



2022  
Christmas  
Conference

# The Building Impulse, Burning and Future of the First Goetheanum

A hundred years ago  
the First Goetheanum  
was destroyed by fire

# 2022 Christmas Conference

Dear conference members,

On 31 December 2022, New Year's Eve, we will commemorate the fire that destroyed the Goetheanum a hundred years ago. The building erected after the laying of the foundation stone on 20 September 1913 first made Anthroposophy visible in artistic forms.

This, in addition to the social threefolding activities after World War I and the development of the spheres of actively applied Anthroposophy up until 1922, provoked growing criticism and opposition, culminating in the destruction of the First Goetheanum in the New Year's night of 1922/1923 following an arson attack. At the 2022 Christmas Conference, which will be in three parts, we would like to look back to that momentous occurrence. From 27 to 30 December, we will focus on the immortal creative impulse that gave rise to the artistic forms of the First Goetheanum. The afternoon and evening of 30 December will be devoted to a commemorative event with representatives of the local public and political life. The fire itself with its historical and spiritual dimensions will be our central theme on 31 December. On New Year's Day 2023, we shall look ahead to future impulses arising from the work of the Sections of the School of Spiritual Science. We would like to spend the New Year's Night with you, with artistic and contemplative activities, commemorating and looking forward to the future.

We look forward to welcoming you at the Goetheanum and to commemorating this momentous event together.



Odely Justus Wittich Christiane Haid J. Hasler  
Ueli Hurter Matthias Girke Matthias Rang

Peter Selg, Justus Wittich, Christiane Haid, Stefan Hasler,  
Ueli Hurter, Matthias Girke and Matthias Rang

# Programme

|       | Tuesday 27/12   | Wednesday 28/12  | Thursday 29/12   |
|-------|---|--|--|
| 9:00  |   | <b>The Goetheanum as the 'House of the Word' and image of the human being</b><br><i>Pieter van der Ree</i><br><i>Stefan Hasler</i> | <b>Goethe's idea of metamorphosis and the First Goetheanum</b><br><i>Christian Hitsch</i><br><b>The First Goetheanum as the spiritual centre between global opposites</b><br><i>Jochen Breme</i> |
| 10:30 |   | coffee break   | coffee break   |
| 11:15 |   | <b>Artistic courses &amp; work groups</b>  | <b>Artistic courses &amp; work groups</b>  |
| 12:45 |   | lunch break  | lunch break  |
| 14:00 |   | <b>Open Campus</b>   | <b>Open Campus</b>   |
| 15:00 | <b>11th Class Lesson</b><br><i>Peter Selg DE, Oliver Conradt EN</i><br><b>OR</b><br><b>Conversation in front of the Representative of Humanity</b><br><i>Matthias Rang</i><br><b>OR</b><br><b>The seven rhythms of the Foundation Stone Meditation</b><br><i>Matthias Girke</i> | <b>Artistic courses &amp; work groups</b>  | <b>Artistic courses &amp; work groups</b>  |
| 16:30 | <b>From laying the foundation stone in 1913 to the Foundation Stone Meditation in 1923</b><br><i>Christiane Haid</i>  | <b>Faust and the First Goetheanum</b><br><i>Martina Maria Sam</i>  | <b>The Goetheanum as a synthesis of the arts and Rudolf Steiner's future in the anthroposophical movement</b><br><i>Armin Husemann</i>   |
| 17:45 | evening break   | evening break  | evening break  |
| 20:00 | <b>Human Soul!</b><br><i>Poetry by Rudolf Steiner</i><br><i>Goetheanum Eurythmy</i><br><i>Ensemble</i>  | <b>Stages</b><br><i>From Rudolf Steiner's Mystery Dramas "The path of Maria and Johannes"</i>                                      | <b>Sounds of Light</b><br><i>Concert with works by Botho Sigward Graf zu Eulenburg, Jitka Koželuhová, Heiner Ruland and Johann Sonnleitner</i>   |

1

Part 1

2

Part 2

additional programme  
free admission

**Friday 30/12**

**Margarita Voloshina (1882–1973)  
and the First Goetheanum**

*Peter Selg*

**From the First to the Second  
Goetheanum**

*Alexander Schaumann*

*coffee break*

**Plenum & conversation**

*lunch break*

**Guided tours**

**Open Campus**

**The burning of the First Goetheanum  
in the New Year's night of 1922**

*A commemoration with Remo Ankli,  
member of the Solothurn local government  
Daniel Urech, mayor of Dornach  
Samuel Rutishauser, former cultural  
heritage curator in the Canton of Solothurn  
and others*

*evening break*

**Wegspuren. (traces)**

*New programme*

*Goetheanum Eurythmy Ensemble*

**Saturday 31/12**

**The burning of the  
Goetheanum and the future of  
Anthroposophy**

*Peter Selg*

*coffee break*

**The First Goetheanum –  
Impulses for the work of the  
Sections**

*conversation groups*

*lunch break*

**Open Campus**

**Special guided tours to all  
parts and corners of the  
campus and building**

**Fiery flames – sacrifice  
between destruction and love**

*João Torunsky*

*evening break*

**Light of the Temple**

*From Rudolf Steiner's Mystery  
Dramas "Temple event and new  
beginning"*

**Sunday 1/1**

**New Year's Concert**

*With works by Leopold van der Pals*

**9:45 coffee break**

**10:30 Future impulses from the  
School of Spiritual Science  
Foundation Stone Meditation**

**Conference ends ca. 12:20**

*subject to change*

**22:00–10:00 Vigil**

*A night of culture in commemoration of the  
burning of the First Goetheanum 100 years ago  
[www.goetheanum.org/nachtwache](http://www.goetheanum.org/nachtwache)*

## ARTISTIC COURSES AND WORK GROUPS

- 1. Marie Steiner and Ita Wegman – their destiny in the two Goetheanum buildings**  
Armin Husemann DE
- 2. Goetheanism at the Goetheanum – learning to think visually with the forms of the first building**  
Alexander Schaumann DE/EN
- 3. The building's west-east axis in the light of the global situation – then and now**  
Jochen Breme DE
- 4. The path through the Goetheanum as an image of the path of inner development**  
Pieter van der Ree DE
- 5. The world becomes a temple – eurythmic deepening of the last lecture given in the First Goetheanum**  
Nicolas Prestifilippo DE
- 6. Can forms speak out of the spiritual world? Drawing and modelling in Rudolf Steiner's footsteps from 1907 to 1925**  
Christine Cologna DE
- 7. The resurrection of the lost building in the 19 lessons of the School of Spiritual Science (for Class members)**  
Susanne Breme-Richard and Christian Breme DE
- 8. Painting: How do the qualities of the double-cupola building and the painted motifs in the large and small cupola of the First Goetheanum differ?**  
Esther Gerster DE/EN
- 9. Eurythmy of the colours and the Window Words**  
Martje Brandsma DE/EN
- 10. The double-cupola motif of the First Goetheanum – exercises in modelling and eurythmy**  
Barbara Schnetzler und Silke Sponheuer DE/EN
- 11. Speech work on the Foundation Stone Meditation**  
Babette Hasler DE
- 12. Goethe and the Goetheanum, presentation and modelling**  
Christian Hitsch und Christiane Haid DE

## OPEN CAMPUS

The following venues will be open:

- **Construction history and model of the First Goetheanum**  
Carpentry Building – Südsaal, on the left
- **Adjacent buildings – architectural models**  
South stairs vestibule – 5th floor
- **Sculptural group: The Representative of Humanity between Lucifer and Ahriman**  
Exhibition Room in Südsaal, 5th floor
- **Edith Maryon Room**  
Lower Eurythmy House
- **Hochatelier**
- **Rudolf Steiner's Studio**
- **Goethe's and Steiner's concepts of metamorphosis – "Metamorphosis and organism as principles of life"**  
Central room in the Glashaus

## GUIDED TOURS

Registration at Information Desk

## INTERPRETATION

The conference will be interpreted into English



## REGISTRATION

Please register by 13 December

<https://www.goetheanum.org/brand-tagung>

Phone +41 61 706 42 42

## PRICES

Solidarity prices

Please choose from the following categories

| categories | solidarity | A       | B       | C       | concessions |
|------------|------------|---------|---------|---------|-------------|
| Part 1     | 510 CHF    | 410 CHF | 340 CHF | 250 CHF | 150 CHF     |
| Part 2     | 290 CHF    | 240 CHF | 190 CHF | 150 CHF | 100 CHF     |

## EXTRAS

Lunch, supper and parking permits  
are optional and need to be booked.

## GOETHEANUM

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