



Apprenticing to the Earth

May 25th-June 1st 2011

... embodied practices of permaculture, natural building, conscious kitchen, reflection, poetry & contemplative practice...

Axladitsa Avatakia, Pelion, Greece

How can we open ourselves to re-membrance with the Earth to cultivate our capacity to Source the wise actions needed at this time of significant transformation of our humanity and planet?

Apprenticing to the Earth is the opportunity to inquire into this question, in a powerful place, *Axladitsa Avatakia*, in southern Pelion, Greece. Axladitsa is a place that calls forth those who are seeking a natural way of living and working and being in the world to learn and inquire together into what we can offer this world, to collectively learn and intentionally evolve.

We invite people who are curious about opening the scope of human potential by learning to listen and communicate with the Earth's wisdom in order to create a new form of power, resourcefulness and resilience of living on Earth during this time of great transition.

Permaculture and natural building will be our embodied practice in this inquiry along with contemplative practices of listening to land and connecting with both the visible and invisible aspects of nature. We will invite the Earth's wisdom to inform our practices of permaculture, natural building and the conscious kitchen and engage the modalities of conversation, silence, listening to land, writing, artwork, local cuisine and other creative expressions – to inform, cultivate and inspire our natural capacities and access our deepest intelligences, in service of people and planet.

We will be in our learning through *parea* (joyful company), good food, living in nature and with ceremony and ritual. We also gather to celebrate this particular place on Mother Earth. Gaia. Pachamama. The Divine.

Our ecologies, societies and economies are clearly telling us that the way we live is no longer sustainable. We are now searching for new ways to live on Earth. In doing this, we are currently using multiple intelligences to sense our way towards a sustainable future.

One source of intelligence that is overlooked or underestimated is the wisdom held within the Earth, that manifests through nature – the relationship between our own humanness as well as the natural environment.

What if the places we live, the land we call home - urban or rural - hold the wisdom we are seeking in order to innovate, resource and transform how we eat, learn, govern, build, live, love, etc? What if the divine feminine wisdom held in our Earth is where we need to turn?

For more information, please contact Sarah Whiteley: sarahwhiteley.hara@virgin.net

Registration Form & Fee: www.axladitsa.org/calendar.htm

Join the immersion community: www.axladitsa.ning.com
www.powersofplace.com • www.artofhosting.org



Hosts:

Axladitsa Avatakia is an ancient Olive farm and haven of 10 hectares (24 acres) on the Pelion peninsula, mainland Greece - is unspoiled, remote, rugged and beautiful. Since 2006, Axladitsa has been a place of renewal and retreat for friends and family, of sabbaticals and internships for learners of all types, a place of sharing and celebration for local and translocal friends, farmers, and an intentional gathering space for collective learning with people from around the world. Axladitsa is the home campus for the *Living Wholeness Institute*.



Axladitsa has inspired Maria, Sarah and Vanessa (see below) to develop a pattern known as *Living Wholeness* that offers a framework for being systemic at every level: with ourselves, our work and our communities, and especially in relationship with all of life. With the *Living Wholeness* pattern, we navigate the visible, invisible, individual and collective pathways towards deeper alignment with all of Life.



Living Wholeness Hosts:

Maria Scordialos enjoys living life by offering her natural ability to see patterns, create structure and design processes so that humans can be more of themselves and offer more to life. She passionately knows that it is possible for people to live within the means of our planet so that our human cultures and systems feed and are fed by our Home in a mutual way. Maria works at both co-creating and also responding to invitations where the Mystery can go to work in practical ways. This includes systemic transformation processes over longer periods, hosting conversations between people in conflict areas, strategic development within organisations and individuals finding what they love. Maria lives at Axalditsa and is a co-founder of the *Living Wholeness Institute*.



Sarah Whiteley is a writer, field-weaver and translator of subtle intelligences of people and place, within systemic transformation processes. Sarah stewards Axladitsa Avatakia and is a co-founder of the *Living Wholeness Institute*. She offers a combination of skills gained from her diverse experience working as an outdoor educator, higher education lecturer, Royal Naval Officer and process host. Her inspiration for designing and hosting is rooted in her love of nature and the 'inner field', teaching the art of self-organising. Sarah has co-created and co-hosted learning opportunities and strategic conversations in Europe, North America and the Middle East and co-initiator of the *Art of Hosting*. "My inspiration for co-calling this gathering is to be in a field of learning and inquiry that calls forth the innate wisdom and power of nature - both human and non-human - and to explore what becomes possible when we align our soul's calling with the natural."



Vanessa Reid is an architect in the field of social innovation and a chef who practices her art in "the studio of the extraordinary." Vanessa creates spaces to collectively cook up concoctions and processes that help transform our inner and outer worlds. Vanessa is a writer and former publisher of *ascent magazine*, a masters of architecture, systems thinker, yoga practitioner, and *Conscious Kitchen* host. Now based in Jerusalem, she works translocally in Canada, Europe and the Middle East stewarding and co-creating practices to move skillfully through transitions and life-cycles - with emergence as much as Conscious Closure. Vanessa was executive director of *Santropol Roulant*, an innovative non-profit founded by young people that uses food as a catalyst for social change. She is a steward of the *Berkana Exchange*, a guardian of Axladitsa-Avatakia and with Maria and Sarah, is co-founding the *Living Wholeness Institute*.





Visiting Faculty:

Janell Kapoor is the founding Director of *Kleiwerks International*. She is an avid mud mama, international activist, and community organizer who's work has generated natural building movements of hundreds of thousands in over 35 countries. Janell also founded the *Ashevillage Institute* in Asheville, North Carolina -- an eco-urban education project that hosts trainings in self-reliant living. Janell is dedicated to the grassroots, to the champion within each of us, and to the possibility that we may learn to live in balance with ourselves, each other, and this most beautiful planet we are blessed to inhabit.



Penny Livingston-Stark is founder and Co-director of the *Regenerative Design Institute* and *Commonweal Garden* in Bolinas, California. She also serves on the faculty of *Holy Names University*. Penny is internationally recognized as a prominent permaculture specialist, teacher and designer toward developing skills in creating resource rich landscapes. She co-created the ecological design program and curriculum at the *San Francisco Institute of Architecture* as well as the *Permaculture* program at the *Occidental Arts and Ecology Center*. She co-manages the Commonweal Garden, a diverse permaculture organic farm in Bolinas California with her husband James Stark. She has been invited to teach, speak and share her vision of community resiliency and regenerative design all over the world. [website](#)



Filiz Telek: is a social artist, process designer, poet/writer, community organizer and a transition host whose purpose is to serve the transition of the humanity and the planet to the new paradigm by awakening a sense of possibility and sacred in human heart and spirit. She is a way-shower and faith-holder for the birth of the new reality as well as an amplifying voice for the Sacred Feminine. Filiz offers her gifts through sharing her personal learning journey, prose & poetry, designing and hosting spaces of learning, healing, co-creation and celebration. Her recent inquiry is into creating "the resonance of the Sacred" through creative expression. [website](#)



*if everyday we could witness
a tiny portion of Earth's unfolding
and inhale its thousand smells deep into our bodies
as they leave their hiding places
our souls would be on everlasting fire
in love with this miracle*

*Excerpt from Seasons of Remembrance
by Filiz Telek*

