OF THE CIRCLE OF SHAMANIC WISDOM

MANIFESTO

ISBN: 978-2-9541951-1-7

Dépôt légal – Bibliothèque Nationale de France, juillet 2013.

Dépôt légal – Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec, 2013.

© 2013, Cercle de Sagesse de l'Union des Traditions Ancestrales.

Photomontage: Elvire (elvire@trouble-fete.com).

Translation: Minthé & Stuart Walker.

The writing of the Manifesto, which is a code of ethics for whoever wishes to follow it. was finalized in June 2013 and coordinated on behalf of the Circle of Wisdom of the Union of Ancestral Traditions by Jean-Pierre Meyran assisted by Paul Corriveau, Hervé Estival, Marianna Varady, Manu "Tlaloc" Ontiveros, Alain Rémy, Minthé, Élima Dely Mputu, Ema'a Drolma Mata, Jean-Mary Grezet, Ojasvin Kingi Davis & Iris Häusermann Davis, Kazu Ogawa San, Ulises Osorno Bozano, Gabriel Oko, Pascal Gautrin, Louise "Loumitea" Gaultier, Didier Rauzy, Olivier "Ozégan", Bhola Nath Banstola, Toumaï, Aigle Bleu, Martine Cros, Véra Sazhina, Costanzo Allione & Anna Saudin, Bernard Duquesne, Claudine Ravnich, Jean-Michel Charriaut, Abdelah Akkharrz, Yann Le Flochmoen, Frédéric Roure, Célestin Mukanda, Philippe Bobola, Line Sturny and Patrick Dacquay. The original version of the MANIFESTO and the FOUNDING DECLARATION were written in February 2007 by the Circle of Wisdom which was then composed of Michelle Burdet, George Crespo, Patrick Dacquay, Roger Dard, Guillaume de Saint-Phalle, Éric Marchal, Johanne Razanamahay, Didier Rauzy, Christian Tal Schaller, Senga, Alban Soubrié, Line Sturny, Tamara Farin and Mario Mercier. These last two members were no longer part of the Circle of Wisdom at the time the Manifesto was written; the writer-reporters were Christian Tal Schaller for the first text, and Patrick Dacquay for the second.

Éditions CERCLE DE SAGESSE, Paris (France).

Printed in June 2013 on the presses of CERCLE DE SAGESSE.

All rights reserved for all countries.

FOUNDING DECLARATION OF THE CIRCLE OF SHAMANIC WISDOM

To all traditions, to all peoples, to all representatives of shamanism and with respect for Grandmother Earth and our Grandfather Sky.

DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF THE EARTH,

As shamanic healers and teachers in Europe, we are experienced men and women, who met in the Jura mountains in France.

According to the Ancestral Wisdom, we meet for the first time in a Circle of Wisdom.

Our individual initiatory path refers to Shamanism, which reconnects us to the pre-Christian Ancestral Wisdom with respect to Grandmother Earth, Grandfather Sky and all the Spirits.

Because the Ancestral Wisdom persists amongst European peoples. She often had to stay secret, to escape persecution by the authorities trying to make it disappear.

- 3 -

AN ORIGINAL CONSCIOUSNESS REVIVAL, coming back from the early ages of humanity, resurfaces today, and becomes a significant phenomenon.

Some of us come from European Shamanic Traditions that are still alive today. Others received teachings and initiations from First Nations, in different parts of the world, which aroused their ancestral memories.

That is why, with a multitude of traditions and practices, united in respect of the Ancestors of the Earth, we decided to found a Circle of Wisdom that incarnates Shamanism in Europe.

THE CREATION OF THIS CIRCLE is a statement of:

- The universality of our practices,
- The brotherhood of our Traditions in their diversity,
- The necessary complementarity of the various European peoples,
- The duty we have to build bridges with the other peoples and Traditions of the world,
- The need to interact with representatives of the world's different Traditions, in Europe and worldwide,
- Our willingness to contribute to the organization of a global gathering of all Shamanic Traditions,
- Our desire to irradiate Shamanic Wisdom in Europe,
- The obligation we have to convince all our human brothers and sisters of the urgent need for a profound change of

consciousness about our Grandmother Earth and our Grandfather Sky, to counter the threats to our planet.

WE ARE AT ONCE PROUD AND HUMBLE

to join the great Circle of Wisdom of the First Nations.

For over forty years, thanks to the pioneers of Shamanism in Europe, our practices are once again widespread amongst European peoples.

With this fraternal declaration, we wish to express our desire to contribute to helping our people rediscover the path of wisdom, the path of simplicity and authenticity.

WE HAVE DECIDED to hold a major gathering in Europe. For three days and three nights, we will open ceremonies to the most possible people.

Through these ceremonies:

We honor the Spirits as they have honored us.

We give thanks to the Earth who loves us.

We thank the Sky who blesses us with his presence.

May the Love be in our hearts.

And may that Love awaken the hearts of other humans.

In this alarming period, while our Grandmother Earth is suffering in her every bone, in her flesh and in her blood, we believe it fundamentally important that we, her children, should honor her and share that with as many of our human brothers and sisters as possible.

May this Circle of Wisdom, where there is no beginning or end, give birth to a new tree of life, an axis between Heaven and Earth, and between Earth and Heaven.

We invite all our brothers and sisters to join us in the Circle so that this tree may grow, and witness to the world of brotherhood that unites all peoples, and that enables us to speak the same language, the language of the heart.

Peace on Earth!

MANIFESTO OF THE CIRCLE OF SHAMANIC WISDOM

AS STATED IN ITS FOUNDING DECLARATION, and since 2008, our Circle organizes, every year in the spring, a great celebration of Shamanism, which attracts many participants in a very festive atmosphere.

In addition to this event, it seemed to us appropriate to create this manifesto, which aims to inform the public at large about what Shamanism is, and what its aims are.

Shamanism is ancestral, archaic and universal: it is ancestral because it has been handed down by very ancient lineages of men and women, who chose to devote themselves to serving it; it is archaic because its origins go back to the origins of humanity itself; and it is universal because it has united people from all continents and from all cultures, for thousands of years.

In Europe, archeology attests to the very ancient existence of Shamans and shamanic practices. Much later, wherever it stood, it was the turn of the Celtic people to assimilate the existing legacy of

- 7 -

the pre-Celtic peoples, to enrich it, and thus keep the Tradition of European Shamanism alive, until the arrival of the Romans and Christianity, and even beyond that. In other parts of the world, as much in the three Americas, as in Asia, Africa and Oceania, Shamanic Traditions have remained alive and vibrant, often until today, reflecting the wisdom that our world hungers for.

Shamanism existed before all centralized civilizations and long before the wisdom, thinking, sciences, religion and medicine that we know today.

Shamanism, as we live in today, that brings us together in this Circle, and we would like to express, wants to give everyone the tools to do the inner, intimate, personal experience of spiritual worlds, and of connection with the divine, the sacred, the living, that everyone will name according to his or her beliefs.

Shamanism has never been and can never become either a religion or a major institution because, apart from any judgment, it is based neither on a shared intellectual belief nor on a dogma imposed by its hierarchy, for it has no hierarchy. Its foundations are experiential because of the living relationship with the invisible worlds, and that is generally experienced through of what is usually called an initiation. The mastery of intent is another of its founding notions.

Shamans are thus able to journey, with their conscience and in complete control, to the subtle worlds, mainly to communicate with the Spirits. For that reason, this is their definition.

These Spirits are multiple and diverse, like life itself: Ancestors, Spirits of Nature, whether elemental, animal or vegetal, guides and Spiritual Masters, as well as the entities of wisdom that live in the luminous worlds. Every Shaman has special ties with one particular Spirit or another, with which he has established a strong alliance.

Through their encounters and their communication with these Spirits, Shamans can carry out their roles as healers, messengers, intermediaries between the different worlds. They teach and pass on the ancient techniques, following laws and a specific logic that make it possible for anyone who really wants it, to receive the necessary support and help, even to heal and choose himself, knowingly, guides for his life.

Today it is urgent that we reconnect with Mother Earth, with Father Sky, with the spirits, as well as with our body of light, because all of them, from the subtle worlds, teach us the universal laws of unity, health and harmony. Without this, human beings become and feel like orphans of life.

Living and feeling like exiles, lost in the labyrinth of suffering, of life's perversions and of the destruction caused by our dominant civilization, is something that we will, that we must and that we can no longer tolerate.

That same civilization claims to serve scientific and rational values, and to work for the progress and welfare of mankind: this is incorrect, as it chose a long time ago to obey primarily the only interests of power, enrichment and vanity, all too often promoted as life goals. They are not ours ...

The time has come for us to regain, by frequenting and using our shamanic allies and tools, the power of the heart and the skills of discernment, so that we may contribute to the emergence of a humanity inspired by the Wisdom of the Spirits. By "we", we mean the members of this Circle, as well as all men and women who are touched and inspired by this approach.

To participate in our measurement, the birth of a conscious humanity, we, the Shamans of the Circle of Wisdom, are proud to defend values, ethics and practices that are, as mentioned above, based on the rediscovery of our connection with the Earth, with Heaven and with the noble humanity.

HONOR THE EARTH AND THE VISIBLE BY:

- Respecting our Mother Earth, Father Sky, the Spirits, and all living beings: our Human, Animal, Vegetal and Mineral Brothers.
- Providing active and real support for anything that helps improve our relationship with the Earth, through greater respect for our planet and therefore more awareness and responsibility in the use of resources.
- Celebrating the unity of all life forms, and marveling at the diversity of the visible and invisible manifestations of the creative force.
- Being conscious of the fact that all elements that seem to be opposed are in reality partners in the dynamic dance of evolution.
- Constantly striving to balance the masculine and feminine energies present in every human being.

HONOR THE HEAVENS AND THE INVISIBLE BY:

- Being aware that the material world was created by the spiritual worlds, and not the other way round. Energy fields give rise to matter, and consciousness precedes form. The material world and the spiritual world are one: matter is "the densified divine" or "frozen light", or the expression of the subtle energy field that is the source of all manifestations of life.
- Among other things, this gives rise to the holistic vision of a human being made up of a physical part and several energetic, subtle and, for some, immortal parts.
- Contact, dialogue and sharing with the subtle (or immaterial) worlds where spiritual entities that we call "Spirits" live.
- Experiencing and living the spiritual laws, which occurs when serving the living, thus rendering those laws valid, translatable and accessible to the consciousness of all human beings, whatever their race, believes or country, if they so wish.
- Being aware that everything is vibration and waves. This vision of reality, known by Shamans of all backgrounds and from all over the world, is now corroborated by quantum physics.
- Experiencing and practicing the healing process as a whole (or holistic) process that concerns the four bodies: physical, emotional, mental and spiritual. Healing corresponds more to learning the laws of good health than to excessive consumption of therapies. It goes hand in hand with the insight that we are multidimensional beings and that we have the ability to connect to positive information in the cosmos.

• The ability to help people migrate from the spiritual world to the material world (what we call birth) or from the material world to the spiritual world (what we call death), and to release the "soul parts" immobilized in the unconscious world and in what we call the lower astral plane.

HONOR HUMANITY BY:

- Living according to the principle: "Do not do to others what you would not want them to do to you!"
- Refusing all forms of violence, whether physical, mental, emotional or spiritual. It would also be seen as violence if a Shaman were to abuse the weakness of a member of his community, or any human being who sought his help.
- Displaying openness towards peoples' local customs as long as they are consistent with the fundamental principles of liberty, equality, fraternity and respect for all beings as well as for the laws of each country.
- The practice and mastery of "rites of passage" to assist and mark the transformative moments and spiritual openings inherent to life's main phases.
- Respecting all Traditions which work for a conscious humanity, in a spirit of service and complementarity.
- The sustained intention to develop a caring attitude towards others, as well as dialogue and negotiation to support a return to harmony, instead of the prevalent violence and conflict.

- Sharing the goal of helping to create a lucid society, free from the weight of the past. A society that places spiritual values at its center, that is founded on exchange, cooperation, love, sharing, respect for differences and unity in diversity. We act deliberately in favor of peace, dignity, fraternity, kindness and respect for all Creation.
- Constantly striving to transform and evolve towards greater consciousness; trying to change others, with or without their consent, is no longer appropriate if indeed it ever was. A Shaman does not change anything or anyone except himself, and only as far as he is willing to go.
- Using one's "personal power", in reference to the previous paragraph, to help those who so wish to develop and master their own power. The shaman refuses any "transference of excellence" from his community members, or from anyone else, on himself. He encourages them to find excellence in themselves rather than in others. He respects all their life choices and paths.
- Diligently striving to adopt the most impeccable, noble and honest possible behavior, by following the Wisdom of the Spirits who guide us individually and collectively.
- Recognizing the value of art and of its experimentation, for those for whom it is the path, as a way of expressing the creative and magical power of human beings.
- And finally, a contagious joy of life, shared with all. Ultimately, this seems to us to be an essential objective, and one of the most delectable fruits of the tree of life mentioned above!

Free from all political or religious ideology, free from any dogma or special status, this Manifesto was written and assumed by all the members of the Circle, in the union of hearts and Spirits, freely and commonly agreeing on a commitment to serve and support the evolution of humanity through the deep and fundamental changes that lie ahead. THE CIRCLE OF WISDOM OF THE UNION OF ANCESTRAL TRADITIONS organizes every year in France, the FESTIVAL OF SHAMANISM which unites Shamans from all five continents.

> Information on the website: www.festival-chamanisme.com

The CIRCLE OF WISDOM OF THE UNION OF ANCESTRAL TRADITIONS initiated by bearers of European shamanic traditions, particularly from French-speaking countries, brings together representatives of numerous living Shamanic Traditions from all over the world.

Its objective:

To share the various Traditions, to promote them, and witness of a shamanic way to interact with the world, and thus help people to remember a lively and respectful awareness of Creation



www.cercledesagesse.com

