

✦ INNER  
GARDEN



ANNUAL REPORT 2020

Bombax ceiba [40102]

# PREFACE



*Morning, Roerich, 1933*

**T**HIS YEAR THE FOUNDATION celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. In our annual report we look back on the fruits of last year's efforts and the seeds sown for the next year. The tree on the front cover [[40102](#)], together with the seed of the corresponding species on the back, bind these yearly musings. The giant featured on the cover has had a particularly long life for reason of its location on an ancient graveyard and the local belief that trees in cemeteries are home to the deceased, thus deserving respect and veneration. The seeds of the tree measure only 5 mm while the tree may reach heights of 20 m high on average — in this case even 40 m high. The tremendous change the seed must go through in order to grow into such a magnificent being is nothing short of amazing. It entails an openness towards transformation and a dependency on the supporting elements the earth and our **environment** provide.

The coronavirus, which had its first beginnings in December of the previous year, spread to become a pandemic in 2020. The onslaught of the virus brought hardship and loss but we also saw clearer skies, less air pollution and stars shining brighter at night. In the virus' wake a new appreciation for resilience in relation to environment health, and an increased awareness of the interconnection of life across the globe gained firmer ground in the collective conscious.

Travel restrictions thwarted our plans for a real-life celebration of our anniversary and we had to settle for an online event. Our second lustrum did not pass without due reflection on the Foundation's achievements and the activities we wish to pursue in coming years. The resulting *Policy Plan* for the period 2020-2025 can be viewed [here](#).



Moreh





**WINNER**  
OF THE NOBLE  
**ALCHEMY ART**  
**AWARD**

INNER GARDEN  
ART AWARD 2020



'AIR 2' is a path of no intentions and no expectations. Our experienced Guide took us on the journey into ourselves to show us the hidden world of emotions. The very moment you drop all intentions and all expectations, the world of hidden patterns and stored energies will open its vast territory of exploration, and you will go into deep conversation with your body and internal intelligences. Our team was strong and our wise and senior Guide constantly repeated words "don't get distracted, keep the path of allowing." I will never be the same, I know it. It is magic with the power of permanent transformation.'

Br. Baal



Alchemy is first and foremost known as an Art; the **Royal Art**. In appreciation of the Artistic element in Alchemy, Inner Garden initiated an award for the most beautiful photograph, painting, poem, song or video in the domain of alchemy. Br. Similia has won the 2020 award with the magnificent photograph shown on the previous page entitled *Venus Stars after many solve and coagula with different kinds of waters* which well captivates the legendary beauty of Venus. More info: [www.alchemyartaward.org](http://www.alchemyartaward.org).

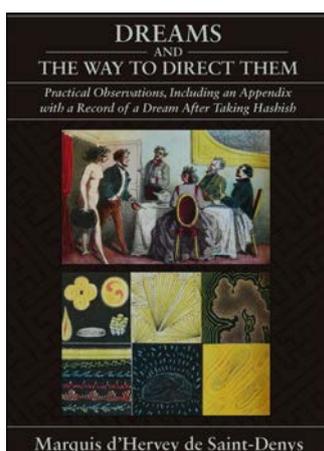


The alchemy archive saw over 100 new entries in 2020 varying from a collection of absinthe recipes to a metallurgical work on Antimony. Brn. Horatius D'Omeros and Similia were the foremost contributors this year and have gained access to a portion of the Archive. Our work on the digital portal began with a three-phase plan to bring the server side code into PHP 7 compliance. Many of the changes were security related and thus fall outside the scope of this report. Suffice it to say the changes were deep and challenging and a rewrite of much of the code base was required. We are currently working on performance tuning, indexing, and fault tolerance. We look forward to finishing the last part of our compliance plan and launching an Alpha version of the **portal** in 2021.

The IFLA 2019 Trend Report notes that in the 21<sup>st</sup> century the cost for producing, communicating, and storing information is approaching zero. In less than a generation, we have gone from a situation where knowledge could be trusted because of its real-world inertia (the physical library), to one where garbage with the same apparent authority as knowledge is trivial to produce. We've never had access to more raw information, but the tools we have to verify accuracy and create context are far less evolved. This challenge underlines the importance of a method for structuring the wealth of reference material

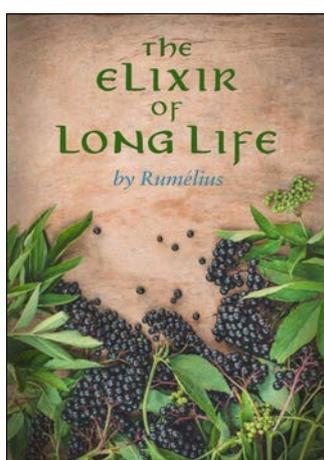
on Alchemy and the management of knowledge generated within the Foundation.

The aim beyond the collection of valuable works of knowledge is **transformation**. However, information and transformation can be worlds apart, if not animated and unlocked by a passion for our Art. Efficient reuse of knowledge, the avoidance of ‘re-inventing the wheel,’ and the experiential transmission and progressive disclosure of information (the Mantle of the Philosophers that is part of the Alchemical Tradition) call for more than a mere storage of books and manuscripts. By careful description and commenting on each entry, the Alchemy Archive aims beyond building a pile of great books, or anti-library, but rather aims to build a House of Wisdom with a roadmap and knowledgeable Librarian. More info: [www.alchemyarchive.org](http://www.alchemyarchive.org).



### **Dreams and the Ways to Direct Them, E-book**

This is an important book from the father of modern lucid dreaming, Marquis d'Hervey de Saint-Denys. In 1982 an abridged translation of this book appeared which unfortunately was missing part 2 of the book, its appendix, as well as sections from part 1 and 3. Inner Garden Press now publishes the complete book for the benefit of all students of **oneirology** and explorers of the dreamworld. Since a native speaker review of the third part of the book is not yet complete, the book is offered at a price of \$ 1,—



### **The Elixir of Long Life, E-book**

This is the first work from the French alchemist Armand Barbault (1906 - 1974) who wrote under the pseudonym of Rumélius. Barbault is primarily known as the author of the unique and greatly acclaimed work, *Gold of a Thousand Mornings*. In that book Barbault refers to the present work for details about how to gather herbs as practiced by the ancients. In addition, this book gives more details on the types of plants foraged by Barbault. For those who studied *Gold of a Thousand Mornings*, the present translation of this rare book from 1948 will be a valuable addition.



## Artifact

Pellet from Castelot method of transmutation

Size: 34 x 26 x 11 mm, weight: 49.1 g, specific gravity  $\approx 9.6 - 9.8$ .

In 1942/1943 Frater Albertus attempted a transmutation using a method of Francois Jollivet-Castelot in the laboratory of the Rose-Croix University of AMORC. He reported partial success, i.e. the presence of gold. This artifact was found nearly half a century later while the laboratory in San Jose, California was being cleaned and reorganized. Much of the apparatus there was the same as shown in surviving photos from the 1940's classes.

An Alchemy Course published by AMORC in this era documented Castelot's method of a partial transmutation of silver to gold, using orpiment and kermes of antimony. Castelot also reported success using arsenic and antimony sulphides, tellurium, and tin, acting on silver. Both methods required fusion in a furnace at 1600°C.

It does appear that the specimen shown is the result of the fusion of metallic elements, the density is consistent with the ingredients used by Castelot, the rough texture of the top surface is consistent with outgassing and ebullition during fusion, and the overall shape is suggestive of a deformed crucible.

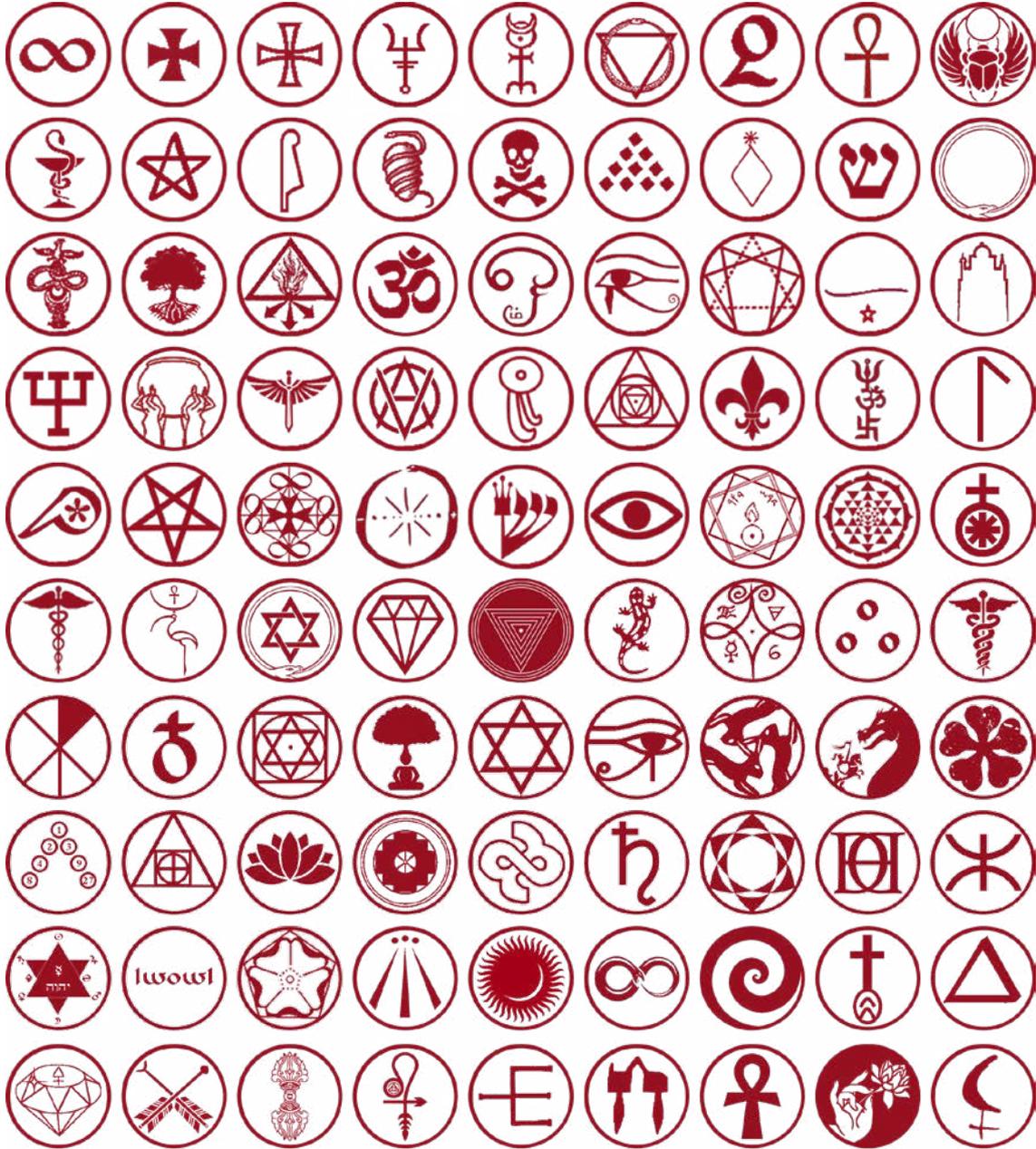
In order to validate the composition, Inner Garden is now making final arrangements for analysis via XRF and scanning electron microscope (SEM) coupled with EDXA (energy dispersive X-ray analysis).

Not only would the presence of gold be of interest but an overview of other elements would be highly relevant to confirm which method was used, and the presence of the 'secret ingredient,' the metal that Castelot does not mention in his records and books about 'wet' and 'dry' transmutation.

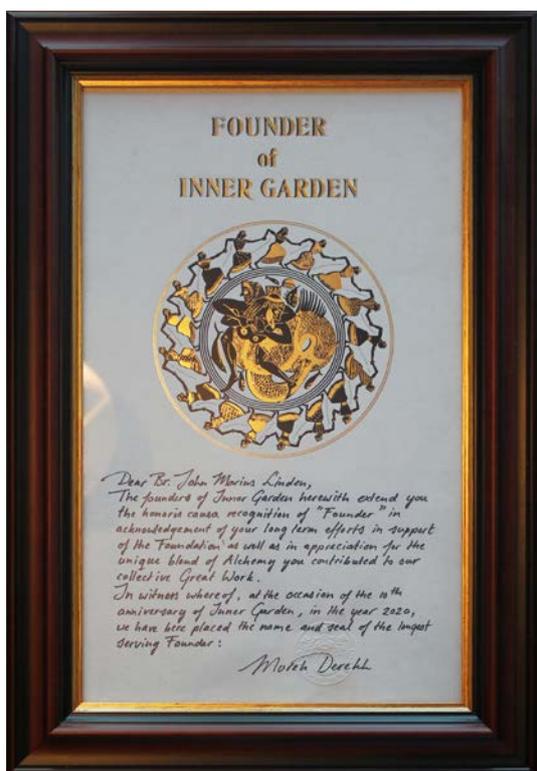


# PARTNERS

In 2020, the Foundation admitted sixteen Candidate Partners. Our welcome goes out to Dom Cordova, Sanitatem Magum, Cyl, Pros ta Asteria, Abaris, Neferkare, Vulcan, Diamond Spirit, Antares, Atesh Delle, Tati Via Prajna, Cinis, Shruti, Eudaimonius, Soham Maitī and Lilith. In line with our practice since 2010, each new candidate chose an emblem to match their nomen. The sum of emblems of Gardeners who joined over the past ten years is a testament to the creativity and diversity of the group and our Art.



Br. Similia has strengthened the core of the group as Partner. At the occasion of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Inner Garden, the Founders of Inner Garden extended Brn. Ibn Hamda and John Marius Linden the honoris causa recognition of **Founder**, in recognition of their long term efforts in supporting of the Foundation as well as in appreciation for the unique blend of alchemy they contribute to our collective Great Work. Two certificates on archival paper, hand-made by master bookbinder Geert van Daal, mark the occasion.



A copy of our Balance Sheet is available upon request for benefactors of the Foundation. Special thanks goes out to Aashiq al-Hikma for arranging SEM/EDXA tests via his contacts at the university, to Ibn Hamda for organising an online event in celebration of our anniversary, to Justitius for polishing up Alchemy I and Sr. Orenda for her eagle-eye proofreading. We would also like to thank Similia and Shruti for their donations, and all those who contributed their time as Guides teaching a new generation of Alchemists.



