

Fire in the Temple

PRODUCTION

December, 2022

Dear Friends,

We are coming upon the hundred-year anniversaries of the burning of the first Goetheanum, the re-founding of the Anthroposophical Society and Rudolf Steiner's death. Glen Williamson's new play, *Fire in the Temple*, dramatizes Rudolf Steiner's final months and brings to the stage two extraordinary women, Marie Steiner von Sivers and Dr. Ita Wegman, both of whom stood by him until the very day of his death – and beyond. Their personal conflicts and sorrows are sensitively portrayed in this rigorously researched drama.

In March and April of 2021, a reading of this play was “performed” several times to small but enthralled audiences. Laurie Portocarrero and the playwright played multiple parts and were joined by two eurythmists, Zachary Dolphin and Sea-Anna Vasilas.

After each reading Glen and Laurie took feed-back from members of the audience and the play has evolved and grown over the intervening period. The response has been such that a production team is preparing for a tour with a *full* cast of 12 actors (and eurythmists). According to John McManus, who will direct this full production, “It is an extraordinary play that has been enthusiastically received as an epic of superb storytelling during its numerous two- and four-person play-reading performances over the past three years. Now, our task is to turn this successful play-reading epic into a dramatic piece of theater with a full ensemble cast.”

Barbara Renold, with her experience in producing and directing Rudolf Steiner's Mystery Dramas, will act as an advisor; she believes artistic activity, through this play, can greatly enhance our experience of these momentous historical events and relationships. Lemniscate Arts will act as the fiscal agent. And the Rudolf Steiner Charitable Trust is already supporting this “valuable” production “in appreciation for [its] beauty and effectiveness.” We plan to stage *Fire in the Temple* in September, 2023, in Copake and Spring Valley, NY, and in Kimberton Hills, PA, testing whether a wider tour is warranted.

We are asking for your support of this project. Ticket sales can only cover about fifteen percent of the costs. Our professional cast and crew will be giving up their everyday employment to devote themselves one hundred percent to this worthy task for several weeks, and they deserve appropriate compensation. Your donation will also help fund their travel, housing and meals, as well as original music, sets, costumes, lighting and sound. (Please consider sponsoring one or more of the specific needs on the attached list. Your donations are tax deductible to the full extent permitted by law.)

We have already raised over \$25,000, twenty percent of our projected budget, and we hope you will join our growing circle of donors in supporting this important deed for the Anthroposophical movement.

Yours truly,



Ann-Elizabeth Barnes, for *Fire in the Temple* production,

Debra Agee – Marke Levene – John McManus – Laurie Portocarrero
- Barbara Renold – Barbara Richardson – Glen Williamson

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Please mail donation checks, payable to “Lemniscate Arts Inc,” to

Attn: *Fire in the Temple*

Lemniscate Arts Inc
117 Durham Rd
Freeport, ME 04032

Or use any debit or credit card, or your Paypal Account, at

AnthroposTheater.com/fire-in-the-temple

Look for the green “support *Fire in the Temple*” button. It’s easy to use.

Our fiscal agent, Lemniscate Arts Inc, is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) corporation
EIN 20-2307129

founded to support the performing arts that arise from the work of Rudolf Steiner.