

# STARHAWK ..... VISIBLE REVERENCE

Divinity is something that I experience all the time. A lot of people think of Divinity or Deity as something unseen. To me, it's more about shifting your attitude towards what you can see. Sitting here in the midst of a beautiful meadow, I see green things and plants going to seed. I understand this as part of a whole cycle of birth, growth, death and regeneration that happens in the natural world all the time. This cycle goes on in our bodies and all around us, it's the sacred cycle that sustains life. I can hear birds singing and see beautiful flowers. To me, that is Divinity, it's about shifting my attitude and experience. If I really let myself be here to experience this place in its fullness and its wholeness, stopping for a moment to hear the beauty of a singing bird, then I am having a direct experience of Divinity. It doesn't require faith in the invisible, it really just requires appreciation, reverence, joy and love for what is all around us.



Android Jones, *Wildlife*, 2012, digital  
[www.androidjones.com](http://www.androidjones.com)



VANDANA SHIVA

# LIFE ITSELF

My experience of Divinity is life itself. Life in all the vitality, diversity, and renewal. I am fortunate enough to have grown up in a culture which recognizes the Divine in every leaf, in every herb, in every river, in every mountain, in every insect. In India, we talk about three hundred million divinities which is really what scientists assess is the number of species on this planet. Divinity is embodied in all expressions of life. That is my experience.

Dr. Vandana Shiva trained as a Physicist. She founded Navdanya, a national movement to protect the diversity and integrity of living resources, especially native seeds. Dr. Shiva has contributed in fundamental ways to changing the practice and paradigms of agriculture and food. She is a Founding Board Member of many important organizations such as the International Forum on Globalization and Diverse Women for Diversity.

[www.navdanya.org](http://www.navdanya.org)

Interviewer : Brian Bromley

Android Jones, *Dharma Dragon*, 2012, digital  
[www.androidjones.com](http://www.androidjones.com)





LUIS EDUARDO LUNA

# RING OF THE SACRED

Divinity is both external and internal. It's intrinsically related to nature. What is out there is in here. The experience of nature and the experience of the eternal inner worlds is the Divinity of Divinity, both outside and inside. It's always an interplay of the two worlds. You find Divinity in the landscape, in the organisms, in the flowers, in the beauty of nature, and also in the eyes of other human beings. You find Divinity inside yourself when you are in your inner most silence. There you find this absolute beauty which seems to be beyond anything you can actually imagine. Revealed to us in these sacred moments, when we are inside ourself, open to revelation, is Divinity.

Divinity speaks to us culturally through whatever means we have available. In today's world, we have been exposed to art and ideas from all over the planet, so Divinity is able to reach us in a very rich way with elements from many cultures. In other societies with a more defined cosmology or worldview, Divinity talks through that worldview. Divinity is always transcendent, always beyond anything we can imagine. Divinity speaks to us through metaphors. Art is powerful because it expresses these metaphors in multi sensorial ways, not only through ideas but through our eyes. Art is a direct language. The beauty and attraction of art is evident without words or concepts.

Luis Tamani, *Renacer II*, 2014, acrylic on canvas, 50 x 70 cm  
[www.luis-tamani.com](http://www.luis-tamani.com)







## JOANNA MACY

# WORLD AS LOVER

Just as lovers seek union, we are apt, when we fall in love with our world, to fall into oneness with it as well. We begin to see the world as ourselves. Hunger for this union springs from a deep knowing, which mystics of all traditions give voice to. Breaking open a seed to reveal its life-giving kernel, the sage in the Upanishads tells his student : "Tat tvam asi - That art thou." The tree that will grow from the seed, that art thou; the running water, that art thou; and the sun in the sky, and all that is, that art thou.

"There is a Secret One inside us," says Kabir, "the planets in all the galaxies pass through his hands like beads." Mystics of the Abrahamic religions speak of merging self with God rather than with the world, but the import is often the same. When Hildegard of Bingen experienced unity with the divine, she gave it these words: "I am the breeze that nurtures all things green...I am the rain coming from the dew that causes the grasses to laugh with the joy of life."

Indigenous traditions around the globe know the self as one with its world. Nature is alive and seamlessly whole, often symbolized by a circle: the sacred hoop of life. Not only our fate, but also our identity is interwoven with all beings.

The fifteenth century cardinal Nicholas of Cusa defined God as an infinite circle whose periphery is nowhere and whose centre is everywhere. That centre, that one self, is in you and me and the tree outside the door. Similarly, the Jewelled Net of Indra, the vision of reality that arose with Hua Yen Buddhism, reveals a world where each being, each gem at each node of the net, is illuminated by all others and reflected in them. As part of this world, you contain the whole of it.





# CRYSTAL & SPORE

*Everybody needs beauty as well as bread,  
places to play in and pray in, where nature may  
heal and give strength to body and soul alike.*

**John Muir**

## DEITIES AND DARSHANS

life poïesis  
a keystone evolution  
mobilizing intelligence  
and expanding capacities

to the beyond and back  
new edge eschatology  
lightship Earth  
sentient recalibration

world medicine  
life design  
numinous spark of creative divinity  
launching the next levels

Permaculture observes that nature has an operating system, a set of ecological design principles which are part of the source code for our world. At the heart of this divine design is the principle of the miraculous: Life Creates Life. If we leave this place alone for a thousand years, it will become an ancient growth forest. Nature is a regenerative system designed to create opportunities for more life.

Observing our inner and outer worlds we can perceive patterns that repeat. Traditional cultures recognize that life is a pattern language. Nature is a communication, an inscription of the divine design. From this consciousness we can learn to recognize functional patterns to reinforce and replicate, as well as dysfunctional ones to replace with more effective, ethical and ecological alternatives.

Being alive provides us all with a direct experience of the Divine Mystery. We cannot create life, but we can help create healthy conditions to support life to happen. By applying ecological design principles to the systems and structures of our society, we can work with nature's divine designs to cultivate a regenerative civilization. The future starts with a redesign of the self, home and relationships in alignment with values of caring compassion for ourselves, each other and our planetary homeworld.

Delvin Solkinson is a plant path poet and doctoral student in permaculture education. His greatest joy is volunteering at the Chapel of Sacred Mirrors. Further dedications include the Galactik Trading Cards as well as working on Projections Magazine and the Dreams & Divinities art books.