Consciousness, Creativity & Responsibility

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The 10th Continental Meeting was held in October in conjunction with the Club of Budapest. It was a highly successful meeting, combining very stimulating presentations with time for exchange and discussion and a little sightseeing besides.

Most participants arrived on the Friday, on an overcast afternoon. We quickly found our rooms at The Dunapart Hotel - an old Black Sea cruise boat. We were then escorted into the evening by our local hostess, Maria. We walked across the famous chain bridge and got our first views of the city illuminated and sparkling in the river's reflections. The majestic castle and Matthias church looked down from the Buda hills. We supped in an Indian vegetarian restaurant called Gandhi, served by a shaven-headed Buddhist waiter.

Saturday was the start of business. DAVID LORIMER welcomed the 60 participants and we then spent about 15 minutes introducing ourselves in groups of four or five. Professor ERVIN LASZLO then introduced the theme of the weekend. He suggested that human beings were embedded through consciousness with each other and the universe and that this formed a whole. For the whole to function it needs coherence, which we have currently lost. He felt we needed to awaken a greater sense of participation and thus responsibility in ourselves and others. This may be achieved through working on our own consciousness and creativity. ANDRAS LASZLO of the Club then expanded on the theme of Creativity. He suggested that we should turn within, taking responsibility for our own thoughts, words and deeds, and try to be creative in our daily lives. This prompted a question from the audience - Is it better to do nothing or to act incoherently? CORNELIUS SLENTERS then expounded on his LOTA theory. This offers a new philosophy of science, based on the thesis that each one of us is a unique interconnected particle driving the design of the universe. The theory aims to unite Western science, oriental philosophy and New Age concepts; to me it was a reflection of the old saying 'as above, so below'. ATTILA GRANDPIERRE - a cosmologist and rock musician discussed his view of man's different cognitive abilities. He divided thinking into rational logic, inner intuition and emotional intelligence. He suggested that logic was a creative power with which we could reveal the nature of the universe and tap into our intuitive knowledge.

After lunch, Dr ZITA MAKOI presented her observations of non-verbal communication between a mother and her newborn baby. She felt that a baby responds to the mother's internal emotional state, rather than her social mask, and the communication reflects how one communicates with oneself. This requires trust, forgiveness, responsibility, discipline and love. HEINER BENKING took us through interspaces and interfaces at cracking speed. He stated that we do not see the coherence of the world because it is difficult to communicate complexity. He felt that we need an architecture of thinking spaces and outlined a model involving worm's-eye, fish-eye, man's-eye, bird's-eye and mind's-eye views. INGO TALEB-RASHID, a Sufi, got us out of our seats at last. He told us that in the Sufi tradition people are taught by experience not intellect. He led us through a few simple exercises to help us feel love and our interconnections with each other, by simply putting our right hand on our heart and then on to a neighbour's.

Tea was followed by two more practical sessions. CHARMIAN WYLDE showed us an excerpt from the film, The Bandit Queen, which led on to discussion in small groups of our own reaction to screen violence and whether it could be handled responsibly. She put forward the view that all violence was a 'tragic expression of unmet needs' and this led me to think that perhaps the first step in healing the violence in society today is to recognize and admit to our own violent feelings. ANNE MILLER then stimulated us to use our own creative processes by getting is to think of as many different uses for a paper clip as we could. This produced much hilarity and great inventiveness on the part of several members. She also posed the conundrum of parallel inventions - was this a reflection of the similarities of our intellectual processes, psi, or morphic resonance?

The day was rounded off by supper at a local restaurant and drinks and entertainment at the Hungarian Culture Foundation. Reaching the latter involved a steep 12 minute walk up one of the Buda hills, balancing the day's mental energetics with something more physical! Some of us quickly climbed onto the ramparts to admire the lights of the city below.

Sunday was yet another sunny day, giving us again the glorious vista of the Houses of Parliament opposite our boat, reflected in the Danube. I secretly wished the boat would lose its moorings, carrying us off to reveal more secrets of its riverbanks as it made its way down to the Black Sea.

DR MARIA ANGSTER began the day with a moving description of her work in the field of psycho-oncology. She described her work with groups of cancer patients facilitating selfhealing by stimulating love, forgiveness and mindfulness. DORIS JONES alerted us to the implications of the Strasbourg Convention on Human Rights and Biomedicine, signed last November by thirty-nine European countries. This allows for drug trials to be performed without consent on those in a coma or mentally unwell or very young. The discussion then went on to explore the risks versus benefits of our mass immunization programmes. MARCUS SCHMIEKE, from the Veda Academy in Germany, outlined how science deals with time and 3D space and what we need now is a more multidimensional model. He reminded us that when we look at the stars we are viewing the image of an event that occurred thousands of light years ago. GABOR LEDNYICZKY told us of some of the work being carried out at the Hippocampus Institute. He and his team are working in the field of biodiagnosis and trying to develop technology that will stimulate the self-healing properties of the organism. MARIA SAGI then demonstrated a method of using the quantum holofield of the person to diagnose problems and then treat with geometrical patterns - mostly lines and symbols - and new homoeopathy.

David Lorimer drew the meeting to a close after lunch. If we once accept our interconnectedness we must then take responsibility for our own actions and realize that they have a moral comeback on ourselves. Professor Laszlo looked forward to further joint ventures with the SMN.

We flew home full of the colours, thoughts and ideas we had shared with our fellow participants.