ZODIAC IMPRINTED ON THE EARTH: A BRIEF EASTWARD JOURNEY

On figure 13, **Capricorn**, the Goat with a fish's tail, appears to be swimming away from the Andes out into the Pacific Ocean. Why else would a mountain goat need a fish's tail? Capricorn climbs high mountain peaks that plunge directly into the Pacific. On figure 14, the Zodiacal Sector



Figure 13: Capricorn and Aquarius (above);
Figure 14: Capricorn and Aquarius Sectors

of Capricorn includes all the western mountain ranges of North America and the southern tip of the Andes in South America, but a large portion of the **Capricorn Sector** is the eastern edge of the Pacific Ocean. Directly above the horns of Capricorn is the bright star Altair, part of Aquila the Eagle which flies above his head. This is an active tectonic zone along the eastern Rim of Fire.

The **Capricorn Sector** includes: e. Alaska, sw. Yukon, British Columbia, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, w. Montana, w. Wyoming, California, Nevada, Utah, w. Colorado, Arizona, w. New



Figure 15: Pisces and Aries

Mexico, sw. Texas, Baja California, w. Mexico, e. Pacific Ocean, s. Chile, s. Argentina, Tierra del Fuego, n. Antarctic Peninsula, Queen Maud Land.

Aquarius the Water-Carrier extends his right arm above Capricorn as if gathering the waters of the Pacific, but he pours water out of his pitcher at the equator just to the east of the Andes Mountains into the western headwater region of the Amazon River basin near Ecuador (see figures 13 and 14). It is remarkable how the north-south trending Andes Mountains “jog” to the northwest along the length of the body of Aquarius. Looked at as a whole, the **Aquarius Sector** covers some of the largest basins of water in the world: many of the Canadian lakes, most of the Missouri-Mississippi River basin, the western Great Lakes, the Gulf of Mexico, the Caribbean Sea, the area around Panama where the Pacific and Atlantic nearly join together, most of the Amazon Basin, and the southern river basins of South America into the South Atlantic Ocean. The rainforests, freshwater basins, and prime agricultural lands covered by Aquarius Sector reveal that

Gaia breathes life through the realm of Aquarius the Water-Carrier.

The **Aquarius Sector** includes: ne. Alaska, central Yukon, sw. Northwest Territories, Alberta, w. Saskatchewan, sw. Manitoba, sw. Ontario, e. Montana, North Dakota, Minnesota, w. Lake Superior, w. Michigan, Lake Michigan, South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, e. Colorado, Kansas, Kentucky, West Virginia, w. Virginia, Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, Tennessee, w. North Carolina, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, Louisiana, Florida, e. Mexico, Gulf of Mexico, Cuba, Caribbean Sea, Bahamas, Guatemala, Belize, El Salvador, Honduras,

Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Jamaica, Haiti, Dominican Republic, w. Puerto Rico, e. Pacific Ocean, e. Galapagos Islands, Colombia, Ecuador, Venezuela, w. Guyana, w. Brazil, Peru, Bolivia, n. Chile, Paraguay, n. Argentina, Uruguay, Falkland Islands, sw. Atlantic Ocean.

On figure 15, **Pisces the Fishes** are swimming in the Atlantic Ocean. The easternmost Fish is swimming northward toward Labrador Bay and Greenland, into the region where Andromeda is chained to a rock. The westernmost Fish has achieved landfall along the northern shores of South America just above the equator. Both Fishes appear to be bound by a common cord that is anchored in the mid-Atlantic close to the equator, and below the equator is Cetus the Sea Monster. Above the equator is the square of Pegasus, the Flying Horse. The ecliptic plane crosses the equator near the mouth of the Amazon Basin, where the vernal Sun crosses in Pisces. Most of the Pisces Sector covers portions of the North Atlantic and South Atlantic Oceans, along with

the northeastern portions of South America (see figure 16).

The **Pisces Sector** includes: Alaska, n. Yukon, e. Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Hudson Bay, ne. Saskatchewan, ne. Manitoba, ne. Ontario, Quebec, Labrador, Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Maine, e. Lake Superior, Lake Huron, Lake Erie, ne. Michigan, New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, e. West Virginia, e. Virginia, e. North Carolina, Bermuda, w. North Atlantic Ocean, e. Puerto Rico, Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Saint Lucia, Barbados, Saint Vincent and The Grenadines, Grenada, Trinidad and Tobago, ne. Venezuela, Guyana, Suriname, French Guiana, e. Brazil, Trinidad, w. South Atlantic Ocean.

Aries the Ram can also be viewed on figures 15 and 16. Aries leads with his head as he ventures offshore westward from Africa into the Atlantic Ocean. But the Ram is turning his head back over his shoulder as if to gaze upon northern Africa, Europe, and the Mediterranean. The body of Aries is firmly anchored in northwestern Africa. Rudolf Steiner conveys that there is deep meaning in the fact that the Ram looks backward over his shoulder; the head and brain carry out a reflective, contemplative activity while one is also fully engaged in moving forward through life. Below the Ram, the head of Cetus the Sea Monster raises its head, while above the Ram we find Andromeda.

The **Aries Sector** includes: Alaska, Yukon, Nunavut (Baffin Island), w. Greenland, coastal Newfoundland, Labrador Sea, North Atlantic Ocean, Azores, Portugal, w. Spain, Gibraltar, Canary Islands, w. Morocco, w. Algeria, Mauritania, w. Mali, Senegal, Cape Verde, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Upper Volta, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo, Benin, South Atlantic Ocean, Ascension Islands, St. Helena Islands.

Taurus the Bull can be seen on figures 17 and 18 (next pages). Taurus dominates northern Africa. The Pleiades cluster stands above south-central Algeria, while the Hyades—the stars that form the “V” of the face of the Bull—stand over eastern



Figure 16 Pisces and Aries Sectors

Nigeria and Chad. Aldebaran, the bright Eye of the Bull, stands above western Chad, and the horns of the Bull extend through Libya and Sudan into Egypt and the Nile River. The Bull's horns touch into the Milky Way near the Nile River and Red Sea. Below Taurus the Bull we find the bright stars of Orion, whose belt stars straddle the equator. Orion dominates south-central Africa just as the Taurus the Bull dominates northern Africa. Unlike most regions, the Taurus Sector extends over the greatest landmass of all the Zodiacal Sectors—much of Greenland, Europe, and the length of Africa is under the guidance of Taurus the Bull. Much of Western Europe is covered by the hero Perseus, from the British Isles down through France and Spain across the western Mediterranean into northwestern Africa. Perseus has cut the head off the Medusa and is on his way to saving Andromeda from being consumed by Cetus the Sea Monster. There are many wonderful legends about these starry figures among the peoples whose lands bear their imprint. This entire Taurus Sector bears amazing landscapes and habitats, including Scandinavia and the British Isles, most of Europe including the Alps, the Carpathians and Pyrenees, the Mediterranean landscapes, and the



Figure 17: Taurus and Gemini

bulk of Africa—the Great Rift Valley, the Congo Basin, the Sahara and Kalahari Deserts, thousands of miles of shorelines and remarkable monuments left by ancient civilizations and empire-builders. One could spend a lifetime exploring the landscapes and places covered by the Taurus Sector.

The **Taurus Sector** includes: Alaska, Yukon, Queen Elizabeth Islands, n. Greenland, Greenland Sea, w. Spitsbergen, Iceland, Norwegian Sea, Norway, Sweden, Baltic Sea, w. Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Denmark, Lithuania, Scotland, England, Ireland, Wales, North Sea, Byelorussia, San Marino, Poland, Luxembourg, Germany, Liechtenstein, Netherlands, Belgium,

France, Montenegro, Czech Republic, Hungary, Austria, Switzerland, w. Ukraine, Monaco, Italy, Sicily, Adriatic Sea, Vatican City, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Romania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Macedonia, Albania, Moldova, Mediterranean Sea, Sardinia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, w. Turkey, e. Morocco, e. Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, w. Egypt, e. Mali, Niger, Chad, w. Sudan, Nigeria, Cameroon, Central African Republic, w. Uganda, Burundi, Rwanda, Equatorial Guinea, Sao Tome and Principe, Gabon, Congo, Zaire, Angola, w. Zambia, Angola, Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Swaziland, Lesotho, nw. Mozambique, South Atlantic Ocean.

Gemini the Twins can also be viewed on figures 17 and 18. The Twins stand northeast of the Bull, on the eastern side of the Galactic Equator that runs through the center of the Milky Way. The Galactic Equator imprints the Earth here along the length of the Red Sea. The Galactic anti-center (pointing away from the center of the Milky Way Galaxy) imprints its position in the



Figure 18: Taurus and Gemini Sectors

Sinai Peninsula, about 29° North latitude. The Twins appear to be wading in the Milky Way with their feet planted just east of the Red Sea, and their bodies extend across the lower Arabian Peninsula across the Persian Gulf into Iran and Pakistan. **Castor**, the head of one Twin, stands above Iran, and **Pollux**, the head of the other Twin, stands above western Pakistan. Gemini the Twins have a great deal to do with relationships, symmetries and asymmetries. Many cultures within the Gemini Sector undergo dramatic extremes through their relationships with others, and this sector is a dynamic region.

The **Zodiacal Sector of Gemini** includes: Alaska, Arctic Ocean, North Pole, Barents Sea, e. Spitsbergen, ne. Norway, e. Finland, w. Russian Federation, e. Ukraine, Black Sea, Georgia, e. Turkey, w. Kazakhstan, Caspian Sea, Armenia, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Syria, e. Mediterranean Sea, Cyprus, Lebanon, Israel, Pakistan, Jordan, e. Egypt, w. Afghanistan, w. Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Persian Gulf, Red Sea, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Oman, Yemen, Arabian Sea, e. Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia, e. Uganda, Kenya, e. Tanzania, e. Zambia, e. Mozambique, Malawi, Madagascar, sw. Indian Ocean.

Cancer the Crab stands directly above India, as shown on figure 19. The Crab has a hard shell to protect its tender interior organs, and in the human form the Crab forms our rib cage that protects our heart and lungs. It is remarkable to see on figure 20 how the subcontinent of India is bounded by the steep Himalayan Mountains to the north and by the Arabian Sea, Bay of Bengal,



Figure 19: Cancer and Leo



Figure 20: Cancer and Leo Sectors

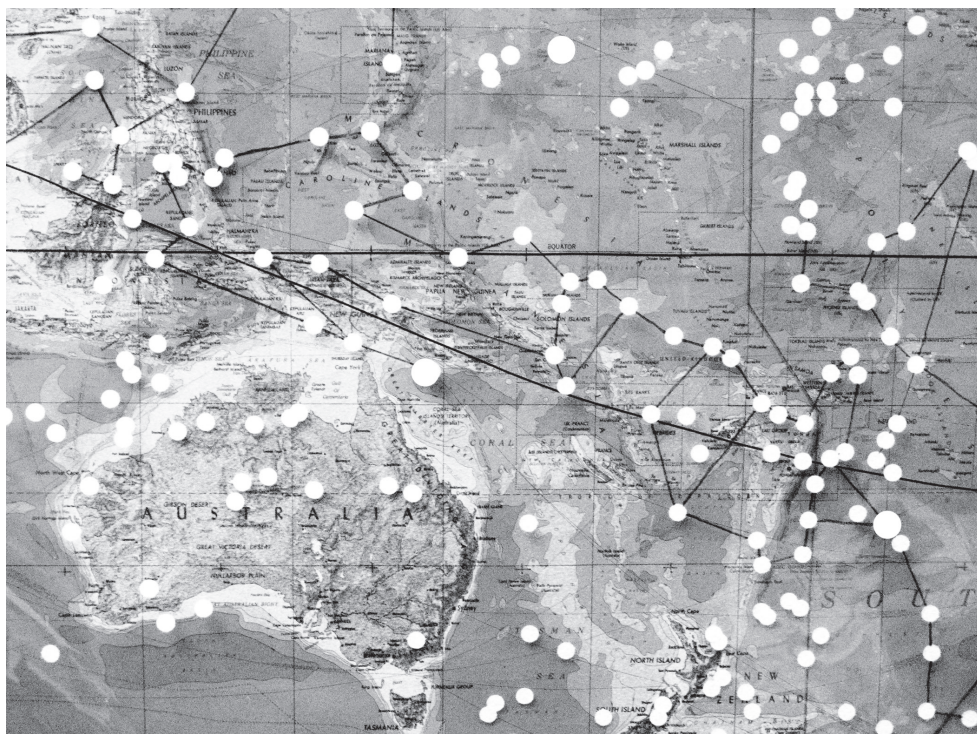


Figure 21: Virgo and Libra



Figure 22: Virgo, Libra, and Scorpio Sectors

and Indian Ocean along its southern shorelines. Beyond the Himalayas are the Plateau of Tibet and a series of mountain ranges, plateaus, and basins extending north to the Central Siberian Plateau. The Cancer Sector includes dynamic and varied landscapes.

The Cancer Sector includes: nw. Alaska, Arctic Ocean, Russian Federation, e. Kazakhstan, w. Mongolia, w. Gobi Desert, w. China, Tibet, e. Afghanistan, e. Pakistan, India, Bhutan, Nepal, Kamchatka Peninsula, Japan, Sea of Japan, e. China, Yellow Sea, East China Sea, e. Gobi Desert, North Korea, South Korea, Taiwan, Vietnam, Laos, e. Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, South China Sea, Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, Sumatra, Borneo, Java, Christmas Island, se. Indian Ocean.

Leo the Lion can also be seen on figures 19 and 20. Regulus, the Heart of the Lion, imprints into the region west of the Indochina Peninsula, in the Andaman Sea in southern Myanmar, south-east of Yangon and southwest from Bangkok in Thailand. The Lion's head and mane extend northwesterly toward southern China and Bangladesh. The Lion's forepaws reach into the Bay of Bengal, and the stars marking his hindquarters stand over the South China Sea below Hong Kong and the Philippines Islands. The Leo Sector extends northward through Japan and southward through Borneo, Sumatra, and Java into the southern Indian Ocean. This region of the Far East has remarkable dynastic cultures whose wisdom can be traced back into the ending periods of Atlantis. Residents of the Leo Sector feel that they are living in the Heart of the World,

and they possess a regal heart quality that can be courageous and strong-willed, as well as gracious.

The **Leo Sector** includes: nw. Alaska, Chukchi Sea, Russian Federation, Sea of Okhotsk, Kamchatka Peninsula, Japan, Sea of Japan, e. China, Yellow Sea, East China Sea, e. Gobi Desert, North Korea, South Korea, Taiwan, Vietnam, Laos, e. Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, South China Sea, Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, Sumatra, Borneo, Java, Christmas Island, se. Indian Ocean.

Virgo the Virgin imprints her Wisdom along the ecliptic as it crosses the equator in the Indonesian Islands and continues southeasterly through New Guinea. Ptolemy described the Virgin as lying down along the ecliptic, although in the Egyptian zodiac of Denderah she is pictured standing upright. Here in figure 21 we find the Virgin's head in the Philippines and her body extending the length of New Guinea to the Solomon Islands. The bright star Spica imprints just below the southeastern tip of New Guinea. Most of the **Virgo Sector** seen in figure 22 stands above oceans, but western and central Australia is within her realm.

The **Virgo Sector** includes: w. Alaska, Bering Sea, w. Aleutian Islands, w. North Pacific Ocean, e. Philippine Sea, Bonin Islands, Volcano Islands/Iwo Jima, Northern Mariana Islands, Mariana Trench, Micronesia, Mindanao, Papua, New Guinea, Indonesian Islands, e. Lesser Sunda Islands, western and central Australia, Northern Territory, w. South Australia, Southeast Indian Ocean, w. Queensland, South Australia Basin.

Libra the Scales can also be seen in figures 21 and 22. Libra consists of two pans of scales, on one of which the Virgin stands while the Scorpion clasps the other pan. As imprinted along the ecliptic, Libra the Scales includes the Marshall Islands and Solomon Islands and the Libra Sector extends south to eastern Australia and Tasmania and western New Zealand. Most of the Libra Sector includes portions of the North and South

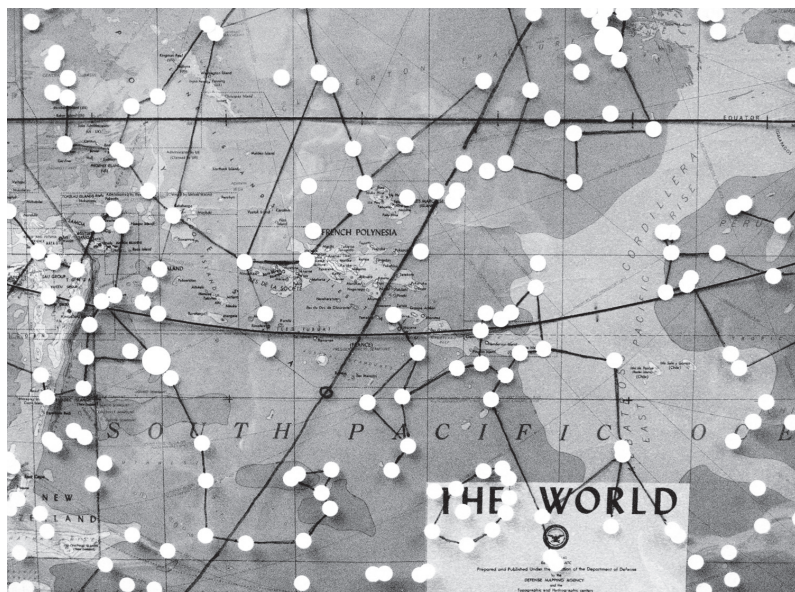


Figure 23: Scorpio and Sagittarius

Atlantic. The only other sectors that cover more water are those of Scorpio and Sagittarius.

The **Libra Sector** includes: Alaskan Peninsula, e. Aleutian Islands, Kodiak Island, North Pacific Ocean, Midway Island, Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands, Fiji, e. Australia, e. Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, w. South Pacific Ocean, w. New Zealand, Wilkes Land, and Antarctica.

Scorpio the Scorpion (or Eagle) extends along and below the ecliptic as it continues southeastward into the South Pacific. See figure 23. Scorpio is only the lower half of a greater constellation that includes Ophiucus the Serpent-Bearer. Ophiucus is the healer who holds the Serpent of wisdom wrapped around his waist and keeps the Scorpion and its sting of death underfoot. The stinger of the Scorpion stands in the Milky Way, which may add spiritual insight to the role of the Milky Way as a path of the dead out into the spiritual world and of the unborn back into life. Ophiucus extends north across the equator toward the Hawaiian Islands, while the Scorpion reaches into the southern ocean depths east of New Zealand.

The **Scorpio Sector** includes: Alaska, North Pacific Ocean, Hawaiian Islands, South Pacific Ocean, Phoenix Islands, Samoa, Society Islands,

Tubuai Islands, Tonga, e. New Zealand, Antarctica, and Ross Sea.

Sagittarius the Archer guards and holds sway over the Galactic Center, the center of our Milky Way Galaxy. The tip of the Archer's arrow points toward the Galactic Center, which lays just a few degrees away. On figure 23 the Galactic Center is indicated by a black circle along the Galactic Equator.

The **Zodiacal Sector of Sagittarius** includes: Alaska, Yukon, North Pacific Ocean, Alexander Archipelago, Marquesas Islands, French Polynesia, South Pacific Ocean, Tuamotu Archipelago, Marie Byrd Land, Antarctica, South Pole.

ASTRO-GAIASOPHY, ASTROCLIMATOLOGY, ASTROGEOGRAPHIA

The correspondences outlined above and illustrated in this article form part of the cognitive framework for the research in *Astro-Gaiasophy* undertaken by the author for over three decades. The cognitive framework underlying *Astro-Gaiasophy*—*direct zenith projections of Stars onto the Earth*—differs significantly from the approach taken by Dennis Klocek in developing *Astroclimatology*, and it differs even more from the approach taken by Robert Powell and David Bowden in developing *Astrogeographia*.

My early research into the mysteries of *Astro-Gaiasophy* preceded and in some small way helped guide Dennis Klocek's initial steps in developing his *Astroclimatology* and also Robert Powell's initial steps in developing his *Astrogeographia*. These friends and colleagues are creative researchers who found seed imaginations revealed in Astro-Gaiasophy (about the relationship between the Earth and the Zodiac) that they applied while pursuing their own original research.

While initiating his initial research into *Astroclimatology* in 1984 or 1985, Dennis Klocek approached the author with the question, "*Where on Earth is the Zodiac?*" I shared my Orion-Africa alignment discovery with Dennis, which he adapted and applied to his own research into weather patterns and planetary movements against the background of the Zodiac. Dennis

Klocek has developed Astroclimatology into an extremely accurate method of weather forecasting, which he has successfully employed for many years. Dennis's work, along with that done by Brian Keats (Dennis's counterpart in the southern hemisphere) has become published and well known for accuracy and originality. The author feels grateful to have witnessed this remarkable and original research in Astroclimatology grow and become fruitful.

After viewing the author's maps of *Astro-Gaiasophy* over a period of several years and supportively encouraging their publication, in 2005 Robert Powell initiated his own independent research that developed into *Astrogeographia*. The maps produced by Astrogeographia differ considerably from those of Astro-Gaiasophy. Robert Powell has found remarkable correspondences between his star-projections and significant mystery centers and cultural sites on the Earth. In 2012 Robert Powell and David Bowden published their original research findings in the book, *Astrogeographia—Correspondences between the Stars and Earthly Locations*.¹

Though I have shared the fruits of Astro-Gaiasophy with friends and have presented several lectures on this topic over the past 30 years, this article is the first time this research has been published. The author feels a deep moral responsibility toward Astro-Gaia Sophia to honor and protect her mystery wisdom, and thus I have been reluctant to reveal these findings. After contemplating these mysteries for more than 30 years, only now does it feel appropriate to begin publishing some portion of the findings of Astro-Gaiasophy.

Dennis Klocek and Robert Powell have each graciously acknowledged my work as helpful in stimulating their own independent research, which they have pursued vigorously and with wonderful results. My relationships with these colleagues are filled with respect, admiration, and gratitude; a great deal of my work has also been stimulated by their encouragement, support, and dedicated research, and I honor and acknowledge their significant gifts and contributions to humanity.

¹ Powell and Bowden, *Astrogeographia*.

Each creative human being derives his/her own *moral intuitions* and *moral imaginations* from the spiritual world through the activity and initiative of the divine “I” dwelling within. Although our research approaches and the directions of interest differ from one another, as free human beings we celebrate one another’s contributions and successes with great joy and appreciation. Our individual goals are related but distinct from one another, and I fully appreciate our mutual interests and the differences between our approaches. I am honored to share in our mutual striving to bring Star Wisdom and Earth Wisdom together and make it fruitful for our fellow human beings.

ASTRO-GAIASOPHY AND THE ROLE OF JERUSALEM

Astro-Gaiasophy attempts to stay true to the phenomena presented to human beings for our contemplation; but what is given for us to observe and think about is not limited to the realm of sense perceptions, but rather should be extended into living pictures—imagination and inspirations. Steiner gave the following description of *how Jerusalem is perceived by the dead*:

But it is particularly important to acquire not just abstract conceptions, but such *pictures* of the universe. We acquire a picture of the Earth when we imagine a Sphere floating in cosmic space, gleaming on one side in shades of blue and violet, on the other side burning, sparkling red and yellow; and between a belt of green. Conceptions which have the character of *pictures* gradually carry us over into the spiritual world. That is what matters. It is necessary to put forward such picture-conceptions, if one is speaking in an earnest sense about the spiritual worlds; and it is necessary too that such conceptions are not regarded as if they were arbitrary inventions, *but that something is made from them*—on this one depends. Let us consider it once more: the Eastern Earth, gleaming in blue and violet—the Western Earth, sparkling reddish-yellow. But other differentiations come in.

If the soul of one who has died contemplates certain points in our present age, then he perceives at the place that is designated here as

Palestine, as Jerusalem, out of the bluish-violet something of a golden form, a golden crystal form, which comes to life. That is Jerusalem, seen from the spirit! That is what also plays a part in the Apocalypse (in so far as I speak of Imaginations) as “heavenly Jerusalem.” These are not things which are thought out. These are things which can be seen. Contemplated from the spirit, the Mystery of Golgotha was as it is in physical observation when the astronomer directs his telescope into cosmic space and then sees something that amazes him, for example the appearance of new stars. *Spiritually, observed from the cosmos, the event of Golgotha was the appearance of a golden star in the blue earth-aura of the eastern half of the earth.* Here you have the Imagination for what I described in conclusion the day before yesterday. It is really important that through such Imaginations conceptions of the Universe are acquired, which enable the human soul to find its place in feeling within the spirit of this Universe.

Try to think this with someone who has died: the crystal form of the heavenly Jerusalem, building up in golden radiance, amid the blue-violet Earth-aura. This will bring you near. This is something which belongs to the Imaginations, into which the soul enters at death: “*Ex Deo nascimur, In Christo morimur!*”...

One approaches spiritual life the more one penetrates from external observation, and particularly from abstract conceptions, to picture conceptions. Copernicus brought men to calculate the universe; the opposite way of seeing things must bring men to form pictures of the universe again; to think of a universe, with which the human soul can identify itself—so that the Earth appears as an organism, shining out into the Cosmos: blue-violet, with the golden, shining heavenly Jerusalem on the one side, and on the other side sparkling reddish-yellow.

From what does the **blue-violet** on one side of the Earth-aura originate? If you see this side of the Earth-sphere, what is physical of the earth disappears, seen from the outside; rather, the light-aura becomes transparent, and the dark of the Earth vanishes. The blue which shows brings this about. You can explain the

phenomenon from Goethe's Theory of Colour. But because the interior of the Earth sparkles out from the western half—sparkles out in such a way that it is true, as I described the day before yesterday, that *man is determined in America by the sub-earthly*; because of this **the interior of the Earth shines and sparkles as a reddish-yellow glow, as a reddish-yellow shooting fire out into the Universe.** This is only intended as a sketch, in quite feeble outlines; but it is meant to show you that it is possible to speak today not only in general abstract ideas about the World in which we live between death and a new birth, but in very concrete conceptions. All this is capable of preparing our souls to reach a connection with the spiritual world, a connection with the higher hierarchies, a connection with that World in which man lives between death and a new birth.¹

This beautiful description of how the dead perceive the Earth as radiating colors from different sectors begins to offer substance to the divisions described in Astro-Gaiasophy, particularly the differences between East and West. One can awaken to the significance of Jerusalem through this pictorial description by Rudolf Steiner. Certainly the place where the Christ Event was enacted bears a very spiritual aura, and David Tresemer² has pointed out that the latitude of Jerusalem—31°47" north latitude—creates unique etheric conditions that are related to the position of the equinox Sun at noon. A shadow cast at noon during the spring equinox and the fall equinox will make visible the Golden Section relationship between the Sun and the Earth at Jerusalem. Rudolf Steiner speaks below about the how the etheric forces shape the physical body in accordance with the Golden Section's relationship:

Right into the second Post-Atlantean Age [Ancient Persia, the age of the Twins] one experienced the *number* qualitatively and into the third [Ancient Egypt, the age of the Bull] still the *measure* [was experienced qualitatively]. The Golden Section, a measure according to proportions, shows how one can measure without abstraction; the etheric body structures the physical body in accordance with cosmic relationships and follows the Golden Section.³

CLOSING THOUGHTS

Astro-Gaiasophy has been gestating for over 30 years, but it is still in its infancy, as the reader of this article will readily surmise. This article presents just a sketch of some of the direct zenith projections of the Stars upon the Earth that have evolved in the author's understanding and that continue to be fruitful year after year. The author does not claim these particular relationships to be the only valid approach to develop Astro-Gaiasophy. However, remaining faithful to the phenomena is certainly the best way to receive the imaginations, inspirations, and intuitions given by Astro-Gaia Sophia about her creative activity. There is a great deal more to be done.

A growing interest in sacred architecture, sacred geometry, astro-archaeology, ancient mythologies, biodynamic agriculture, cosmology—in other words, interest in Star Wisdom and Earth Wisdom—is evident in our time. If this paper stimulates readers to awaken to and develop sensitivities for the workings of Astro-Gaia Sophia, the author would be most grateful.



1 Steiner, "The Earth as Being with Life, Soul and Spirit; The Earth as Seen by the Dead," Mar. 30, 1918, and Apr. 1, 1918, Berlin.

2 Tresemer, "Finding Jerusalem, Part One," *Journal for Star Wisdom* 2013, pp. 34–37.

3 Steiner, "Measure, Number and Weight," April 4–23, 1921; in Husemann, *Knowledge of the Human Being Through Art*, p. 28, Mercury Press, 1990.