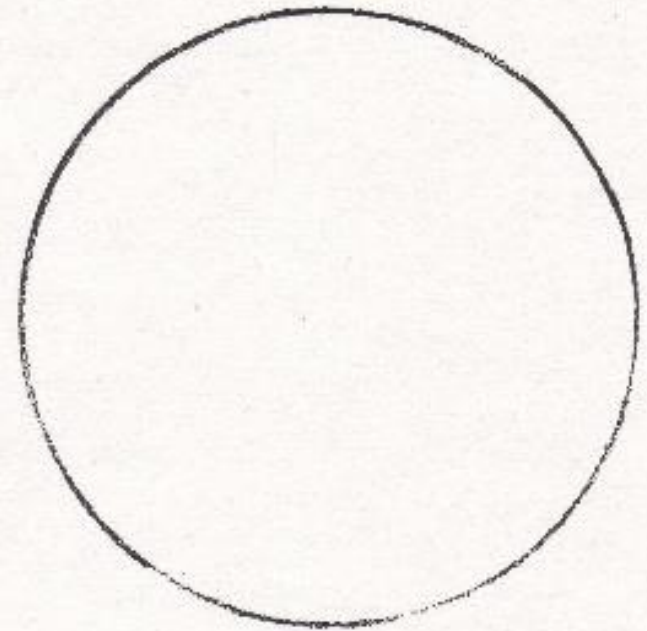


**Extraordinarily  
Beautiful: Anthony's  
Visionary approach  
to Philosophy:**

**An invitation to the  
Beauty and Sacred  
Space of the  
Mandala**



Cornell Class Reunions  
JUNE 7-11





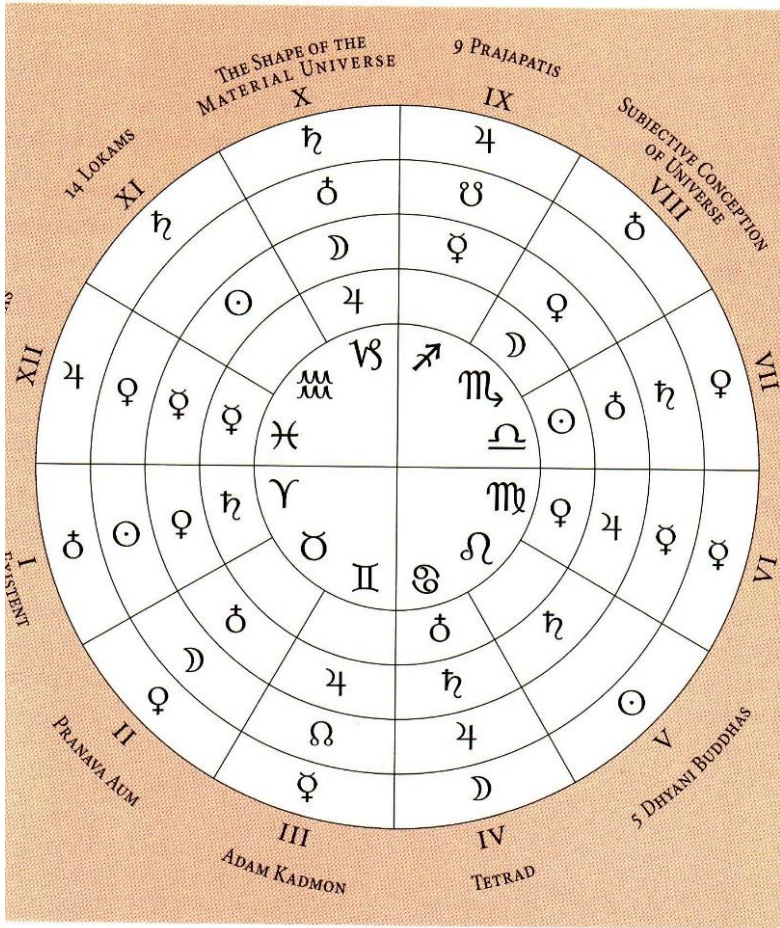
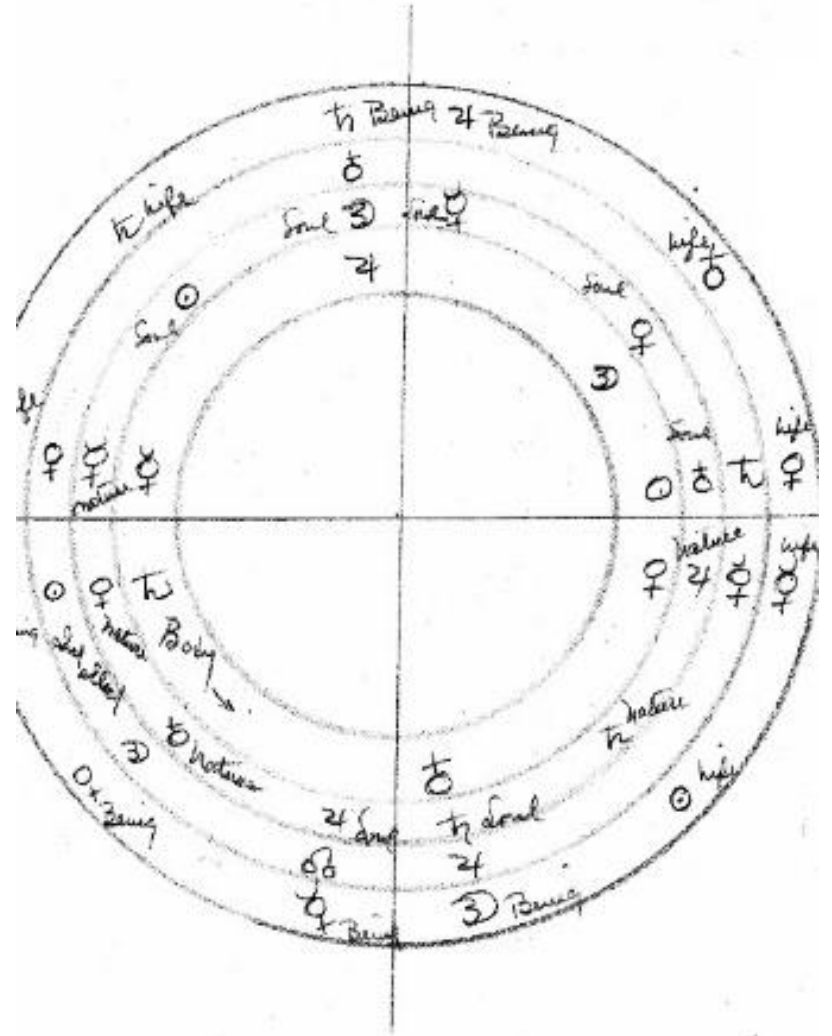


FIG. 12: THE METAPHYSICAL CHART



# What was Anthony doing?

**A suggestive inquiry** not a final fixed metaphysics.

**Simplicity the other side of complexity.**

*AD: greatest joy. : simplicity of the one is so complex. boundless...*

**Appreciate the Mystery of Reality,**

Through thinking to go beyond thinking: Chuang tsu... throw away the net.

For the joy of it. **Beautiful Miracle of Life..**

## *PB: on words and symbols*

**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**

# Themes in Anthony's Introduction

**PRELUDE:** The Sublime Majesty Of Truth's Presence

**THE WORD:** *Reality*. In the beginning was the Word...  
Stand at the gate.

**VISION:** in the vision all of it: vision and reason

**SAGE:** Plotinus is the Sage to whom we turn:

**COSMOS:** What is the Cosmos-- viewed by seers

**MANDALA:** What is a Mandala? Three contexts.

**JUXTAPOSING:** immaterial hypostases and Cosmos --  
philosophy and astrology;

**VALOIS:** Practical Sacred of Life: you become Wis-dom

[\[AD intro notes total 1997 150 pages\]](#)

# ***JUXTAPOSING Philosophy and Cosmology***

It is our belief that the astrological mandala is a fragment of an archaic wisdom, devised by persons of sapiential dimensions.

These diagrams will allow us **to juxtapose philosophy and astrology** in such a way as to reveal that the sensible universe and its starry host is the primordial living scripture that embodies the wisdom of primal principles--principles that are as far beyond it as the heavens are beyond the earth--and that the basis of astrology is an acquaintance with the wisdom-knowledge that sustains the cosmos. *Astronoesis Intro*

In this juxtaposition, we will distinguish philosophy and astrology from one another, define the terms of each, and illustrate how they combine in manifestation as mutually-implicating elements of a single whole.

*Astronoesis Intro*



# ***JUXTAPOSING Philosophy and Cosmology***

## ***Cosmological mandala for Philosophy:***

Using the symbolism of cosmology to make a mandala for the vastness of metaphysics in Plotinus. The details of the One and Many using geometry, number, words, glyphs.

## ***The Real is Continuous with its Appearance:***

Mandala shows the Continuity

## ***Philosophic basis for Astrology:***

Mandala provides a philosophic basis for Astrology and “spiritual psychology.” Cosmic Epistemology: How the Ideas come to Valois.

***Mean-ing in/for the Individual:*** you become Wisdom “Real is continuous with its appearance.”

Creative Imagination. Mean-ing.  
Contemplation

# Philosophy as wonder-

The symbolism proffered to us in the cosmic mandala is the most comprehensive and integral approach to philosophy that is at current available. Within the compass of our understanding--yet transcending its limitations and revealing the possibility of a more universal language. [*Anthony Damiani supp 622*]

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. [*Anthony Damiani supp 622*]

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]*

## ***On the sage:***

all vision within themselves and expounding reason to others. Sage shows us the Mandala.

So Anthony takes the words of the sage Plotinus and makes a fabulous mandala. It's not enough to represent it as infinite space or zero. A Mandala, Sacred, geometric and philosophic number, implications . Moreover, he proceeds to populate the symbol with various cosmic meanings or glyphs.

[3.III] We intend to pursue [a] variety of meanings that Eckhart did not elaborate. [In doing so,] we pursue a vision, for in that vision all of it lies. What is this vision? Is it granted to all? Yes, but the degree of penetration into it varies. The heavens are spread out before us in [a] vast placelessness and are directly perceived. Therein lies the key to the infinite treasure, the holiest temple of wisdom and abode of our Sun of Glory, manifesting the unfathomable Word of God[,] the primal scripture, expertly revealed by the nineteenth Psalm: *Astronoesis Intro*

The Enneads are formulations of Plotinus' intuitive realizations of ultimate truths to which only our inner being may respond. **We must let the Logos in our soul absorb the impact and assimilate the meaning of his intuitions prior to allowing our critical and egotistical intellect to pounce upon them.** In other words our mental activity must be stilled, so that the Silence within can receive the passage in question without coloration. *AD Intro to Astronoesis*



# Interface and synthesize traditions

Mandala is the means for Anthony to carry out his program of juxtaposing and synthesizing different traditions, in a “symphony of philosophy.”

Unific in the center

Infinite views of the radii

Greater wholeness of circumference

***PB quote on “now after 5000 years”***

Is there a totally comprehensive schema or symbol that will permit us to combine the varied and many facets of truth that are to be found in each tradition, to sort out those basic and truthful presuppositions into a working hypothesis which will also aid the philosophic student in the investigation into the truth of his/her life? Such a schema does exist, and it can be used in helping us to resolve some of the most abstract problems of metaphysics as well as those emerging crises of the everyday life. Philosophy has conceived the experiment: astrology in its most inclusive context goes on trial.

*--Anthony Damiani. AD Supp 596*