

## 2021.07.17 SA USA Q&A 1



The purpose of this short essay in Q&A format is mainly to satisfy the natural curiosity of first-time listeners to [Sophianic Animism USA's Odysee channel](#) by expounding answers to a few specific questions concerning Sophianic Animism USA and the more generic subject of Sophianic animism, the paradigm or worldview (aka SA herein). Aspects of the living Gnosis today, ancient Gnosticism and a small number of other subjects are also touched upon as-needed.

Probably the best definition of SA for those encountering it for the first time is found in the essay, [Sophianic Animism in 500 Words](#).

### **Q. Are there any other SA implementations worldwide?**

A. First, any individual who self-identifies as a Sophianic animist constitutes an "implementation," regardless of whether he or she is a member of an SA church. But the question was evidently intended to refer to groups of non-solitary practitioners, and yes, there are other implementations in that sense; SA USA is not the only one. We are aware of Sophianic Animism Sweden and a Spanish association, and there may be others, as well.

There is no global SA implementation that we know of and no universal template or model that groups would feel constrained to follow. SA USA probably comes closest to a planet-wide implementation in that we accept members who live in other countries; SA USA has members in the UK, Australia and Denmark as well as in the USA. It seems that, so far, implementations are nation-specific, but that is not the only possibility.

### **Q. How would joining SA USA (or another SA implementation) benefit me?**

A. To adopt and adapt here the classic phrasing of JFK's inaugural address (1961): "Ask not what SA can do for you; ask what you can do for SA." Of course, the implicit assumption is that one receives reciprocal benefits via supporting and participating in the collegium<sup>1</sup>; and what might those be?

There are benefits of association with others of like mind. Is membership in an SA church required in order to enjoy such benefits? Strictly speaking, no. For example, students of Nemeta (please see the answer to the last question, below) have access to that school's online forums and can make whatever arrangements they like for virtual or in-person contact and collaboration.

SA provides a framework or structure of regular meetings and certain initiatives that are aligned with Sophianic values and goals. Any individual or group could as well do this. SA USA is a functioning group that is doing so.

One of the benefits of association is increased power to fulfill goals in solidarity with others. SA USA has the legal standing of a church that provides recognition and protection as a religious community under the law and an arrangement for accumulating, handling and utilizing assets in support of group initiatives.

The primary initiative of SA USA currently is the Nine Loves Community and Agora<sup>2</sup> (NLCA), which is intended to encourage and support the formation of communities based on Sophianic values and ethics, having a more-or-less religious character, and the development of an alternative approach to livelihood and economy with a Sophianic orientation. A secondary and related initiative, called the Sophianic Reading Club (SRC), is focused on continuation and amplification of the Superlearning Event<sup>3</sup> (the inception of which occurred in 2016) in a way that is geared to mutual and group learning that supports the NLCA initiative.

These initiatives are presently in their earliest beginning stages, and it is a good time to "get in on the ground floor" with them. Incremental results such as participants have produced thus far have the potential to compound and eventually to produce significant, remarkable and groundbreaking results.

Yet another benefit of membership in the church is that each member has the potential to help define what SA USA is and does and what it shall be and will do or accomplish.

Membership in the collegium is also a potent avenue for personal growth. How so? Acknowledging that each of us is in effect the CEO of his or her own life enterprise is a fundamental philosophical stance, which is to say that taking individual responsibility very much to one's heart, seriously and playfully, is encouraged and emphasized. This includes the development of leadership ability, where leadership is applied to oneself first and is defined as "originating and following through on action to produce real and tangible benefit for oneself and others."

The word "service" is sometimes used in connection with this subject, but we dislike that term to the extent that it implies anything other than "voluntarily engaging in mutual aid," which is the Sophianic rephrasing that we find more empowering and that emphasizes generosity: principled love in action.

Sophianic leadership entails the sane, humane and beautiful – beauty-enhancing – use of power with and for others as a means for engaging the transpersonal to fulfill the personal<sup>4</sup>.

Although it isn't a requirement that anyone do so, membership in the collegium can be used as the basis, or an integral part, of a program for developing one's own sense and fulfillment of responsibility for self and for or toward others and one's leadership ability – the ability to engage in selected initiatives that may or may not involve others, and to guide, guard and facilitate such initiatives until they are completed and fulfilled.

**Q. Must one assent to, or align with, a particular theology to be an SA or SA USA member?**

A. Sophianic Animism is founded on the teachings of the living Gnosis today, the work and legacy of John Lamb Lash (JLL), including the Terma of Gaia Awakening and Planetary Tantra<sup>5</sup>. Although regular practice of Planetary Tantra is not a requirement for membership in SA USA, members must have some familiarity with the practice and must exhibit a fundamental respect for it.

The deity recognized by SA is not the off-planet father god of the Abrahamic religions but, primarily, the Aeonic Goddess from the Galactic core<sup>6</sup>, Sophia (pronounced with a long 'i'), who "fell" into the Galactic arms and eventually transformed into Gaia, the living Earth; we often refer to her by the combined, hyphenated name, Gaia-Sophia. Alternatively, in a parallel formulation, that deity can be called "Mother Nature." There are other gods and goddesses, prominently including Sophia's consort and partner in designing the human genome, the Aeon Theleté, who is thus humanity's Divine Father, and who, although he remains in the Galactic core, is also accessible to us.

These are not jealous or judgmental deities. SA is not concerned with "sin," Original or otherwise, and with redemption or salvation; the Sophianic paradigm identifies those as deceitful, harmful archontic<sup>7</sup> concepts, associated specifically with the Abrahamic faiths – which are considered "great" religions because many millions of humans have been persuaded to believe in and practice them, but the pervasiveness of such ideologies is part of what has brought humanity to its present crisis; the Gnostic viewpoint asserts that *Abrahamic religion (Judaism, Christianity and Islam, in all of their elaborations and variations) lies at the root of the problem* (for details, please consult and read closely the book *Not in His Image*), and thus can be no part of lasting and satisfying solutions to the fundamental issues threatening the human species today – the recognized sincerity and good intentions of many of the adherents of those religions notwithstanding.

Sophianic Animism upholds and promotes the Home Story, Fallen Goddess Scenario or Sophianic Myth as the only narrative about our origins as a species that has the power to guide humanity into a truly enlightened and beautiful way of life in the future – not the Bible, not science (alone) and not transhumanism.

### **Q. What are reliable sources of additional information about Sophianic animism and SA USA?**

A. One can learn more about these subjects by utilizing the provisions of two Websites, especially: <http://sophianicmyth.org> and <http://nemeta.org>

Additional details concerning the SA USA church can be found on the Website <http://sa-usa.org> or <http://sophianicanimismusa.org>; see especially the About Us page.

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<sup>1</sup> "Collegium" is a term SA USA members often use in conversation with one another instead of "church." It means, "A group whose members pursue shared goals while working within a framework of mutual trust and respect." <https://www.thefreedictionary.com/collegium> Although the term is generic, since it is rather uncommon we can apply it, and do so, with clarity and specificity to our religious assembly. (The provenance of the word in connection with governmental functions of the former Soviet Union should not be seen as significant and has no valid implications, as SA is fundamentally opposed to communist ideology.)

<sup>2</sup> "Nine Loves" refers to the [Nine Loves of the Anthropos](https://www.thefreedictionary.com/agora). "Agora" means, according to <https://www.thefreedictionary.com/agora>, "A place of congregation, especially an ancient Greek marketplace." Or, "a place to gather and trade," signifying also the activity of gathering for social and/or commercial purposes.

<sup>3</sup>The Superlearning Event was initiated by JLL as an incentive to his students to expand their horizons of knowledge and skills by undertaking in-depth investigation of subjects of interest, taking special care to exercise discernment and, if necessary, to rebuild knowledge of certain subjects from first principles where evidence of deviation and entrenchment of misconceptions exists.

<sup>4</sup>It is a maxim of the living Gnosis today that “The transpersonal fulfills the personal; the personal cannot fulfill itself.”

<sup>5</sup>In certain Buddhist traditions, a terma is a body of wisdom teachings hidden with the intention that the teachings will be found and revealed at a future, auspicious time by an individual known as a tertön. This concept is adapted by the living Gnosis today in the form of the claim that the Terma of Gaia Awakening, a body of teachings particularly applicable to the “end times” of Kali Yuga (2008-2216 CE), was given to and discovered by JLL as a freelance tertön (not attached to any lineage of Buddhist masters) and he has been progressively dispensing the teachings since he received them in 2008. According to JLL, Planetary Tantra is “the practice package for the Terma,” an essential part of its “delivery system.”

<sup>6</sup>The living Gnosis today identifies the Gnostic term, “the Pleroma” with the core regions of the Milky Way Galaxy and or spiral galaxies in general. Aeons are divine beings, fully material, composed of stellar plasma, who naturally inhabit Pleromic regions and who engage in divine experiments involving organic lifeforms they design and deploy into the galactic arms as genomic plasm. Humanity is evidently the principal subject species of one such experiment.

<sup>7</sup>Archons – the word literally means “authorities” – according to the ancient Gnostic seers are an extra-terrestrial inorganic species, an accidental creation resulting from the laws of physics operating in the impingement of the Aeon Sophia’s superanimating force on the chaotic matter of the Galactic arms, that inhabits the Solar System beyond the Earth and Moon.

Aside from a pro-human group that inhabits the Sun (the interior of which is cool, contrary to contemporary mainstream astronomical / cosmological theory), the Archons are described as motivated by envy toward the human species and as being bent on causing humankind’s ruination.

The alleged Almighty Creator of the Abrahamic faiths is revealed in the ancient Gnostic texts to be the demented Lord Archon, who, first of all, is delusional concerning his own identity and nature and, secondly, deceives humanity regarding every disclosure proceeding from him that he represents as divine truth. In this view, everything taught in the Bible and the Abrahamic faiths is either completely false or co-opted and deviated, with the root intention to cause harm to humans duped by those teachings and to incite them to harm themselves and one another.

“Archontic” is the adjective form of the noun “Archons,” meaning: originating with the Archons and/or exhibiting and promoting their demented and deviant thinking and/or their inhuman and anti-human motivations.