

Mahasatvaa Sarita

What do you think the biggest misconception about tantra is in the west?

The biggest misconception about Tantra is that it is all about sex, orgies, and licentiousness. In fact, it is a highly refined path for spiritual awakening, viewing the human body as a mirror for the whole cosmos. In this sense, each aspect of the human being is regarded as divine. We can awaken to the realization of our own divinity by bringing loving awareness to our senses, our body, sexuality, mind or emotions. Love is the natural spiritual path for women, and techniques using awareness are the natural spiritual path for men. When we bring the feminine and masculine paths together, it forms the body of wisdom called Tantra, a Sanskrit word meaning to weave, or to transform.

What do you hope people will take away from your workshop/talk at the show?

When I teach Tantra, I am offering a transmission of Mahamudra. This is the Tantric word for enlightenment. Mahamudra means 'the great gesture arising out of the ultimate orgasm with the universe'. I create a milieu in which people can remember their potential for inner ecstasy. Tantra is always taught in an experiential way. The seeker is given methods of meditation to practice, and in so doing begins having their own deeply-lived experience of a balanced state of being. Tantra is the garden path. Our focus does not have to be on a goal, because the path in itself is so full of joy and celebration. I would hope that people can take away from the Tantra event, a sense of wonder, a sense of coming back home to who they are meant to be, and a quality of love within and without. I would like people to feel empowered to be able to bring the art and science of Tantra into their daily lives.

We seem to be entering a time that men and masculine epistemology is under attack. Would you concur? How do you see the relationship between the sexes in our present times?

I love this question, and could go on about it for hours on end. We are at the threshold of great transformation. I am doing my best to help support a positive transformation for individuals, relationships and society. In ancient times, the mother goddess was the focal point for worship. In some cultures,

it was not known that the man played an important role in the creation of new life. This gave women a very powerful position. Unfortunately, she abused her power, offering men in human sacrifice, asking for him to castrate himself in order to serve in her temples, and so on. Finally men got sick and tired of this and grabbed the reins of power. What followed has been 2000 years of men abusing their power, and suppressing women through myriad ways. The most prevalent ways were to suppress her powerful orgasms, and to blot out the ancestral memory of her inherent gift of intuition. She was burned at the stake as a witch because she practiced intuitive healing and she was kept enchained by ownership through marriage.

In the new dawn, which we can begin to sense on the horizon, men and women need to learn to live together as complementary opposites, gods and goddesses who are custodians of earth's resources rather than her rapist. Tantra offers master keys for helping men and women to find that place of resonant fusion where opposites meet and merge. One of the important keys is to help men live their true nature and for women to live their true nature.

When a woman is in her natural flow and man is in his pillar of consciousness, there will be magnetic attraction. The bottom line is, we should not expect men to be like women, nor women to be like men, but rather, learn to respect and even cultivate our differences. We can learn from each other yet not be consumed by the other.

The secret of a powerful man is that he is a pillar of consciousness who is able to contain all the contradictions of life and remain centered. This begins by him accepting his power and his vulnerability together in the same moment. He accepts his animal instinct as well as his intellectual refinement. He is thus able to hold a woman who is the very embodiment of contradictions. She is Shakti, containing all the varied and liquid forms of feminine nature. Ruled by the moon, she changes with the ebb and flow of the tides. Her orgasm catapults her beyond mind, into transcendent reality. The greatest gift for the man happens when he is able to be the pure fire of awareness, Shiva, holding shakti as she lets go into multi-orgasmic splendour.

The secret of a powerful woman is that she is fully alive to her loving, devotional, emotional and psychic abilities. She is fluid like water, and is therefore able to accept change easily. Going with the flow, is the way of yin. She craves nothing so much as finding a man, or a god to whom she may abandon herself in fullest surrender. Letting go and being possessed by the divine masculine is her deepest ecstasy. She is able to let go, because her throne is the heart, the seat of love. And every woman knows deep down, that God is love, and that love is God. Since the very essence of divinity finds its abode in her heart, she can afford to be sweet, giving and nurturing.



Now imagine for a moment what an amazing world we would be living in, if men and women lived their true opposite and yet complementary natures, with integrity. Imagine a politician who was in touch with his vulnerable inner child, while at the same time was able to remain rooted in his pillar of consciousness, nourished by deep meditation. Imagine a politician who was able to offer his beloved a night of multi-orgasmic union, and was then able to give a speech to the nation on the necessity of caring for the earth as we would care for our own mother. He is both strong, and vulnerable, and this is what makes him eminently attractive. He has learned the art of loving a woman and this has ignited the desire to love and care for his country.

And imagine, how it would be, if a radiantly loving multi-orgasmic woman were to work in a corporate setting, and had the power to run it her way. Her office would be full of plants and flowers, she offers holistic healing to her workers, and her company has the feeling of a loving family. All her customers are encouraged to love and nurture themselves and she has a unique system of profit sharing and a clear intention to give back to the earth whatever has been borrowed. The building she works in has been designed to honour the undulating contours of nature, and is ecological and self-sustaining.

In our present time, it is unfortunate that men have forgotten their deeper potential. They tend to be either at the extreme of testosterone-fuelled, going amok on a power-crazed rape of the Earth and its resources, or in the opposite extreme of feeling so deeply apologetic for being men that they become effeminate and cut off from their masculine resources. And women, ah, sisters, how sad it is to see you turning your back on feminine grace and trying in vain to compete with men by acquiring masculine qualities! You will be able to help yourselves and the world much more, by opening up your true feminine glory. The Goddess is back, and this time, she seeks balance of the sexes. Like two

banks of a river, we appear separate, and yet in the middle of the river of life, we meet, and experience being one in essence. How rich is the union of opposites!

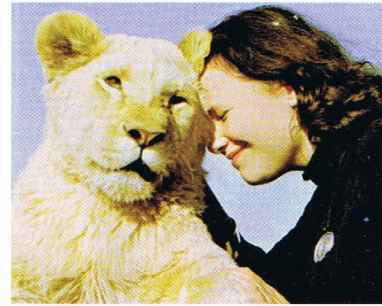
Many MBS commentators and personalities are talking about a quickening or awakening that is happening on a global scale, tied into the 2012 date. Working as you do with energy, do you have any sense of that?

There is a definite quickening of the energy. Everything is accelerating. The race is on towards either global suicide or global awakening. It gives me unbounded joy to see how many individuals are opening to the light of expanded consciousness and love. I feel we are in a phase on our planet where the great miracle of global enlightenment is becoming a possibility. Everything is in chaos, and as my spiritual Master Osho used to say, "it is from chaos that great stars are born."

What are your hopes for the future?

I see a new world, where we have shifted from the conflict stress of the third chakra into love and nurturing of the fourth chakra. The friction created by third chakra contradictions, gives rise to harmony of opposites and the deep wisdom of meditation. Out of this deep wisdom, we are finally able to open to love on a planetary scale. I see the future as that of love, joy and celebration. I sense that in the new dawn of humanity, Tantra will find its true place, offering as it does the alchemy for the meeting of sex, love and spirit. When our animal nature is recognized as divine, and when our spirituality is fully embodied, we will then know the fullness of our potential. We will discover wholeness, and healing. We will realize God as male and female in perfect union.

Mahasatva Sarita's workshop, Tantra, Body and Soul, is on Friday the 28th of May. Visit www.schoolofawakening.com



Linda Tucker

How did your work with the White Lions begin?

It began with turning point in my life – which I'll never forget. One moonless night in South Africa's bushveld region of Timbavati, 10 November 1991, a group of us found ourselves surrounded by an angry pride of lions in the African wilderness, in an archetypal living nightmare, fearing for our lives. We risked a grisly death but, amazingly, we were rescued by the extraordinary courageous intervention of an indigenous medicine woman, who walked through this pride of 24 lions, carrying a baby on her back in the traditional African way, on foot, in the pitch dark, to come to our aid. This remarkable woman was known as "The Lion Queen of Timbavati", and after this awesome life-threatening experience, she became my teacher. I gave up the successful London advertising and fashion world I had been in for over a decade, and returned to Africa, to study with Maria Khosa, the most amazing woman I have ever met. Her teachings of nature and its workings were more profound and meaningful than anything I had learned in my years of Cambridge academia. I studied with her and other African elders for more than 10 years, learning about the ways of the White Lion.

Then, in 2002, I established the Global White Lion Protection Trust, a Non-Profit Organisation committed to ensuring the protection of these rare creatures, believed to be the most sacred animals on the African Continent. Unfortunately, they have been forcibly removed from their natural kingdom, and sent to zoos and circuses all over the world, as well as brutal trophy hunting camps, so they are in urgent need of conservation and protection.

In the urban-based life of many westerners, shamanic ideals and practices sometimes seem very far removed from the everyday – do you think that it is possible to bring in the message of the white lions to the average person in a meaningful way? If so, how?

All humans have lion-hearted values, potentially: courage, pride, leadership, endurance, collaboration, goal driven... there are many more. In my work, I use the White Lions as a motivational icon to encourage these qualities in people from all walks of