



Institute of World Culture

FORUM

Mysticism, Imagination and Social Responsibility: The Life and Writings of George William Russell

Saturday, October 21, 2023 from 2:00 – 4:00 pm PDT

Concord Hall, 1407 Chapala Street, Santa Barbara, CA In-person and live webcast

Presenter: Kirk Gradin



George William Russell (1867–1935), sometimes better known by the pen name “AE”, was a natural mystic, an earnest student and effervescent teacher of Hermetic philosophy, a poet and evocative writer who played a mentoring and inspirational role in the Irish literary renaissance. He was also a keen and compassionate observer of the social and political inequities plaguing the Ireland of his day and a practical idealist who gained international admiration. His efforts to raise the plight of the common man were indefatigable. In part, his activism manifested through his involvement in the Irish Agricultural Organization Society (IAOS) where he served as the primary writer, Assistant Secretary and in-house editor of their influential

weekly magazine *Irish Homestead*, for nearly 20 years. This forum will attempt a brief overview of his remarkable life and a sampling of his writings.

For those who are interested, a link to: “The Golden Age”, an excerpt from the book *Song and Its Fountains*, a collection of essays by A.E., can be found on the IWC website: <http://www.worldculture.org>, along with more information on the forum and other IWC activities.

The event will be in person and live webcast at:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/IWCinSantaBarbara>.

(on the IWC Channel Homepage, you may select "Videos" to find Zoom presentations, and "Live" to find live-streamed (webcast) events)

