



**Holistic
Adult Education**

Designing Integrated Programs

**Learning with
Head, Heart and Hands**

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Holistic Biography Work ... bringing spirit to life



Beings Alone are Real

To Beings one must come at last in all understanding of the world. For Beings alone are real. Anything comes into existence only through the co-operation of Beings ... everywhere in the world it is particular Beings that are at work, and the rest is illusion, arising from the co-existence of Beings. Physical matter, too, is an illusion of this kind – something of the nature of a Being underlies everything. (GA224, *The Cosmic Word and Individual Human*, Lecture 5, 2 May 1923)

The term **Beings** introduced in the quote above, is central for our module on Designing Integrated Program, and stands for spiritual deepening.

Beings are behind the **archetypes** we will introduce to inspire process design.

Beings hold the idea of the Program as a whole, and each part of it.

Building a bridge to these **Beings** is crucial for inspired teaching and learning processes.

In building that bridge, we follow the principle of a Reversed Cultus as the direction is from below to above. Our warm interest, our enthusiasm, builds the vehicle for the **Being** to incarnate into our work. We work more with realisation than with revelation. In the past revelation was predominant. This has changed, since new capacities of perception are awakening in the human being with the dawning of the Michael Age (1879). In Rudolf Steiner's words:

The Michael age has dawned. Hearts begin to have thoughts. Enthusiasm no longer flows from mystical obscurity, but from the inner clarity that thought conveys. To grasp this is to receive Michael into one's soul. Thoughts that today seek to grasp the Spirit must spring from hearts that beat for Michael as the fiery cosmic prince of thought. (GA26, *The Michael Mystery – At the Dawn of the Michael Age*)

Our Holistic Approach to Adult Education includes a cosmic perspective with the idea of **Collaborating with Beings**. Coenraad van Houten states: *A course is a Being that is given life by the participants and the adult educators together.*

From the moment we start designing a Program, or even before, when we conceived the idea of the Program, we are working with Beings.

Beings, entities which emanate living thoughts, inspire us with ideas, give us guiding images and warm our will to plan and conduct the Program. We can tune in more effectively with these Beings, if our work is not just a task we fulfil, but when we engage with warm enthusiasm in our heads and hearts. That gives Michael, the Guiding Spirit of our time, the opening to inspire our work, as indicated in the quote above.

Beings are also the formative elements of Archetypes. They are spiritual realities behind numbers and geometrical forms. In contrast C G Jung describes archetypes as common elements within our collective subconscious.

To give an example, the **3-fold Archetype** is represented in:

- The Cosmic Learning Process: Preview – Do – Review, visible in the day and night rhythm and the process of reincarnation.
- Thinking – Feeling – Will | Head – Heart – Hands
- Content – Interaction – Procedure.

Bringing in a personal developmental aspect for the educator Rudolf Steiner refers to the warmth of Enthusiasm. Here is an example from Lectures given to the teachers of the first Waldorf School:

Grow inwardly with the flame that is kindled in you today, for then the Michael impulse will be achieved! Without fire, it cannot be achieved. But if you are to live and work, glowing through and through, you yourself will have to become a flame. ... The only thing not burned up by flames is a flame; ... It is our etheric heart that will understand that humanity is moving into a new epoch, into a life in the spirit. (GA302a, *Deeper Insights into Education*, 16 Oct 1923)

On the following pages we share an excerpt from a Lecture by Rudolf Steiner which is the source of the first quote we used to introduce **Beings**. This is followed by a visual depicting our vision of *Holistic Adult Education*.



Summary Rudolf Steiner on Beings

Source Rudolf Steiner, GA224, *The Human Soul and its Connection with the Divine-Spiritual Individuals. The Internalization of the Festivals of the Year*, Lecture 5 of 11, 2 May 1923, Stuttgart. Edited by Laura Summerfield using gender inclusive language.

[Logos – The Spirit in Words]

In present-day anthroposophical life we must begin to develop an art which was one of the arts of the old Mysteries – those Mysteries which were based on a quite different kind of knowledge from that of to-day, and yet possessed in their customs, and in their whole way of conducting affairs, a great deal that has been lost, and must be renewed. The art I mean can be described, quite in accordance with the intentions of the old Mysteries, thus: from words there must be drawn Spirit. But when, in the old Mysteries, they spoke of Word, or **Logos**, they meant something very much more significant than is generally meant to-day. We have to learn to find again a deeper and deeper meaning in the objects and processes of the world – and in this sentence, once more: Spirit must be drawn forth from words.

...

Body, soul and spirit are a result of the activities of cosmic beings]

You see – in this way, through the art that seeks out the reality in words, the Being of the Human Being can be described once again. We get nearer and nearer to a real picture of this Being. Just as one might indicate on the blackboard the distribution of the figures in a picture by Raphael, say the Sistine Madonna, with a few characteristic strokes – the words Physical-body, Etheric-body, Astral-body and 'I' are only an indication. The reality is living activity, inwardly full and rich; and in this activity the Beings of the Cosmos, in realms of body, soul, and spirit, are revealed. **In the end one comes always to Beings.**

[Steiner's image for Beings not Monads]

If anything is described as if it were vaguely extended in Space or swimming in Time, or as a Physical World, Etheric World, and so on – it is the manifestation which is being described. It is like describing a swarm of gnats seen in the distance, so that the particular gnats cannot be distinguished, only a grey patch in the air. In the real world, what are at first called Etheric-body, Astral-body, are such grey patches. If one looks closely at these grey patches in the physical air, one discovers the particular existing gnats. If one looks closely at these

spiritual grey patches, "Etheric-body", "Astral-body", one always discovers Beings.

To Beings one must come at last in all understanding of the world. For Beings alone are real. Anything comes into existence only through the co-operation of Beings – presenting then an unreal appearance to unclear vision. Just as in the unreal grey cloud the gnats are the real, particular beings – everywhere in the world it is particular Beings that are at work, and the rest is illusion, arising from the co-existence of Beings. Physical matter, too, is an illusion of this kind – something of the nature of a Being underlies everything. People must understand this again, in order not to speak of something that is not really there: of Matter – or (which is no better) of Spirit in general – in order to learn to speak about beings, individual Beings of the universe.

[In becoming self-apprehending humanity lost the consciousness of Being] [It must be regained for future development]

Once, in the old Mysteries, they knew how to speak about the Beings of the universe. They knew that realities could not be described by talking either of Matter or of what is called Spirit in the ordinary consciousness – a grey spirituality, conceived pantheistically as present in all things. They knew that if one wants realities, one must have particular Beings. But consciousness of these Beings has gradually been lost – to the same degree that in the Human Being themselves the equality of individual being has developed more and more. As I have often said, Human Beings have become more and more intellectual ever since the first third of the fifteenth century. What they know about themselves becomes more and more abstract. But behind this abstract life there is a being living more and more within itself; increasingly rich in inner spirituality. The human being lost the dreamy consciousness they once possessed of the Beings of the universe, in becoming a self-apprehending being themselves. They must realize again that only when we can point to individual Beings in the universe do we grasp realities.



[Necessity of seeing Beings everywhere in ancient times]

It was the necessary course of human evolution to see Being everywhere in ancient times, but in a dreamy consciousness. Then the time came, when things were felt in the following way. The realities consist of all these Beings, living in the Cosmos: Kyriotetes, Dynamis, Exusiai, Archai, Archangeloi, Angeli, human 'I's, animal group-souls, the cosmic souls of the plants and so on. Not even the animals, as they live on earth, are realities; they too are illusion; the realities are the group-souls. The whole plant world on earth is no reality; the earth-soul is the reality. Plants are only as hair upon the earth organism, like the hair upon our own organism. People knew that all these Beings I have named existed in the universe, and shine out, manifesting themselves, revealing themselves in speech. They knew that this expression in speech proceeded from their essential being. And that universal resounding, which arises from the confluence of what is spoken by the particular Beings in self-revelation, this is the Logos. But to begin with, the Logos was also only an Appearance. Only because Christ united this appearance, and made it concrete in His own Being, was through the Mystery of Golgotha the apparent Logos born upon earth as real Logos.

[Beings forming all spiritual forms are the only reality in the Universe]

We must understand the connection of these things. Then the particular Beings can be described spiritually – how they shine, with gentle phosphorescence, and resound: how they spread streaming warmth, how they speak out their own essence. For each particular Being a full spiritual Form can be found in this way. And these full spiritual Forms are the only real things in the universe. In the old dreamy consciousness they knew a great deal about these realities. But this knowledge has shrunk more and more. Once it was known: Form shines out in this way from a certain Being who is reckoned among the *Kyriotetes*, in this way from human 'I', in this way from *Angels*, and so on. All this shrank, and contracted at last into a point, because the realities were seen less and less.

[Space is not real, Time is not real, Matter is not real, Spirit in vague generality is not real – but cosmic individualities are real – and not Monads!]

Originally, they knew very well how the manifestations of the *Exusiai*, for example, differ from the manifestations of the Human 'I', or these from the manifestations of the group-souls of the animals or of the plant Earth-soul. The differences were known, but gradually they fell into unconsciousness. A time

came, when there was only the feeling: Yes, there are such realities, everything else is not real ... Space is not real, Time is not real, Matter is not real, Spirit in vague generality is not real – but cosmic individualities are real. But they could no longer be distinguished. And so they were described with the uniform word *Monad*. Leibnitz and Giordano Bruno spoke of Monads in this way. These Monads were the Realities I have spoken of, shrivelled up small. And no distinction was made between one Monad and another – or at most by tacking on an attribute to the word: the Monads of the *Exusiai*, the Monads of human beings, the Monads of animals, and so on.

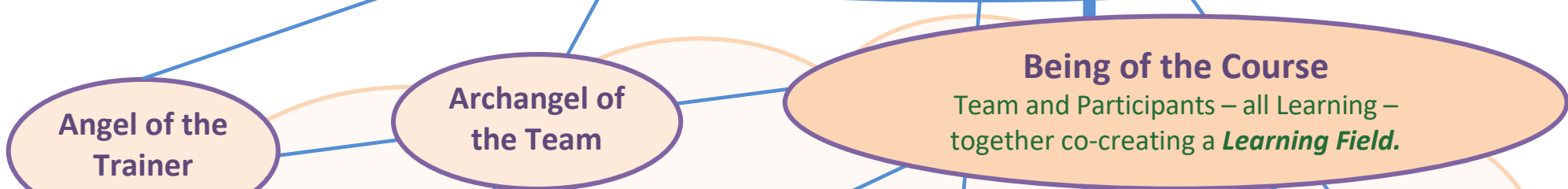
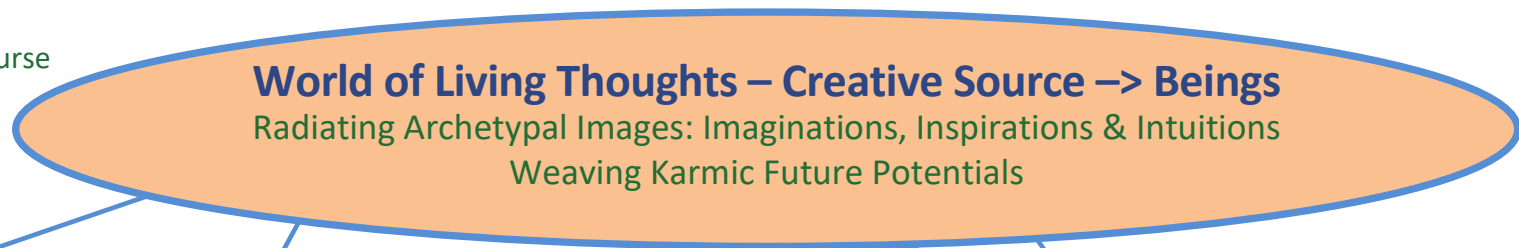
[Back to: All true reality consists in living, ensouled spirit-beings]

And at last people lost the power even to speak about the Monads – to which the great German thinker ascribed a conceptual faculty, because he felt that spirit did indeed live in what had shrunk to the Monad. We have not only to remember that the Monad is something living; if human civilization is not to fall into decay, but develop further, we must not only remember the Monads, but we must understand once more, and now with a clear, enhanced consciousness, that all true reality consists in living, ensouled spirit-beings. And what is sketched first with a few lines – Physical-body, Etheric-body, Astral-body – must be brought to life, in the way we have done today.



Visual Designing Inspired Integrated Teaching and Learning Programs

Source Karl-Heinz Finke
Anthroposophical Schooling Course



Learning Field

Including Place and Space.



Learning and Development of *Integrated Programs* inspired by *Archetypes/Beings*.
The *Integrated Program* progresses in Time and is delivered by an *Integrated Team*.
Consists of *Integrated – Content, Teaching Elements, Teaching & Learning Modalities*.

Trainer(s)
Personal Development (Schooling) and Professional Development (Vocation) develops a connection to the *Being* of the Course and the Content.

They resonate/tune in with –

- The Beings – Archetypal Images

They determine –

- Program – Content – Input
- Format – Structure
- Delivery over time

They sense / resonate with –

- Inspirations from the Beings
- Needs of the participants
- Adjusting the course accordingly