

DIPLOMA
OF
SHAMANIC PRACTICE

CERTIFIED PRACTITIONER TRAINING



COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING PROGRAMS 2012

IKON INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALING ARTS AND SCIENCES

THE SHAMAN: VISIONARY PRACTITIONER

Shamans represent the oldest profession on the planet. Their imprimatur is found in palaeolithic art, sculpture and funerary objects. It is also found deeply inscribed on our psyche as a species. For the shaman is the steward of the soul, the being who facilitates the journey from birth, through all of life's transitions, and into death and beyond. This is a journey which defines our human status in the world. It is the stuff of myth and memory as the shaman journeys with us and beyond, unfolding the stories of lives and possibilities in the service of our realization and healing.

The shaman is a visionary practitioner who journeys into other worlds of experience using states of consciousness: the worlds of the body, feelings, life energy, soul and spirit. To do so, the shaman incorporates the world of myth so that navigation becomes possible in other worlds and so becomes the living example of how meaning can be found or generated in the midst of despair and separation from all that could nourish us. Shamanism has inspired psychotherapy, medicine and science. It is an immensely practical profession which engages and expresses all of the possibilities of our human nature. It allows service to others through healing and ritual and the re-creation of the self and our society.

THE PROGRAM

The program has been developed over the last twenty years by Dr. Rafael Locke through research and participation in shamanic practice in a number of cultures around the world ... the Americas, Caribbean, Africa, Southeast Asia and Australia, for example. Commencing in 1989, a series of fascinating and challenging courses has been offered as a sequence for personal and professional development. All of the courses retain a faithful connection with shamanic traditions as well as translating shamanic work into modern idioms of psychology, medicine, anthropology and other disciplines.

CURRICULUM

The program has 12 modules. Each module, except 12, is a 4-day intensive followed by 4x2hour tutorials.

Throughout the program, each student will be supported by professional staff, trained in shamanic practice.

Level 1: Foundations of Shamanism: Visionary Practice

This first level of the program offers a comprehensive introduction to shamanic practice which will also have a strong intellectual base. The shamanic approach to health, illness, and human development will be compared and contrasted with that of the paradigms of traditional biomedical science and mind-body medicine.

Visionary Practice 1: The Faces of the Shaman

This first module explores the fundamental nature of shamanism in human history and culture. It looks at the ways in which shamanism is a part of evolutionary biology and psychology. A detailed examination of the notion of *visionary practice* is undertaken and the many faces of the shaman unfolded priest, healer, medium, story teller, magician, and so on. Shamanism is linked to life in contemporary society in a practical way and there is a special focus on shamanism and healing, linking it to other healing modalities. Shamanic initiation and understanding personal pathways.

Visionary Practice 2: States of consciousness

Exploring shamanic states of consciousness. Shamanic initiation re-visited, crisis/madness and apotheosis. The shamanic journey as symbol and tool. Exploring states of consciousness: types of trance, divided consciousness, dreams and other states. Personal medicine. The medicine wheel in Australia. Shamanic divination. Using visionary/spiritual intelligence. Projection, out of the body journeys. The shaman and death.

Visionary Practice 3: Foundations of Shamanic Healing

The shamanic body and the dreaming process. Fundamentals of shamanic healing in four major processes: 1. Entering the landscape/dreaming; 2. Tapping the stream; 3. Visiting the seat of the soul; 4. Perceiving the energy of life. This is a systematic and practical training program which uses the drum, rattle, symbol, medicine objects and medicine wheel as essential tools. This module focuses work on shamanism as a healing vocation, focusing on healing with individuals, groups, and communities.

Visionary Practice 4: Ritual and Myth in Shamanic Work

Ritual, myth and symbol in healing practice. The meaning of ritual and how it is used in shamanic practice. How ritual works psychologically, socially and parapsychologically. Working with people to develop ritual processes and implementing them effectively. Types of rituals and specific needs of clients. Personal and social rituals. The transformation process.

Level 2: Advanced Practice Skills

Advanced Practice 1: The Journey of the Soul

The major focus of this module is the area of soul damage and soul loss. This is central to traditional shamanic practice but is also relevant to contemporary society, our lives in stressful times. Exploring traditional ceremonies for working with soul damage and loss. Related notions of spirit illness, the call and the opening of the pathway. Entry of the soul into this world and exit. Types of problems which arise, diagnosis and treatment.

Advanced Practice 2: Sorcery and Counter-sorcery

Shamanism, healing and sorcery. Type I and Type II sorcery: The psychological, parapsychological, social and political aspects of sorcery. How ritual sorcery is performed, its meaning and impact. Sorcery, illness and madness. Diagnosing sorcery: distinguishing sorcery effects from other forms of illness and disability. Setting up and executing counter-sorcery measures.

Advanced Practice 3: Possession States

Shamanism and possession. Gaining a working knowledge of possession in shamanic work as a tool and also as a problem which shamans deal with. Unpacking the types and stages of possession and its relation to obsession. Possession and madness. Possession and consciousness.

Level 3: Shamanic Worlds and Culture-Specific Practices

Shamanic worlds 1: African Shamanism

The world of the sangoma: Practical explorations of the lives and work of sangomas in southern Africa with special attention to the mythology, medicine ways and ancestral practices which define the sangoma's role and vocation. Translating the world and work of the sangoma into an Australian context. Gathering medicines from nature and rendering them.

Shamanic worlds 2: Australian Shamanism

Spirit of earth and sky. Shamanism in Australia. Aboriginal shamanism explored, concepts of the Dreaming. Europeans in Australia and the development of a pan-Australian shamanism. Mythology and ceremony for our times. The Australian physical and spiritual landscapes: the totemic world, the elemental world, the symbolic world.

Shamanic worlds 3: Native American Shamanism

The material here is an exciting coverage of the traditions of some of the major North American cultures as well as an introduction to some features of shamanism in Central and South America. There will be an emphasis, as always, on ways in which the shamanic practices of other cultures can speak to us in our worlds and be of service.

Shamanic worlds 4: Contemporary Practice Topics in Australian society

This module covers the range of factors which a shamanic practitioner will need to understand and incorporate into practice in Australia. This includes matters relating to mental health, medicine, ethical and legal issues as well as refining diagnostic abilities. Setting up and building a successful practice: pitfalls and promises.

Practicum

Vision Quest

Traditional path-seeking through ordeal. Every student who wishes to be certified as practitioners is required to undertake a 3-day vision quest in the central desert. This ritual will consolidate the shamanic perspective and inform each student of their personal path and medicine. Details available closer to the date of the quest.

Membership of the Australian Shamanic Practitioners Association is available on graduation.

This program represents a set of programs which reflect ways in which Australians can establish a meaningful spiritual sense of their place in Australia, and the world, with a specific focus on the creation of an Australian spirituality and shamanic practice which are practical and relevant to our times and needs. It is called the Australian Dreaming Project.

FEES [including GST]

\$10,000.00

Deposit: \$1000.00

Payment schemes available [After deposit, 11 payments ... i.e., one per module]

STAFF

Dr. Rafael Locke is the founder and director of Ikon Institute and the Spirit of the Earth Medicine Society. He has worked extensively with shamans in the Americas, Africa, Asia and Australia. He is an initiated and practising shaman, widely versed in medicine ways. He has trained people in shamanic techniques in the US and Australia over the last 20 years. He has published several books, including *Altered States of Consciousness and Psi* [with Edward Kelly], *The Gift of Proteus: Shamanism and the Transformation of Being* and *Throwing the Bones: Fundamentals of Shamanic Practice*.

Other Staff: The program draws upon the highly skilled personnel of Ikon Institute and the Spirit of the Earth Medicine Society, a national organization as well as others within the national and international communities who have extensive experience in shamanic practice. Staff will vary from state to state, accordingly. SOTEMS shamans, experienced practitioners who will teach in the program, include:

Andrew Marks, NSW; Terry Larson, Vic; Guy Brunette, Vic, Marcus Ferguson, NSW

FURTHER INFORMATION & ENROLMENTS

NSW

Andrew Marks: 0414 707 876
Marcus Ferguson: 0400 677 299

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