

CIRCLE SACRED SYMBOL MANDALA

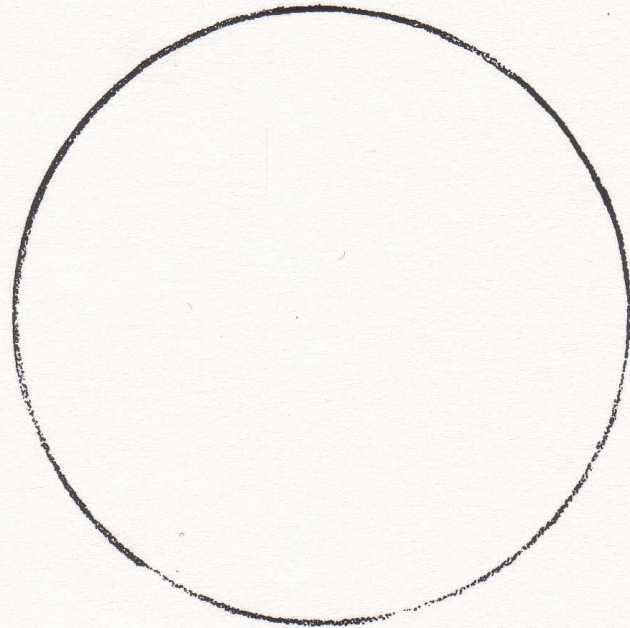


0

1



Cornell Class Reunions
JUNE 7-11



You cannot put It into any symbol without falsifying what It really is. Yet you cannot even mention It in any way whatsoever without putting It into a symbol. What then are you to do? ... 19.2.34

... For although the exact definition and direct explanation of words are unable to catch the whole of this subtle experience within their receiving range because they are turned into ordinary human intellectual emotional and physical experience, they may nevertheless evoke an intuitive recognition of its beauty; they may suggest to sensitive minds a hint of its worth and they may arouse the first aspiration towards its attainment for oneself. 28.2.59

When they fulfil their highest mission, painting and sculpture try to make visible, music tries to make audible, prose literature tries to make thinkable, poetic literature tries to make imaginable the invisible, inaudible, unthinkable, and unimaginable mystery of pure Spirit. Although it is true that they can never give shape to what is by its very nature the Shapeless, it is also true that they can hint, suggest, symbolize, and point to It. 14.1.147

The attempt to perceive through this manner produces thought that forces us to exclude boundaries. Truly a trying to understand rather than a claim to have done so. Philosophy as wonder--and the insight into that wonder--will produce for us the inspiration for our daily and ordinary lives. . [Anthony Damiani supp 622]

We were inspired by seeing the women of South India with chalk powder in different colors create beautiful mandala patterns outside their small houses every morning. The mandala symbolizes an all-encompassing unity and wholeness. That unity is not outside us but in our midst, as the mandala pattern so beautifully shows. --Anna B.

MEAN-ING

○ in The Theory and Practice of Mandala by Giuseppe Tucci suggest 3 philosophical problems which are symbolized by the mathematics of the mandala:

the relation of the One to the Many,

the structure of the World-Idea, and

the relation of the individual mind to the universal.

CIRCLE IS NATURAL SYMBOL

○ The eye is the first circle; the horizon which it forms is the second; and throughout nature this primary figure is repeated without end. It is the highest emblem in the cipher of the world. . . .

Every action admits of being outdone. Our life is an apprenticeship to the truth, that around every circle another can be drawn; that there is no end in nature, but every end is a beginning; that there is always another dawn risen on mid-noon, and under every deep a lower deep opens. --- *RW Emerson "Circles"*

Rumi: One Handed Basket Weaving Tr. Barks

A story is like the water you heat for your bath.

It takes messages between the fire and your skin. It lets them meet, and it cleans you!

Very few can sit down in the middle of the fire itself like a salamander or Abraham. We need intermediaries.

Beauty surrounds us, but usually we need to be walking in a garden to know it.

The body is a screen to partly shield and to partly reveal the light that is blazing inside your presence.

Water, stories, the body, all the things we do, are mediums that hide and show what's hidden.

Study them, and enjoy this being washed with a secret we sometimes know, and then not. P.29

RUMI: The Dream that must be Interpreted

In One Handed Basket Weaving tr. Coleman Barks

This place is a dream; Only a sleeper considers it real...

But there's a difference with *this* dream:

It stays, and it must be *interpreted*...

...

Humankind is being led along an evolving course, through this migration of intelligences, and though we seem to be sleeping there is an inner wakefulness that directs the dream, and that will eventually startle us back to the truth of who we are.

Mason Jennings

Oh Jesus, I love You, and I love Buddha too
Ramakrishna, Guru Dev, Tao Te Ching and Mohammed
Why do some people say That there is just one way
To love You, God, and come to You? We are all a part
of You

You are un-nameable You are unknowable
All we have is metaphor That's what time and space are
for

Is the universe Your thought? You are and You are not
You are many, You are one, ever ending, just begun

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bWVmCHHzSzA>

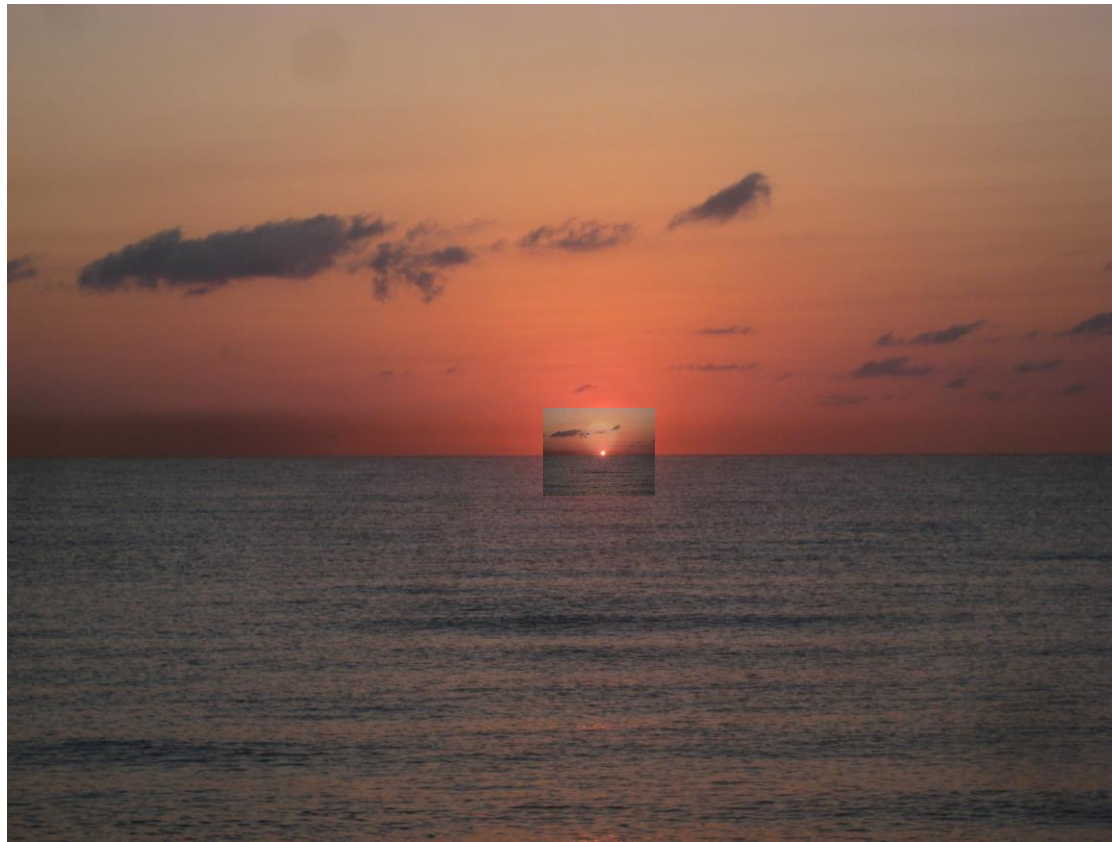
The phenomena of the world-form tyrannously and completely masks its reality, so completely that only a dwindling number of people even suspect there *is* any reality behind it. Spiritual intuition has never been so dormant among the race as during the past hundred years. Form, which should have been a wicket-gate giving entry to its diviner significance, has become a prison in which they are held captive by their own obtuseness. 26.1.199

All spiritual study is incomplete if it ignores the facts, truths, laws, and principles of cosmogony. To attempt to justify this neglect with the accusation that they belong to the world of illusion is silly and useless. For the accuser must still continue to live in an illusory body and use an illusory self governed by those laws. After every such attempt and for each violation of those laws--upon which the order and harmony of the universe depend--which his neglect brings about, he must pay the penalty in suffering.(P) ([26:4.161](#))

Paradox is both the primal and the final truth. Life, whether we approve of it or not, is like that. Things are dual and so is man's nature a pairing of negative and positive. But even more is the entire cosmos itself both real and unreal. ([26:3.1](#))

Paradox is the only way to view both the immediate and the ultimate at the same time. ([19:2.30](#))

The cosmos is neither a phantom to be disdained nor an illusion to be dismissed. It is a remote expression in time and space and individuality of that which is timeless spaceless and infinite. If it is not the Reality in its ultimate sense, it is an emanation of the Reality. Hence it shares in some way the life of its source. To find that point of sharing is the true object of incarnation for all creatures within the cosmos. ([26:1.179](#))



**Sun and Horizon: whole horizon is the
circle in which awareness is aware**

SUNRISE ZOOM pdf

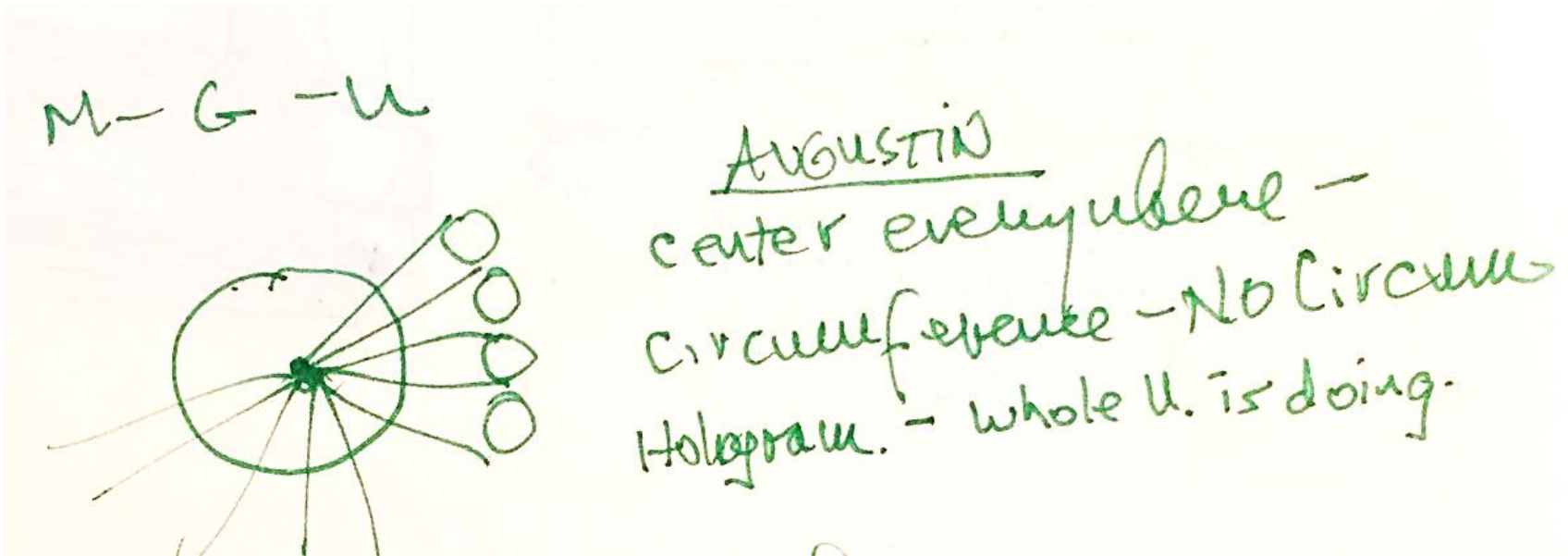
○ Center, *point*:

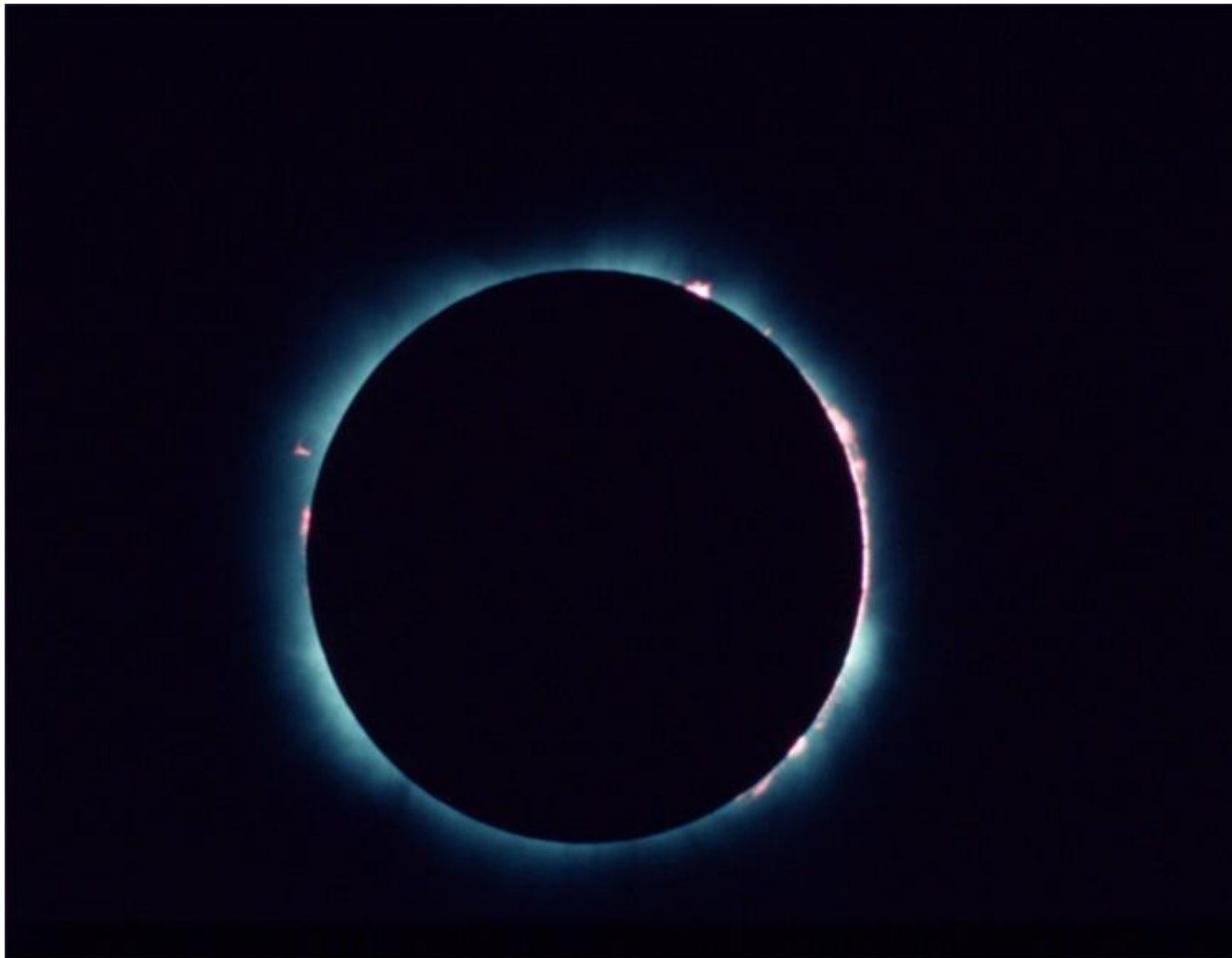
God is a circle whose center is everywhere and whose circumference is nowhere. *augustin*

PB: *The God in the Sun is the "I" in me.*

Sun Example: sun symbolizes awareness and the Good

You are something the whole universe is doing. Watts





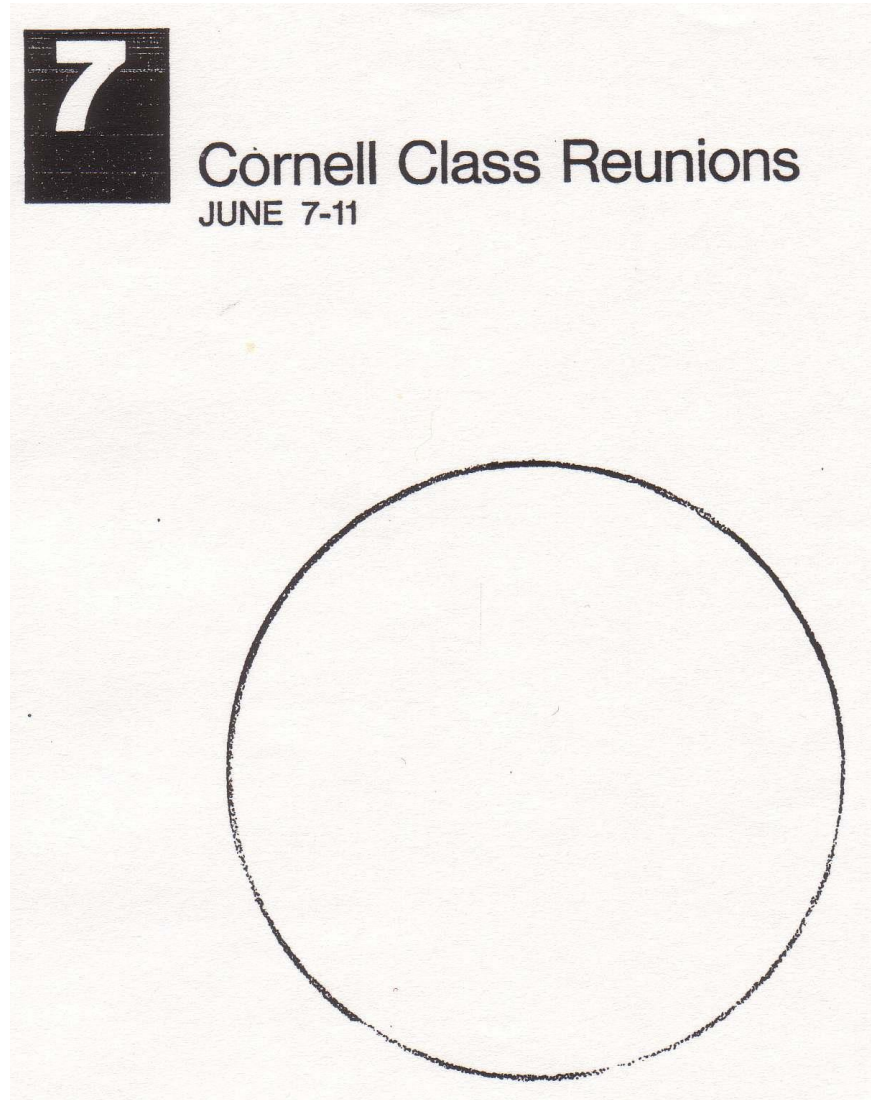
- “The God in the Sun is the “I” in me”--this put tersely is the essence of man's relationship to divinity. A whole book may be needed to explain it, a whole lifetime to get direct experience of its truth as insight. 25.1.2

The physical Sun which we see ... is merely an outer cover of a glorious reality which pervades and energizes the whole solar system. ...this Reality is in essence and fundamentally the same as the Reality which is hidden in the heart of every human.

The Spiritual Light which is hidden within the Sun is the most excellent light. It is shining through the hearts of all living creatures in the form of consciousness. The Spiritual Light which is shining within the physical Sun also shines within the heart of every jiva. The light which is shining in the heart of all jivas in the form of consciousness is also shining through the universe in the form of the Heavenly Man and making it a living organism.

[Yajnavalka Samhita]

o Overself ... is both space and the point in space. It is infinite Spirit and yet it is also the holy presence in everyone's heart. 22.3.384

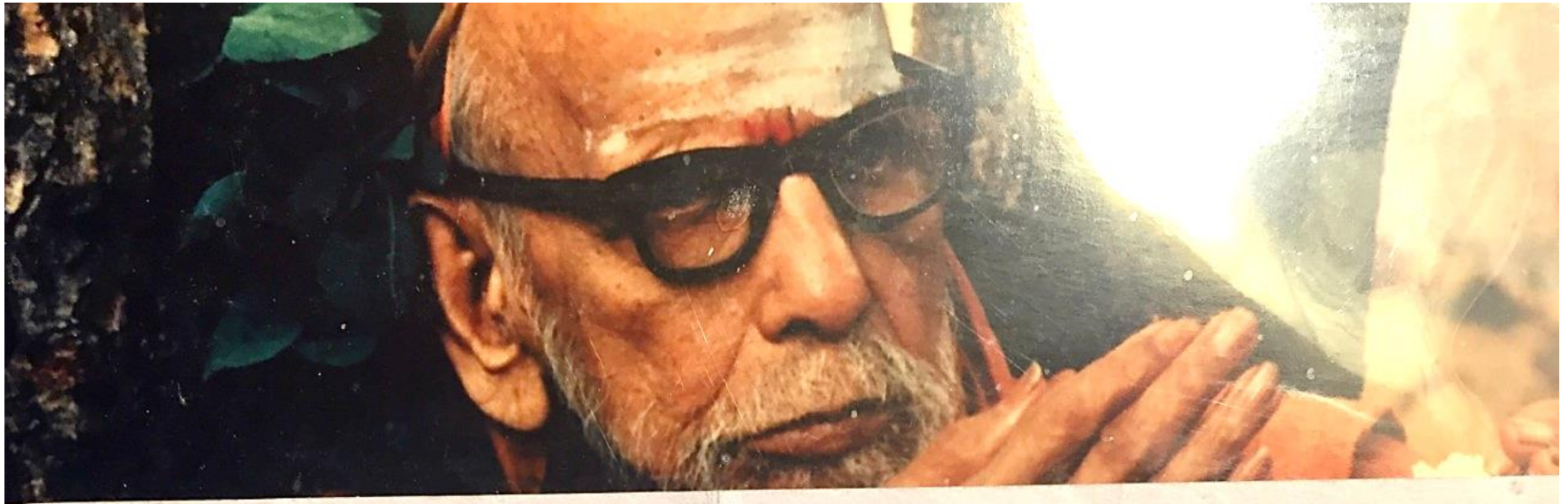


There is no real ego but only a quick succession of thoughts which constitutes the "I" process. There is no separate entity forming the personal consciousness but only a series of impressions, ideas, images revolving round a common centre. The latter is completely empty; the feeling of something being there derives from a totally different plane--that of the Overself. 8.2.31

Hafiz: "The Compass" *I Heard God Laughing* Ladinsky tr.

Look at the Perfect One
At the Circle's Center:

Who Spins and Whirls like a Golden Compass,
Beyond all that is Rational,
To show this dear world
That Everything,
Everything in Existence
Does point to God.



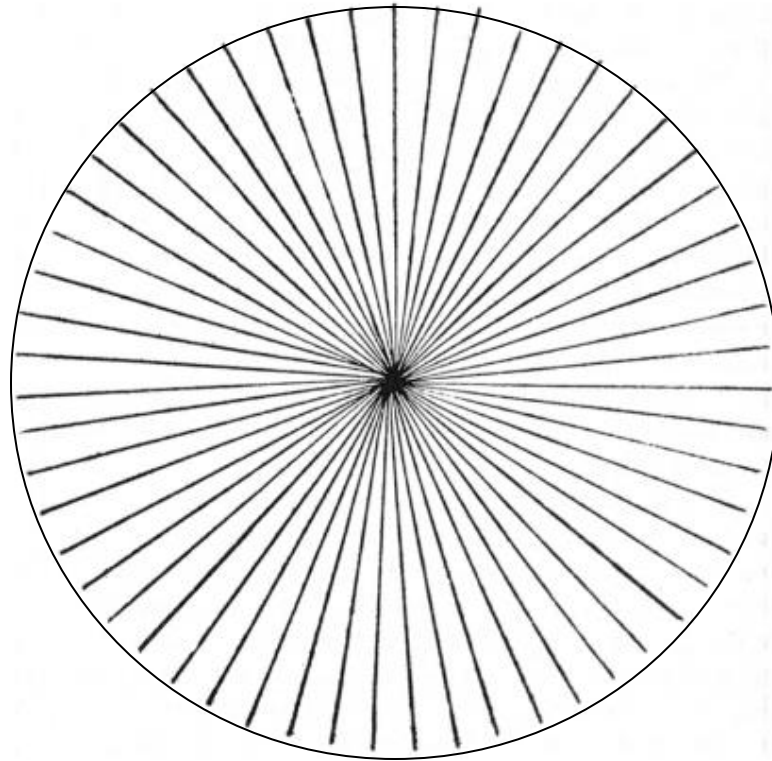
Every person you encounter is God in disguise; God is hiding within each person. When you remove the filters of your mind, God is right there in front of you.

Is the circle you draw a Real circle?

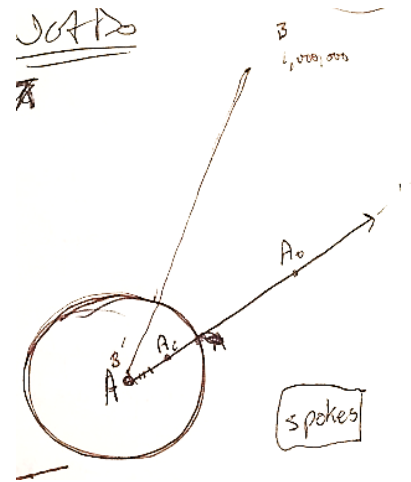
How is it infinite? **the idea of the circle**

Is the circle you drew a “real” circle?

Is there a real circle? What is a circle... really?

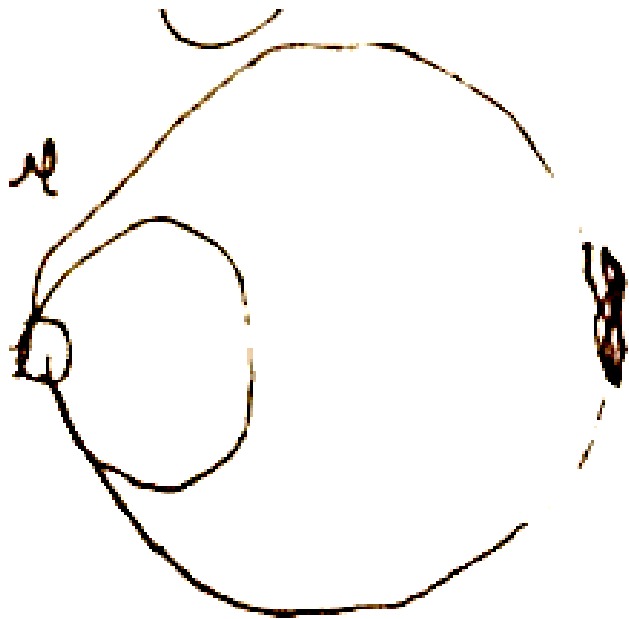


When the circumference expands to infinity the line becomes an ideal line in the realm of the Unmanifest. So, by this simple mathematical analysis which is symbolic in character we can resolve the paradox of the co-existence of individual uniqueness with an ever expanding consciousness which ultimately embraces the whole cosmos in the last stage.



Circle defined by equidistant radii

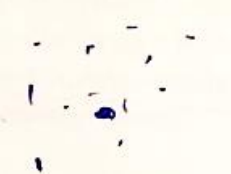
Circle defined by constant curvature: natural earth horizon



infinitesimally
curved or straight

A hand-drawn triangle is positioned above the word 'curved'. A hand-drawn square is positioned to the right of the word 'straight'. There are some scribbles to the right of the square.

Eye blank of vision and filled- Circle is the metaphysical symbol of nous vision: blank of impression and filled with vision (radii). It includes center point, radii, and circumference: one-many-whole-hologram. **see file p.20-22**



Space +
∞ of Logoi
Actual =
not potential
Taimui
AD.



ONE
Logos
"EYE"
"ACT" of
Emanation
5.2.1, 5.42

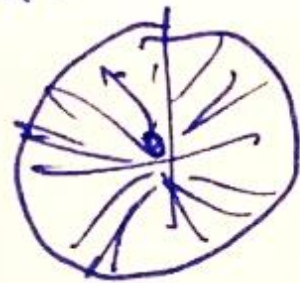


Eye Filled
with
Vision
looks back
5.3.11
5.2.1

Reality MATHEMATIZED = Continuity

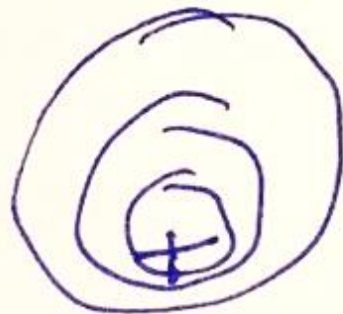
So:

Mathematize
Divine N.M
Hous



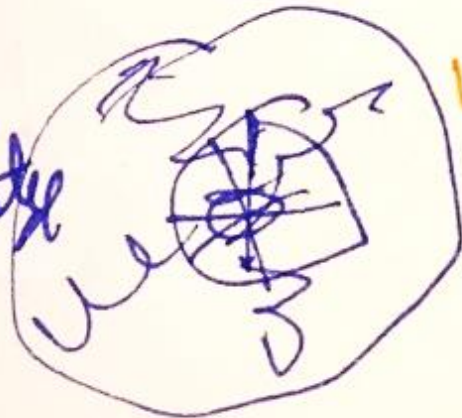
Hous Space Cen
metaphysical
Heliocenter

Mathematize
Cosmos



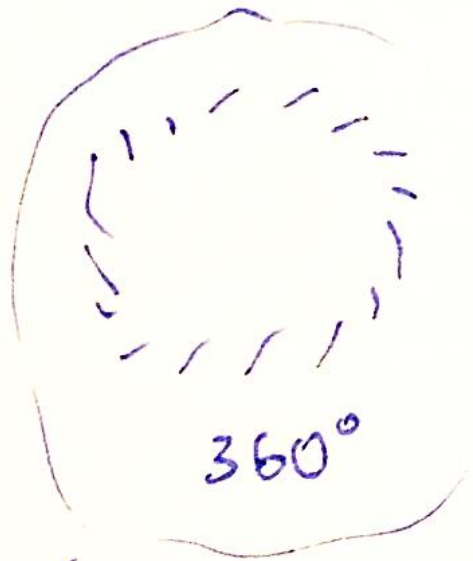
Cosmic
Geo-Center

Mathematize
Indiv.

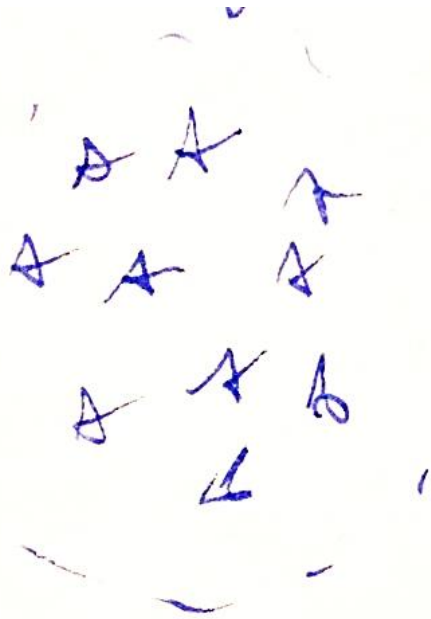


Horoscope
Natal Center
burning foc

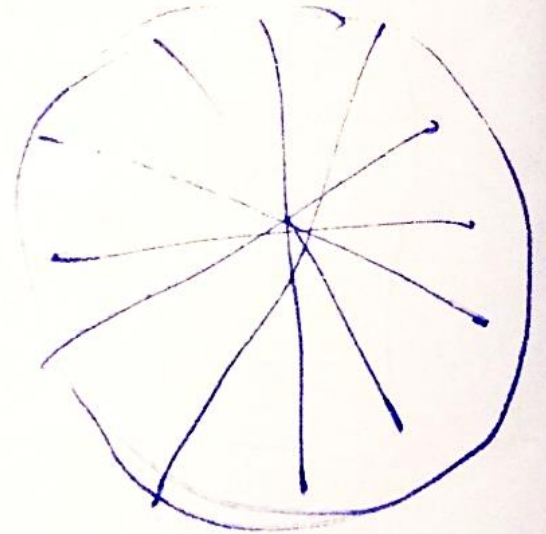
MTT



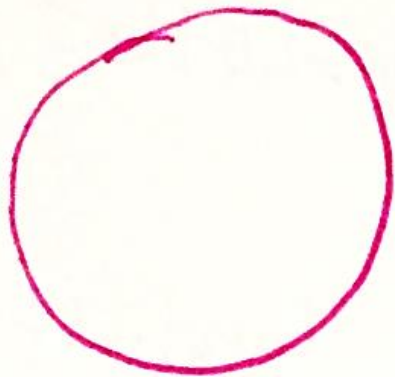
Intelligence



Cosmic
Intelligence



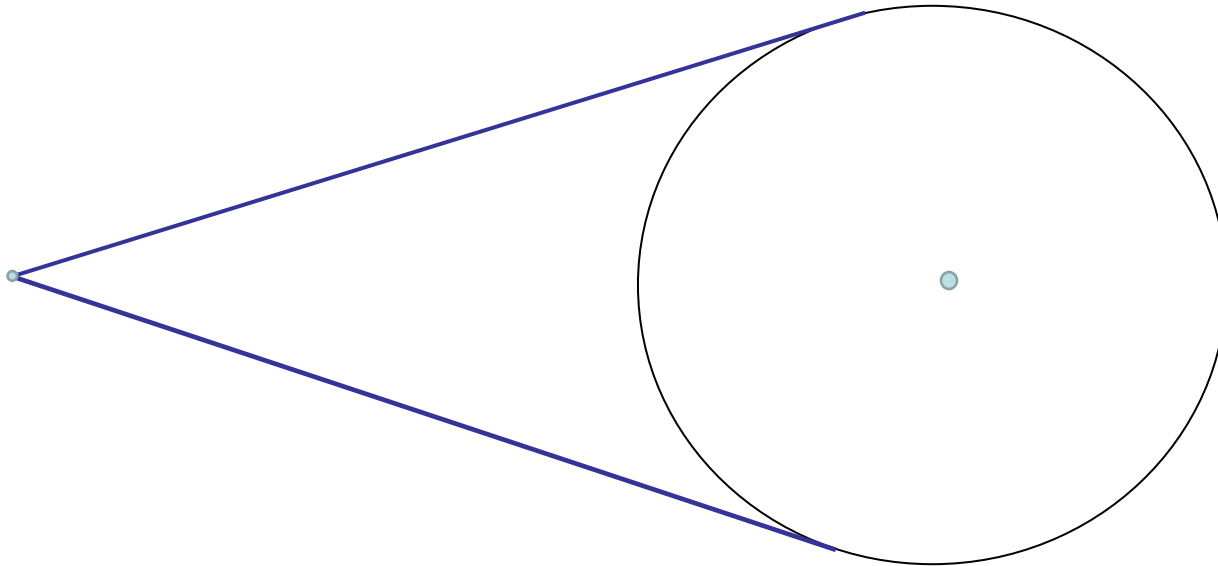
Divine
Intelligence

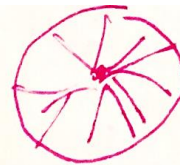
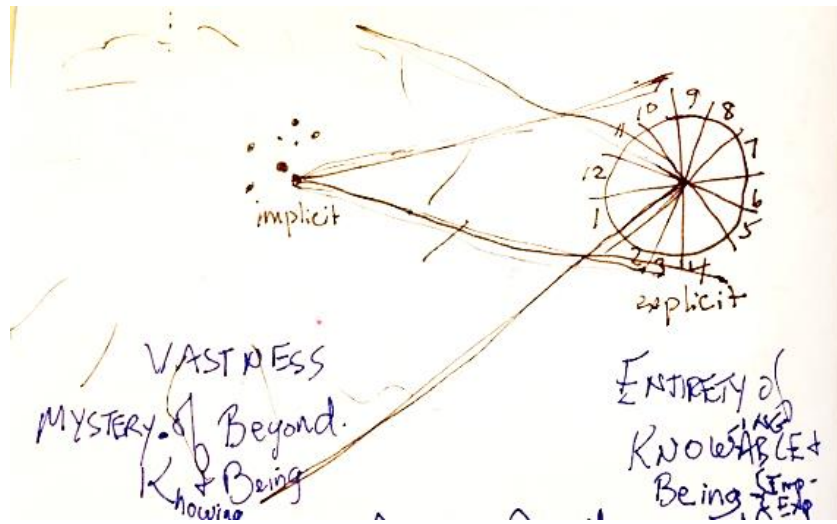


Unlimited + Limit
 ∞ + BOUND

Continuity + discrete

Each point is a Logos... an Emanation of Infinite One...
Plotinus tells us that the divine mind is like an eye
blank of impression.





and soon...

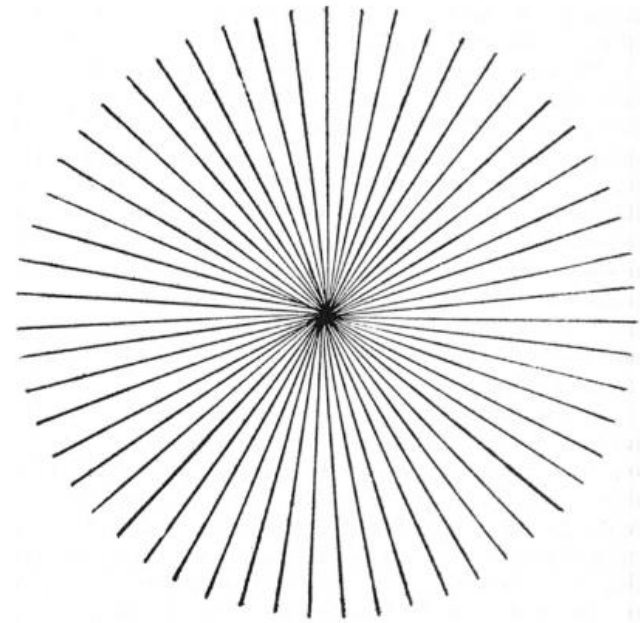
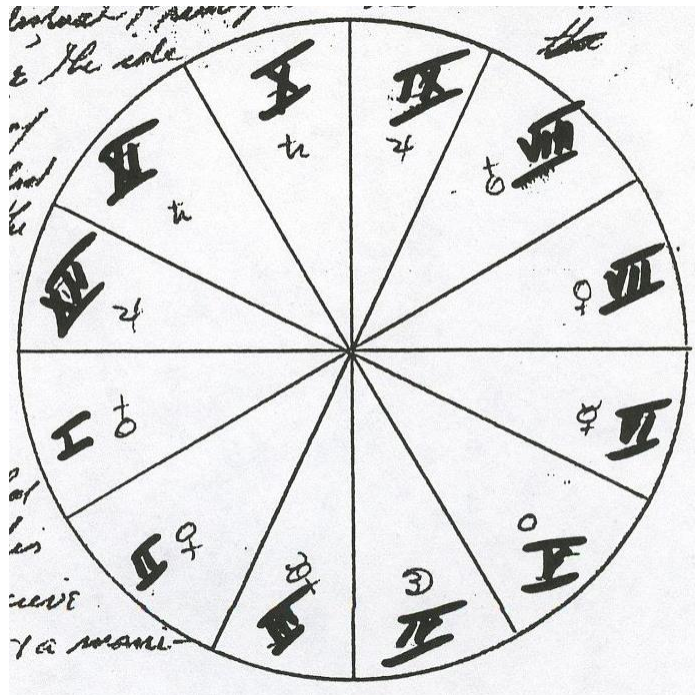
NO US -

∞ Gardii

Re-reveals + Conceals

(See previous pages)

Now the whole chart is 12 divine principles. But we have to use our imagination here. Of course, they are not wedges or pieces. As a chart of NOUS the mandala depicts ideas in divine Mind. As Plotinus tells us “each idea is a unique form of the whole.” And of course we are also way beyond quantitative 12.



So what happened?

The One emanates or immanates: originally
Nous is simply the flow, or overflow.

if Nous were the original it would not Be.

But it is not separate, not cut off: No presence
of the One is to be utterly not being.

The One— emanates and the One is
immanent—

Hence, the slogan “The real is continuous with
its appearance.”

The symbolism proffered to us in the cosmic mandala is the most comprehensive and integral approach to philosophy that at present is available. Within the compass of our discursive understanding--yet transcending its limitations and revealing the possibility of a more universal language. It includes the subject-object dichotomy yet is suggestive of a more intimate resolution. Its amplitude may resolve some of the most perplexing and profound problems of existence and knowledge. Its very nature demands that human preconception be put aside. **The attempt to perceive through this manner produces thought that forces us to exclude boundaries. Truly a trying to understand rather than a claim to have done so. Philosophy as wonder--and the insight into that wonder--will produce for us the inspiration for our daily and ordinary lives.** . [Anthony Damiani supp 622]

if he really penetrates into the meaning of the events and circumstances that are going on in his life, he is getting at the quintessence of the meaning of his life to him. And I thought that this was really the fundamental purpose of astrology, that this is what astrology should help a person to understand. Never mind if he is going to meet his beloved, or if he is going to make money on the stock-market. That's all a waste of time.

... in this way astrology can be a really spiritually potent tool, so that the person could try to be aware of what significances are blossoming as his life. He's living these ideas, he is these ideas, why not try to consciously understand what is going on?

And that's what I had in mind trying to do. To try to put all these pieces in a pattern and show how to a certain extent they are all valid and also at the same time how they're limited, in one way how they're complementary and in another way how they're in opposition. And the only thing that I felt was big enough to do that was the symbolism that we find in the astrological mandala. So that was really the pet project I had in mind. The nice thing is it's got such a liberating effect, because when you see the value in the premises that the Vedantist has and then you see the value and the premises that the Buddhists have, you're free from the conflict.