

THE CULTURE OF HONORING

brotherhood / sisterhood / community

co-creating a profound and passionate new culture



***Mark Josephs-Serra ('Joseph') & Elisabeth Josephs-Serra,
co-founders of The Culture of Honoring,
will be visiting California again this summer,
sharing with us their radical understanding of
our masculine and feminine potential.***

***The Culture of Honoring began in the UK in 1993.
It is based on the understanding that
modern society has been shaped by the collusion of an immature
masculinity and an immature femininity —
which are not only devastating our intimate relationships,
but also leading us all towards mass self-destruction.***

***In order to create new relationships, and a new society,
we have to feel how these immature energies are controlling us
from within, learn to ride them, and also cultivate the alternative:
the magical co-creativity
of the authentic masculine and feminine.***

USA PROGRAM ~ SUMMER 2012

There will be three events this summer:

- 1. THE MAP:** 17th-19th August / exploring choice, and discriminating masculine/feminine conditioning from true masculine/feminine power.
- 2. THE JOURNEY:** 20th-24th August / homecoming, brotherhood, sisterhood, community.
- 3. PARTNERSHIP:** 25th-27th August / the pain and potential of intimate relationship.

The whole program will take place near Nevada City, California, in August 2012. All three events will all be held in a beautiful natural setting. The program is not residential, but we can help with accommodation...

1. THE MAP

In this first weekend Elisabeth and Joseph will share the basic ‘map’ that underpins the work of The Culture of Honouring. This is an evolutionary map of the collective unfolding of the masculine and feminine, on which we can all situate our own unique masculine/feminine personalities.

As we come to understand this map – not only intellectually, of course, but in our hearts, and above all, in our bodies – we come to feel how, within us all, at a level deeper than any of the conditioning that has been imposed upon us, our archetypal masculinity and femininity remain beautifully untouched, and ready to be awoken.

The central focus of this weekend will be the theme of ‘choice’. What do we choose, moment to moment – our disturbed, inherited, conditioned masculinity/femininity, or the dignity and beauty of our ancient yet timeless archetypal masculinity/femininity?

To support us in this enquiry we will be working with ‘the destructive triangle’ and ‘the creative triangle’ – these encapsulate the two energy fields that present themselves to us continually - the destructive field we are surrounded by, and that has infiltrated our bodies, hearts and minds, and the creative field we now need to cultivate, that we need to pull up from the core of our beings, and that we need to enshrine at the heart of our relationships and communities.

The masculine has suffered under Patriarchy, just as the feminine has, and both need healing. Both need tender loving care – and so we need to approach this evolutionary task as allies. Going beyond the persecutor/victim paradigm, we need to recognise the power of the feminine heart, and the dignity of true masculine power. And we need to get a ‘taste’ of the energy field that arises when they meet. Only then can we truly choose between the destructive conditioning we have inherited and the beauty we always were – and could live, together, if we became able to choose.

This is the ambitious intention of this weekend: to enable us to recognise the evolutionary choice, and equip us to live it.

2. THE JOURNEY

Having established the ground of our enquiry over the weekend, we will embark together upon an elemental journey – a journey of water, fire, earth and air, a journey with no destination, but rather an ever-deepening experience of living together in intimacy.

Intimacy, true intimacy, which can only arise when we are powerful enough to be vulnerable, will be the energy field that holds our journey. In the trust and freedom of intimacy we will be exploring the passionate fires of the Warrior archetype, the aching and tender waters of the Lover archetype, the sacred loving earth of the Mother archetype, and the spacious spiritual air of the Father archetype.

And following on from the previous weekend's theme of choice, we will be exploring each archetype's shadow ~ the destructive power of the shadow Warrior, the loss of self of the shadow Lover, the possessiveness and obsessiveness of the shadow Mother, and the disembodiment and authoritarianism of the shadow Father. Feeling into how these energies live within our bodies and hearts, recognising them, discriminating the archetype from its shadow, we will gradually become able to choose to live as the masculine/feminine dignity and beauty we truly are.

Community then becomes a realistic possibility. Able to 'breathe underwater' in the energy field of intimacy, together, and able to say 'yes' to our deepest archetypal belonging, we are equipped to honour the womb-wisdom of the deep feminine and to also honour the action-in-freedom of the deep masculine. This is extremely challenging for our conditioned masculinity/femininity, which are so comfortable in domination and submission, and guilt and blame – but it is our deepest, collective longing.

This is the ambitious intention of The Journey: firstly - to offer the experience of an elemental community energy field of deep intimacy and freedom - so that we all come to know in our bones that a mature masculine and feminine society is a realistic possibility – and secondly: to equip each traveller with all he/she needs to be able to sustain themselves on this ever-deepening journey with no destination.

2. PARTNERSHIP

This weekend is not only for couples in committed relationships, it is for anyone who is interested in the archetypal potential of the journey of partnership.

We are offering this weekend because there is no more challenging arena for the masculine and feminine than the journey of one-to-one relationship. Partnerships/Marriages intensify both the masculine/feminine conditioning we bring to the relationship, and also the necessity of making the creative evolutionary choice – every day! And often while bringing up children, supporting elderly parents, and holding down full time jobs!

In this weekend we will be going beyond therapy into the archetypal territory of masculine/feminine disempowerment and empowerment. Therapy can only go so far. It is not its job to address our disconnection from our authentic masculinity and femininity. But without this our relationships go round and round in ever-degenerating circles of frustration and despair.

Eventually, if a relationship is to thrive and come to know its alchemical, archetypal potential, then the masculine partner is going to need to feel trusting enough to let himself* be seen in his neediness and resentment of the feminine. Making both his vulnerability and his distorted power visible will liberate him to act from his masculine center.

And the feminine partner is going to need to feel trusting enough to let herself be seen in the wisdom and power of her knowing. This will liberate her from her addiction to submission, and her frustrated self-assertion – enabling her to act from her feminine center.

Then, meeting from their centres, both in honoring of their own archetypal gifts, and both in honoring of all they receive from each other, the magic that couples touch when they first meet is re-ignited, becomes sustainable, and can ripen to unknown depths.

This is the ambitious intention of this weekend: to equip you with the understandings and skills you'll need to begin travelling towards the beautiful, loving, magical potential of the earthy yet timeless archetypal masculine/feminine union.

* in the case of same-sex partners, the predominantly masculine partner might be a woman.



Joseph is a visionary. As a young man he renounced conventional education, eventually spending ten years as a Hindu monk. In his early thirties he ‘came down the mountain’ and became a successful businessman.

But Joseph still felt uncomfortable. He saw a huge split in modern culture, which seeks to hide the deep, painful and exquisite journey of our hearts from public and political life.

In 1993, together with his wife, Elisabeth, he founded the pioneering social movement ‘The Culture of Honouring’ – to bring together people who want to shape a new culture by honouring the feminine heart-dimension of life – while still honouring the clarity and potency of the masculine.

Joseph is the author of ‘Sex, Spirit & Community’, ‘Intimate Freedom’ and ‘A Call To The Revolution of The Heart’. Above all, at 57, he is a seasoned ‘warrior of the heart’ ~ a committed traveller on the path of authenticity and freedom.



Elisabeth has inspired deep gratitude in the many, many people she has worked with. As a young woman she spent 10 years in India, immersing herself in the teachings of Tibetan Buddhism.

On returning to the West she went on to study and teach Yoga, movement and meditation, before beginning extensive training in therapy at the London Institute of Psychosynthesis.

Elisabeth then ran a private psychotherapeutic practice in England for 12 years, and in those years also graduated as an M.A. in Psychosynthesis Psychotherapy.

She is a practitioner and teacher of an ancient women's tantric dance-meditation, and is passionate about the re-empowerment of women – never seeing herself as ‘a teacher’, but always as ‘a sister’.

Elisabeth is Spanish by birth, and has travelled all over the world. She is a mother, a gardener, a dancer, and a fountain of wisdom and wildness, a namer of the unnameable, a bringer of acceptance to the unaccepted.

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**1. THE MAP: 17th-19th August / \$295 (\$245 if booked by end of July). A \$100 deposit secures your place. The remainder is payable at the event.**

**2. THE JOURNEY: 20th-24th August / \$295 (\$245 if booked by end of July.) Acceptance onto The Journey without taking part in The Map by special arrangement only. A \$100 deposit secures your place. The remainder is payable at the event.**

**3. PARTNERSHIP: 25th-27th August / \$295 per person (\$245 if booked by end of July) This weekend is ideal for couples, but open to anyone interested in relationship. A \$100 deposit secures your place. The remainder is payable at the event.**

**You can book your place on any of these events via the website, or if you want to pay by cash please contact Jennifer Crebbin at 530-205-7322 or e-mail her at [jennifer@changeyourhandwriting.com](mailto:jennifer@changeyourhandwriting.com). And contact Jennifer with any questions, doubts or difficulties...**

**[www.cultureofhonoring.com](http://www.cultureofhonoring.com)**