

Healing the Wounds and Accessing the Gifts of Ancestral Heritage: Through Landscape and the Deep Imagination



Friday evening
February 16, 6:00 pm to
February 21, 1:00 pm,
2018

on the Mendocino Coast
of California
at Jug Handle Creek Farm

With Guides:
Annie Bloom
and Peter Scanlan

Deep in our bones we carry the DNA of ancestral stories that have been passed down to us over many generations. Woven in the shadows of time and the family narrative, with all the migrations, celebrations, tragedies, gifts and wounds, are the ways we have been formed often beyond our knowing. These hidden histories haunt us with a kind of longing for what we do not know, for a sense of belonging, a sense of a wider dimension to our story of origins and who we most fully are that eludes us. They have the power to influence our emotions, our life decisions, and how we think of ourselves.

Through genealogy, we can uncover valuable facts about our ancestry. While this can be an important adjunct to healing ancestral wounds and accessing

ancestral gifts, it is not the focus of this intensive. We will invite you to bring whatever factual aspects of your ancestral story that you know and, perhaps, even to do a bit of research before coming. When such information is not available, however, it is not an impediment, as we will be working with a less tangible aspect of the ancestral story, a different level of “reality”.

During our time together we will utilize landscape and the deep imagination, as well as other doorways, to enter the House of the Ancestors to track the known and unknown people and stories that have shaped our lives in mysterious ways. There will be ample opportunity to wander the spectacular landscape of the northern California coast, listening with our bones and the ears of our imaginative hearts to ancestral energies –

*“Often our loneliness and isolation is due to a failure of spiritual imagination.
We forget that there is no such thing as an empty space.
All space is full of presence, particularly the presence of those
who are now in eternal invisible form.” — John O’Donohue*

engaging with them and embodying them in story, movement, and image. Woven between wanders we will utilize poetry, council, deep imagery, ceremony and dream work to court the Old Ones and sort the threads of our personal and collective stories. Through this process, we will seek a deepened sense of ourselves, find lost heirlooms, and possibly bring a balm to ancient wounds.

These days together of keen listening to what the ancestors have to tell us will be a gift to them as well as to ourselves. When we intimately encounter the ancestral stories that are living in our bones, our compassion for our own history as well as the world's wounds opens up a depth of soulful understanding that can truly begin a radical revolution in consciousness.

Jug Handle Creek Farm is an old farmstead on the Mendocino coast of Northern California overlooking the vast Pacific Ocean. There are abundant opportunities in this



landscape to wander in a rich variety of ecosystems. From our accommodations in a beautiful historic farmhouse, it is a five-minute walk to an intimate cove or ocean bluffs. The Pacific waters open memories of our ancestors' passages and help enliven our journeys back in time. Wandering inland transports us through meadows to forests of Pine, Fir, and Redwoods, where we cannot help but feel the old ones present and shimmering in the air. At the farmhouse we will be sharing rooms on the second floor. The ground floor provides us with a fully equipped kitchen, a dining table that can accommodate us all, and a cozy space with a wood burning stove for meeting all together.

Guides



Peter Scanlan was a clinical psychologist in private practice for 34 years in Nashville, Tennessee. He trained with Animas Valley Institute and with School of Lost Borders as a vision quest guide and was a lead guide for the Animas Valley Institute for 16 years. He works to facilitate the transformation of personal story into the mytho-poetic story

that each of us inhabits. He is dedicated to guiding people to the edge of the deepest mysteries, holding sacred space while they plunge into those depths, and then honoring the unique power and truth of the stories that they bring back from those journeys. He brings heart presence and a playful spirit to his work. Website: **Website: <http://www.peterscanlan.com>**.



Annie Bloom has been guiding with Peter in the wilderness since 2002 when they discovered the magical cauldron their combined hearts wove together for people to cook in the transformations that awaited them.

For the past 25 years Annie has been an initiator to hundreds of people who have crossed over the threshold into the dreaming lodge of the world seeking a sacred vision for their lives. With her own development of Somatic Inquiry over her

33 years as a bodywork practitioner, she has led people into the truth at the center of their being, and is now standing with welcoming arms with her sweetheart Niles at the doorstep of **Buffalo Dreaming Lodge: <http://www.buffalodreaminglodge.com>**. With training and guiding through School of Lost Borders, Animas Valley Institute, Wilderness Reflections, and Synergos Institute, she has devoted her life to listening for the heartbeat of the holy in all things.

Program Cost : \$850

~Food as Poetry~

Planning and preparing healthy, delicious meals together is our way of nurturing community among us.

Participants will team up to plan, purchase food, and prepare meals in a full kitchen

Maximum number of participants: 12

Registration requires a \$200 non-refundable deposit with balance due

30 days before the start of the program

To Register or for further information about the program contact:

**Annie Bloom:
(annie@xmission.com) or
phone (435-425-2254**