



# TEMPLE OF THELEMA & College of Thelema

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Founded in Service to the A.:A.:

[thelema.org](http://thelema.org)



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# Gods of Thelema: Theurgy

# Gratitude puts us in the present, and opens us to opportunity.

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Gratitude brings us happiness

Gratitude reduces anxiety and depression

Gratitude is good for our bodies

Grateful people sleep better

Gratitude makes us more resilient

Gratitude strengthens relationships

Gratitude promotes forgiveness



# Theurgy: What is it?

- Theurgy (From Ancient Greek, **θεουργία** (9 + 5 + 70 + 400 + 100 + 3 + 10 + 1 = 598\*), *theourgía*) describes the practice of rituals, sometimes seen as magical in nature, performed with the intention of invoking the action or evoking the presence of one or more deities, especially with the goal of achieving henosis (uniting with the divine) and perfecting oneself.
- Theurgy: the art or technique of compelling or persuading a god or beneficent or supernatural power to do or refrain from doing something.

\* **ἀδελφήν** (adelphēn) – sister, kinswoman

**ἐκβληθήσεται** (ekblēthēsetai) – he/she/it will be cast out, expelled; exposed; dropped; banished; divorced; rejected

**έντελής** (entelēs) – complete, full; perfect, full-grown, finished; unblemished (of sacrificial victims)

**έξελέγοντο** (exelegonto) – they chose, selected

**έπέστη** (epestē) – he/she/it set, placed upon; brought in; set up, established; stopped, caused to halt; stood by

**έπιλαβοῦ** (epilabou) – take!; lay hold of!, seize!, attack!; stop!; assist!; attempt!

**έπιτρέπη** (epitrepēi) – he/she/it might turn over to, transfer, bequeath; commit, entrust to; yield, permit; command

**ζμύρνα** (zmurna) – myrrh

**ή νόσος** (hē nosos) – the sickness, disease, plague; distress, anguish; madness; bane, mischief

**νεφέλη** (nephelē) – cloud, mass of clouds, mist, fog; sublimate (in alchemy)

**όλόκληρος** (holoklēros) – complete, entire, perfect; uncastrated; whole; opposite of κολοβός

**όμόσης** (omosēis) – you shall swear, affirm by oath

**παλιγγενεσίας** (palingenesias) – of rebirth, regeneration, renewal, transmigration, reincarnation, palingenesis

**πέσητε** (pesēte) – ye might fall (James 5:12)

**πιστή** (pistē) – (1) liquid, (2) trusted; faithful, trusty; trustworthy; genuine; unmistakable; credible; believing, obedient

**ρύμην** (rhumēn) – force, swing, rush, whirl, charge; street

**τò έργον** (to ergon) – the work, task; the deed, action; the thing, matter, business

<http://www.isopsephy.com/598-2/>

**מבראשנה**: (MBRASHNH) what at the first. from the beginning.

**אבנ שלמה מסצ**: (ABN ShLMH MSY) unhewn/whole quarry stones

**2 \* 13 \* 23 = 598 => 5+9+8 = 22 => 2 + 2 = 4**

<http://www.billheidrick.com/works/hgm3/hg0590.htm#598>

**צונותינו**: Our Iniquities, 777 Sepher Sephiroth

# Theurgy: What is it?

Why should you study and practice *Magick*? Because you can't help doing it, and you had better do it well than badly.

—*Magick Without Tears*, Chapter II

There is a single main definition of the object of all magical Ritual. It is the uniting of the *Microcosm* with the *Macrocosm*. The Supreme and Complete Ritual is therefore the Invocation of the Holy Guardian Angel; or, in the language of *Mysticism*, Union with God.

The danger of ceremonial magick — the subtlest and deepest danger — is this: that the magician will naturally tend to invoke that partial being which most strongly appeals to him, so that his natural excess in that direction will be still further exaggerated. Let him, before beginning his Work, endeavour to map out his own being, and arrange his invocations in such a way as to redress the balance.

—*Magick in Theory and Practice: The Principles of Ritual*, Chapter 1

# Theurgy: What is it?

In the first method identity with the God is attained by love and by surrender, by giving up or suppressing all irrelevant (and illusionary) parts of yourself. It is the weeding of a garden.

In the second method identity is attained by paying special attention to the desired part of yourself: positive, as the first method is negative. It is the potting-out and watering of a particular flower in the garden, and the exposure of it to the sun.

In the third, identity is attained by sympathy. It is very difficult for the ordinary man to lose himself completely in the subject of a play or of a novel; but for those who can do so, this method is unquestionably the best.

—Magick in Theory and Practice: The Principles of Ritual, Chapter 1

## **There are three main methods of invoking any Deity.**

- Devotion to that Deity
- The straight forward ceremonial invocation
- The Dramatic

# Devotion to that Deity

Concerning the chief place of devotion. This is the Heart of the Devotee, and should be symbolically represented by that room or spot which he loves best.

...even if he have leisure and preparation, let him seek ever to bring inward the symbols, so that even in his well ordered shrine the whole ceremony revolve inwardly in his heart, that is to say in the temple of his body, of which the outer temple is but an image. For in the brain is the shrine, and there is no Image therein; and the breath of man is the incense and the libation.

...And of the Great Flame that answereth thee it may not be spoken; for therein is the End of this Magick Art of Devotion.

...And as many Deities demand sacrifice, one of men, another of cattle, a third of doves, let these sacrifices be replaced by the true sacrifices in thine own heart.

—Astarte vel Liber Bertlli sub figura CLXXV, v:3, 17, 30, 44

# Ceremonial Invocation

To "invoke" is to "call in"... In invocation, the macrocosm floods the consciousness. You "in"voke a God into the Circle.

In invocation, the macrocosm floods the consciousness [microcosm].

—Magick in Theory and Practice: The Principles of Ritual, Chapter 1



# The Dramatic

The magician who wishes to invoke Bacchus by this method must therefore arrange a ceremony in which he takes the part of Bacchus, undergoes all His trials, and emerges triumphant from beyond death. He must, however, be warned against mistaking the symbolism. In this case, for example, the doctrine of individual immortality has been dragged in, to the destruction of truth. It is not that utterly worthless part of man, his individual consciousness as John Smith, which defies death – that consciousness which dies and is reborn in every thought. That which persists (if anything persist) is his real John Smithiness, a quality of which he was probably never conscious in his life. –Magick in Theory and Practice: The Principles of Ritual, Chapter 1

- This method employs aspects of both Devotion and Invocation in more elaborate construction.
- Represents the legend of the God/Principle in a particular arch of myth or meaning. The principal of the ritual being the god, and other participants: antagonists, elements of nature, aspects of the god(s), etc...
- Effectively done, participants lose themselves completely in the drama of those they embody, playing out the Nature of these events and archetypes by the truest means possible.

# The Dramatic: Construction—Preliminaries

1. Purpose (5 Targeting Steps)
  1. Clear Definition of Purpose (Atziluth)
  2. Three Moral Considerations (Briah)
    1. Is it Consistent with your True Will?
    2. Is it nonvolatile of another's True Will?
    3. Is it necessary to perform the Operation?
  3. Mobilization of Creative Visualization (Yetzirah)
  4. Taking action, exhaust all "nonmagical" solutions first. (Assiah)
  5. Confront the Shadow (Q'liploth)
    1. Counter Intention
    2. Internal Barriers
2. Principle (3 Aligning Steps)
  1. Select a Hermetic principle (one of the 32 paths from the Tree of Life)
  2. Select the Pantheon (goddess(es)/god(s))
  3. Derive meaningful correspondences. (Common knowledge, 777, 776 1/2, ...)
3. Preparation of Person and Place
4. Timing

# The Dramatic: Construction—Preliminaries

## 5. The *Magical Link*

- › Applying the proper degree of Force

- ...in the proper manner

- ┌ ...through the proper medium

- ...to the proper object

# The Dramatic: Construction—Ceremonial Phases

0. Ayin, The Circle: Banishing & Purification

LBR Pentagram/Hexagram, Star Ruby... Acts of consecration and purification

1. Kether, The Lamp: General Invocation

Middle Pillar, Liber Pleiades, Star Sapphire....

2. Chokmah, The Lance: Oath or Proclamation

3. Binah, The Grail: Specific Invocation

"Principle then Plane", "Enflame Thyself!", GIR Pentagram/Hexagram, God-Forms => Movement => Vibrations of God Name

4–9. The Middle Pillar: The Sword: Descent of Power

"The God" then draws down the force through the planes as needed to the desired place

10. Malkuth, The Stone: Perfect the Magical Link. Conclude

Relative to subject. e.g. Charge of Spirit, Consecration of Talisman..., License to depart, banishing...

# **There is No God but Man**

Every man and every woman is a star.

...One can then see a reason for any element deciding to go through this series of incarnations...because so, and only so, can he go; and he suffers the lapse of memory of His own Reality of Perfection which he has during these incarnations, because he knows he will come through unchanged.

Every number is infinite; there is no difference.

This is a great and holy mystery. Although each star has its own number, each number is equal and supreme. Every man and every woman is not only a part of God, but the Ultimate God. "The Centre is everywhere and the circumference nowhere." The old definition of God takes new meaning for us. Each one of us is the One God. This can only be understood by the initiate; one must acquire certain high states of consciousness to appreciate it.

—Aleister Crowley, *The Law Is for All: The Authorized Popular Commentary of Liber Al Vel Legis Sub Figura CCXX, The Book of the Law, 1:3-4*

# References

776 1/2 Tables of Correspondences for Practical Ceremonial, James A. Eshelman

Magick in Theory and Practice, Aleister Crowley

Magick Without Tears, Aleister Crowley

The Law Is for All: The Authorized Popular Commentary of Liber Al Vel Legis Sub Figura CCXX,

The Book of the Law, Aleister Crowley

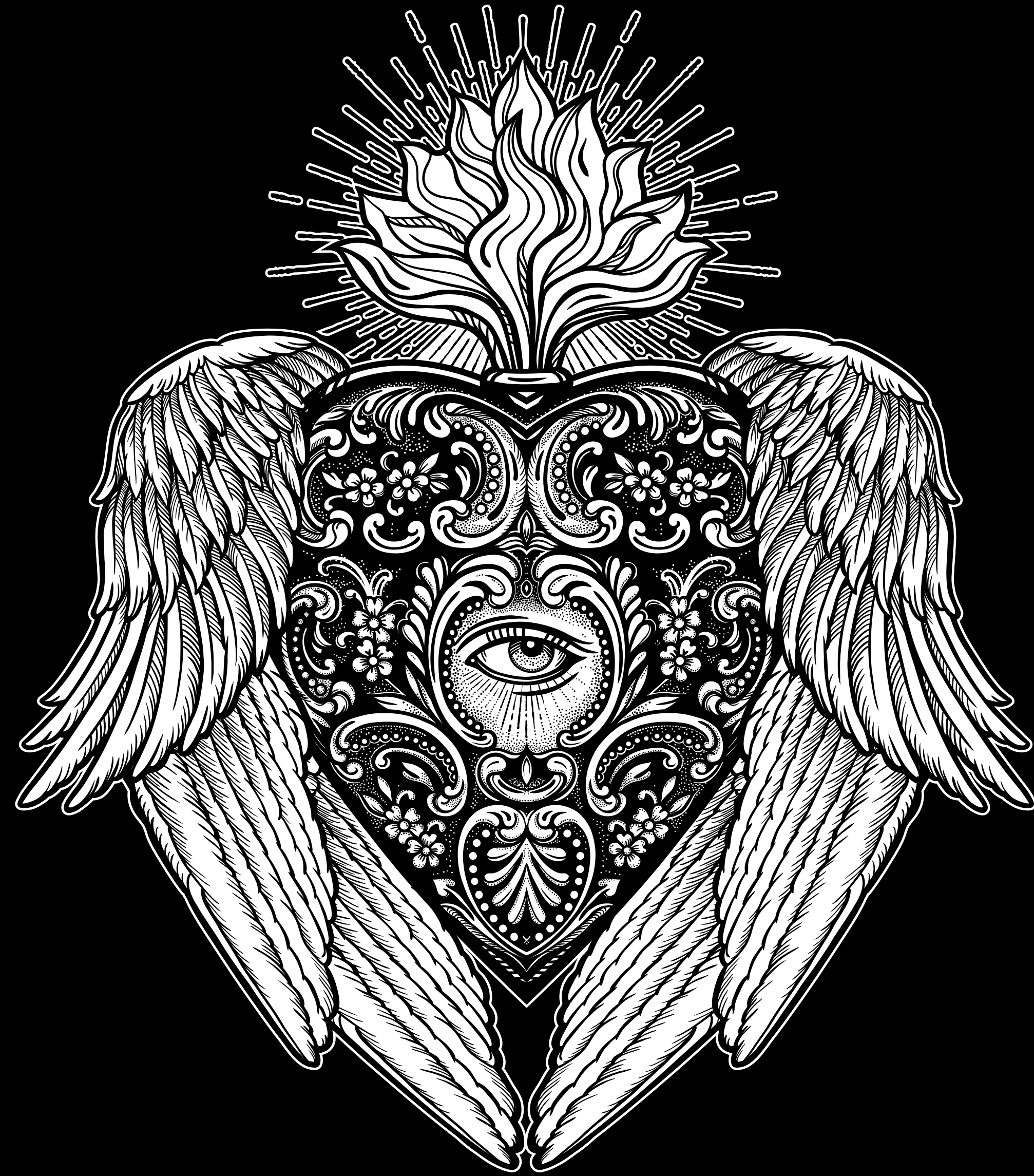
Other Resources:

<https://www.sacred-texts.com>

<http://www.thelemapedia.org/>

<https://hermetic.com/>

<https://iao131.com/tag/theurgy/>





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